



CONNECT IGNITE TRAILBLAZE

NATIONAL MULTICULTURAL YOUTH SUMMIT REPORT



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YAN members: Celia Tran (Victoria), Ajer Alier Deng (South Australia), Paul Joseph (Queensland), Ziagul Sultani (Western Australia), Hadi Rezai (Tasmania), Sarah Yahya (New South Wales), Mohammed Omar Maroof (Australian Capital Territory).

State and territory partners: Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY), Multicultural Youth South Australia (MYSA), Multicultural Youth Affairs Network NSW (MYAN NSW), Multicultural Youth Queensland (MyQ) (auspiced by Access Community Services), MYAN WA (auspiced by Youth Affairs Council of WA), MYAN TAS (auspiced by Migrant Resource Centre Southern Tasmania Inc.), MYAN ACT (auspiced by Youth Coalition of the ACT and Multicultural Youth Services), and MYAN NT (auspiced by Melaleuca Refugee Centre).

MYAN would also like to thank the advocacy panellists, MPs and special guests for being so generous with their time and for their support of the delegates.

Thanks also to the Department of Social Services and Amnesty International Australia for their support of FUSE 2016.

1. Executive Summary

After the success of FUSE 2014, Australia's second ever national multicultural youth summit, FUSE 2016 was held in Melbourne from December 6-9, 2016.

Working with the themes 'Connect', 'Ignite' and 'Trail-blaze', FUSE 2016 brought together 35 young people from across Australia to network with peers, share perspectives and ideas, and engage with experienced advocates, MPs and other decision-makers.

MYAN Australia Youth Ambassadors supported the planning and delivery of FUSE 2016. Delegates participated in a range of skills-based workshops and panel sessions, and heard directly from MPs, experienced advocates and decision-makers. Delegates connected with other young people and worked together over three days to develop ideas and explore key issues facing young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds in Australia.

On the final day, delegates delivered group presentations to Senator Zed Seselja, Assistant Minister for Social Services and Multicultural Affairs, on key issues impacting refugee and migrant young people, including education, health, community and belonging, racism and discrimination, and youth leadership and empowerment.

MYAN Australia works from the premise that young people from multicultural backgrounds have unique experiences and knowledge, and should be supported to articulate the issues impacting on their lives and identify solutions. FUSE 2016 is designed to address these issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Promote the outcomes of FUSE, including producing a report to promote the voices of young people and the importance of national events like FUSE in supporting active citizenship.
2. Develop strategies for policy and advocacy work in relation to young people's presentations and recommendations from the final day group 'Pitches'.
3. Capitalise on the outcomes of FUSE (e.g. skills, knowledge, energy, confidence, networks) by:
 - Providing opportunities for young people to apply their skills in a range of settings, including local/state, national and international forums. Utilise the MYAN networks to support this
 - Inviting interested FUSE delegates to join the MYAN Youth Ambassadors Network
 - Investigating the possibility of MYAN state/territory-based FUSE events (such as Catalyst in WA)
4. MYAN (national and state/territory) to facilitate ongoing communication among FUSE delegates and between delegates and the MYAN, supporting FUSE delegates to achieve their vision and engage in future opportunities. This includes supporting networking, communication and promotion of leadership opportunities across the network.



"Amazing workshops, great people, engaging and interactive."

2. Introduction & Background

What was FUSE?

FUSE 2016 was a national three-day summit hosted by the Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN) Australia. Held in Melbourne from the 6th to the 9th of December 2016, FUSE 2016 built on the overwhelming success of FUSE 2014.

Under the overarching themes of 'Connect', 'Ignite', and 'Trail-blaze', FUSE 2016 brought together 35 of Australia's brightest young multicultural leaders to build their skills, network, learn about and engage in advocacy with decision makers.

Why do we need FUSE?

Young people from refugee, including asylum seeker, and migrant backgrounds have enormous potential to be active participants in Australian society. They settle in Australia with a range of strengths and capabilities, including broad international and cross-cultural knowledge, multilingual skills, adaptability and resourcefulness. However, they often face particular challenges in accessing the support and opportunities they need to reach their potential. Their needs, distinct from adults and many of their Australian-born counterparts, often go unrecognised as they are a sub-set of the broader youth and settlement sectors.

The unique barriers faced by young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds can place them at greater social and economic disadvantage than their Australian-born counterparts. These include racism and discrimination, limited social capital, and, for new arrivals, learning a new language and culture.

These barriers often mean that their voices are marginalised. A lack of social capital – networks, knowledge and confidence – can also impact on their capacity to advocate for their needs, influence decision makers, or be supported as leaders in their communities. MYAN works from the premise that young people from refugee, asylum seeker and migrant backgrounds have unique experiences and knowledge that makes them the best experts on their own lives. MYAN believe young people should be supported to identify and explore the issues impacting on their lives and identify solutions. FUSE was designed to support this.

What are the goals?

FUSE aims to provide opportunities for young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds from across Australia to:

- Further develop and apply skills, confidence and networks to engage in advocacy, active citizenship and leadership opportunities at the local, state and national levels.
- Build human rights awareness.
- Connect to, learn from and share perspectives with peers from around Australia.
- Engage with experienced advocates and decision-makers to have an immediate experience of active citizenship and apply newly acquired skills and knowledge.
- Develop action plans for active citizenship at the local, state and national levels.
- Explore and strengthen leadership capabilities and aspirations.

A planning committee, with representatives from MYAN-affiliated state and territory networks and organisations and the MYAN Australia Youth Ambassador's Network (YAN), was established to oversee the planning of FUSE 2016.

The MYAN Youth Ambassadors Network (YAN) is a group of passionate young advocates supporting positive change for young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds across Australia. MYAN Australia Youth Ambassadors, some of whom were also FUSE 2014 delegates, played a leadership role throughout FUSE, supporting the running of the event and facilitating parts of the program.

MYAN's State and Territory Advisory Network (STAN) was established to inform policy work and support MYAN's sector development work at the state, territory and national levels. The STAN is made of representatives from MYAN-affiliated state and territory networks and organisations. These representatives supported delegates prior to and during FUSE.



“Highlight of 2016 for me. The motivation and enhancing my leadership skills that I needed to boost my confidence and not give up.”

Who came?

Young people from each state and territory were selected through an application process to attend FUSE 2016. The majority of delegates were aged between 17 and 25 years, and were from diverse faith, migration, education and cultural backgrounds.

Delegates identified as Australian, Afghan, Somali, Togolese, Sudanese, South Sudanese, Ethiopian, Zomi (Myanmar), Palestinian, Congolese, Bhutanese, Nepali, Ugandan, Ghanaian, Liberian, Sierra Leonean, Vietnamese, Rwanda, Karen and Syrian.

Some delegates were born in Australia to migrant parents, however most had migrated when they were very young. Many delegates had migrated to Australia as refugees, with some arriving in Australia as asylum seekers.

Delegates had diverse skills, knowledge and experience in advocacy and leadership. For many this was the first formal skills development and training they had attended and for most, their first national event.

What happened?

FUSE was held over three days, incorporating formal training and workshops with opportunities to network and engage in advocacy with decision-makers. The program was specifically tailored to the advocacy context of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds. It was designed to facilitate networking, skills development and practical application of newly acquired leadership and advocacy skills. Opportunities were provided to engage formally and informally with more experienced advocates and decision-makers, including MPs.

Registration, induction and introductions took place over dinner on the evening prior to Day 1. This provided an opportunity for delegates to meet and get to know each other and the members of MYAN's Youth Ambassadors Network (YAN).

Helen Kapalos, Chairperson of the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC) opened FUSE 2016, and spoke to the importance of celebrating diversity and promoting

multiculturalism. Day 1 included a mix of large and small group skills-based workshops on advocacy and leadership, self-care, and team work.

Megan Mitchell, National Children's Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission, and Ms Maria Vamvakinou MP, Federal Member for Calwell, addressed delegates at a formal dinner on the evening of Day 1, followed by an opportunity for Q&A.

These formal presentations were followed by a powerful and interactive performance by Tasmania's Student's Against Racism (SAR). SAR's work aims to share the challenging stories of refugee and asylum seeker young people with broad audiences, and demonstrates alternative ways of sharing stories and advocating on issues relevant to young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds.

Day 2 continued with more skills-based workshops building on the themes of community leadership and story-telling as an advocacy tool from Day 1. A panel presentation and Q&A followed with experienced advocates from a range of sectors.

Day 3 focussed on preparation for and presentation to decision-makers, including Senator Janet Rice, Senator for Victoria, and Senator Zed Seselja Assistant Minister for Social Services and Multicultural Affairs, providing an immediate experience of advocacy and active citizenship. FUSE concluded with reflections from delegates and formal evaluations.

How did it happen?

FUSE 2016 was funded through the Department of Social Services and Amnesty International. A planning committee was established to support the planning and delivery of FUSE, as well as the promotion and recruitment of delegates.

Delegates applied to attend FUSE 2016 either through an open call out or via invitation from a MYAN-affiliated network or organisation in their state or territory. Applications were reviewed and shortlisted by MYAN Australia based on the selection criteria. The planning committee selected the final

delegates (a maximum of four from each state or territory) from the shortlist.

FUSE 2016 delegates were supported by representatives from MYAN-affiliated networks and organisations through a pre-event briefing in each state and territory. Representatives from MYAN-affiliated networks and organisations accompanied delegates travelling from inter-state and provided support during the summit as the contact support person. Post-FUSE 2016, they continue to provide support to delegates for state-based activities.

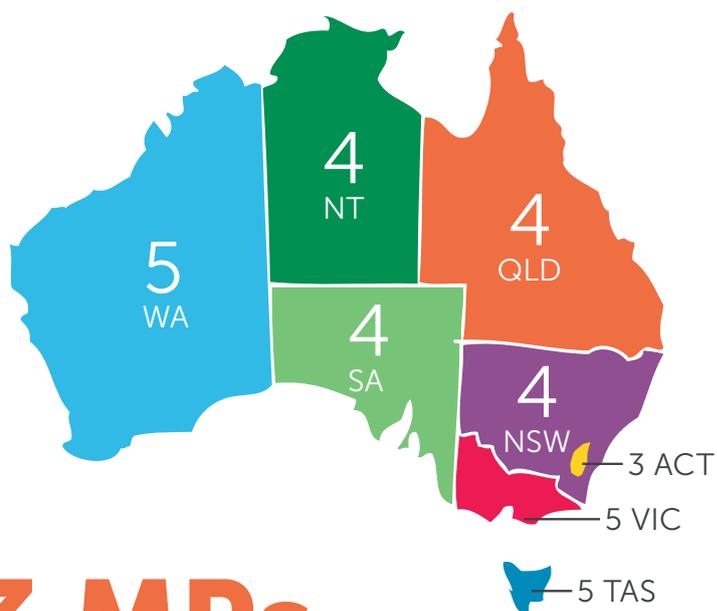


35 YOUNG PEOPLE

AGE RANGE
16 - 25



18 CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS



10

Males

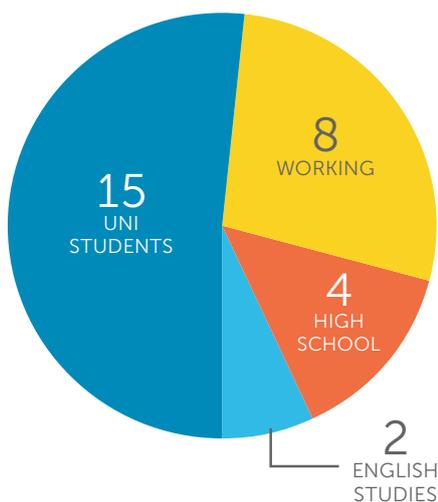


24

Females



3 MPs



3 RURAL

13 REGIONAL

18 METRO

TOP 5 LESSONS

1. Different leadership styles
2. Using storytelling as advocacy tool
3. Importance of self-care
4. How to apply skills in community context
5. Understanding advocacy in practice



"Sometimes we forget to self-care when involved with leadership and advocacy and it was an important reminder to have a regime that helps with self-care which I thought was wonderful."

3. Workshops

Workshops were facilitated by those with expertise in multicultural youth advocacy and leadership training, active citizenship, and cross-cultural and community leadership.

Workshops included theory around advocacy and creating change with practical examples of advocacy and human rights activities, as well supporting young people to build on their strengths and utilise their own stories in their leadership and advocacy work. All delegates participated in the same workshops over two days. Workshop descriptions are provided below.

DAY 1

Leadership Styles & Culturally Competent leadership

(Alice Gomez and Tizita Yohannes – Centre for Multicultural Youth)

This workshop was designed to explore key aspects of leadership in a cross-cultural context, including individual leadership styles. The aim of the workshop was to unpack and reflect on the diversity of leadership styles and to explore how culture influences leadership and culture as strength in leadership.

Introduction to Advocacy

(Andrew Cummings – Andrew Cummings Training and Consulting)

Introduction to advocacy informed and inspired young people about change and advocacy concepts and activities. The workshop looked at what advocacy is and different types of advocacy, grounding the theory in practical examples and activities that allow young people to engage with the different forms advocacy may take in practice.

Strengths and Self-care

(Alexandra Long – MYAN NSW)

This interactive workshop discussed the importance of looking after ourselves as leaders and advocates. Delegates were given the opportunity to develop skills on how to work to their strengths (or figure them out if they didn't know what they were), as well as creative ways

to make sure they were prepared to face challenges as change makers.

DAY 2

Community Leadership

(Tom Henderson & Duré De Winter – Polykala)

This Community Leadership session focused on leadership as a social, reflective skill that relies on the 'currency' of goodwill. The session brought the concept of community leadership to life through facilitated experiential exercises that left delegates not only with ideas, but experience they could draw upon in their community leadership endeavours.

Advocacy in Action: Storytelling

(Alex Sangster & Mike McEvoy – Playback Theatre Melbourne)

This session provided delegates with an introduction to storytelling as a tool for advocacy. Delegates learnt skills for putting a story together which was effective and memorable, for listening and communicating an effective story, and how to adjust delivery according to different audiences.

“The EXPO! was awesome. I thought there were some brilliant stalls that are useful to multicultural youth leaders.”



4. Expo

To facilitate young people's connections to those working on issues that matter to them, FUSE 2016 also provided delegates with the opportunity to meet and explore future participation options with advocacy organisations who work across a diverse range of issues.

A number of organisations highlighted by delegates as areas of interest in their applications, as well as youth-led and youth-focused organisations, were invited to come along and share their work and engage directly in a marketplace-style expo with the FUSE delegates. This included time for each organisation to give a brief overview of their work and how young people might get involved. This was followed by time to meet the organisations' representatives more informally and further explore how they might get involved.

Organisations included: Recognise, Foundation for Young Australians (FYA), Amnesty International, the Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA), Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC), the National Union of Students (NUS), the Young Workers Centre, and Students against Racism (SAR).

5. Advocacy Panel

The panel session on Day 2 was designed to:

- Give delegates practical information about advocacy work, including key strategies for engaging with MPs.
- Increase delegates' understanding of the diversity and opportunities involved in advocacy work.
- Build delegates' confidence by asking questions and hearing practical stories from people's experience.
- Connect delegates with diverse and experienced advocates.
- Inspire delegates to engage in advocacy and active citizenship.

The panellists reflected diverse advocacy experiences

relevant to the youth and multicultural context. They spoke about their personal and professional journeys to becoming advocates and provided tips and advice.

The panellists were:

- Ming Yu Hah, Refugee campaigner at Amnesty International Australia
- Yassmin Abdel-Magied, social advocate and Founder of Youth Without Borders
- Tim O'Connor, Acting CEO of Refugee Council of Australia
- Carmel Guerra, Chair of MYAN Australia and CEO of the Centre for Multicultural Youth
- Tim Lo Surdo, Founder, Democracy in Colour

Delegates found this session motivating and inspiring, as it provided information and advice that was relatable and offered practical guidance for future leaders and advocates.

6. The Pitch

Day 3 provided an opportunity for young people to apply their skills and knowledge through engaging directly with Senator Zed Seselja Assistant, Minister for Social Services and Multicultural Affairs. Delegates delivered a five minute 'Pitch' to the Minister to promote issues of concern to refugee and migrant young people in Australia.

The 'Pitch' aimed to give young people an opportunity to:

- Apply (newly acquired) advocacy skills and knowledge (including public speaking).
- Engage in dialogue with MPs/decision makers.
- Promote key human rights issues and recommendations relating to refugee and migrant young people in Australia to MPs.

Delegates presented to the panel in groups on the following topics:

1. Community
2. Racism and discrimination
3. Youth empowerment and Leadership
4. Education
5. Health

These topics were identified by delegates in the planning for FUSE 2016. Preparation for the 'Pitch' was done at the end of Day 2 and in the morning of Day 3. Youth Ambassadors and MYAN-affiliated network and organisation representatives supported each group to develop their key messages and mode of delivery.

Prior to giving their 'Pitch', delegates had the opportunity to practice their presentations and receive practical, targeted feedback from Senator Janet Rice, Senator for Victoria. Young people found this particularly valuable as it gave them targeted advice on how to improve their presentations for the upcoming 'Pitch' session. For many delegates this was the first time they had engaged in public speaking.

Young people spoke about the challenges of settling in a new country and growing up in Australia with migrant parents. They shared personal stories in relation to the different topics, and the need to better understand rights and responsibilities in Australian society in order to exercise active citizenship. They also spoke about the challenges they face in accessing appropriate and adequate information and services.

They described themselves as inspired, passionate, adaptable and with a willingness to work hard and overcome challenges. They also shared their views on successful programs that have been delivered to tackle these issues.

What came out of The Pitch?

Community

This group highlighted the importance of building a sense of belonging for young people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds who are negotiating living in-between cultures (both in metropolitan and rural parts of Australia). Sense of belonging was believed to be central to good settlement and linked to a range of other problems including: poor mental health, youth crime, disengagement, racism and substance abuse.

Recommendations included:

- Offering grants that encourage partnerships between service providers and local government. These would aim to build safe spaces for CALD young people to interact and engage within mainstream communities through leisure and arts.
- Support for organisations already providing spaces for young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds to connect. An example was a youth-led project in regional Victoria called "Happy Place", which encourages young people from various backgrounds to create meaningful relationships, express themselves freely and have fun.

Racism and discrimination

This group explored the impact of racism and discrimination among young people of diverse backgrounds in the employment context. The group identified how experiences of racial discrimination when applying for jobs can result in diminished self-confidence, as well as the risk that skilled young people are locked-out of the workforce and may become reliant on welfare.

Recommendations included:

- A nation-wide rollout of the Victorian pilot program 'SMART RECRUIT', which de-identifies job seekers in the application phase to eliminate unconscious bias.
- Incentives that encourage businesses and corporations to promote multicultural workplaces as a way to tackle racism and discrimination in workplaces.



“The pitches were powerful and a captivating way to deliver a message in a short amount of time”



“The leadership workshop was very productive. It made me realize what it is to be a leader. Especially the advocacy and storytelling – they taught me the way in which it can be done”

Youth Empowerment and Leadership

Young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds can feel disempowered and disengaged as a result of a range of barriers, including language barriers, lack of meaningful opportunities to participate, and under-representation in the media. One of the key factors contributing to this are negative perceptions and stereotypes of young people, in particular the view that they are not meaningfully and positively contributing to society.

This group highlighted that young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds continue to overcome barriers and demonstrate their capacity to be active citizens and leaders. This can be seen in the young people taking up leadership roles, driving change in their communities, empowering others and contributing to Australian society. This group believe more should be done to empower young leaders and open up opportunities for them.

Recommendations included:

- Challenge negative perceptions through the promotion of young people's positive stories and achievements.
- Provide opportunities that give young people a voice.
- Re-instate the National Minister for Youth.
- Fund programs that provide opportunities for young people to learn from leaders (mentors) and that empower young people to take up leadership roles and opportunities.
- Fund national youth peak bodies, like the Australian Youth Affairs Coalition (AYAC), that represent young people and facilitate their engagement, promote their leadership and provide opportunities for their participation. A variety of methods were used in the pitch, including role-play performances and story-telling inspired by the SAR performance on Day 1. Senator Zed Seselja provided each group with practical feedback on their presentations and responded to the various recommendations.

Education

This group focussed on the importance of education in all young people's lives, but in particular for those young people who are newly arrived to Australia. Challenges faced by refugee and asylum seeking young people in

education included: a lack of understanding of their previous experiences, assumptions made about skills and knowledge of young people, and insufficient targeted support to refugee and migrant young peoples' specific needs in mainstream education.

Recommendations included:

- Adoption of a national approach to training of cultural competency for education providers, including teachers, counsellors and other school staff. This should aim to create better understanding between teachers and their students.
- Introduction of a consistent approach for language support services across all states and territories, including youth-specific offerings within existing programs (such as AMEP).
- Development of a mentorship program to match CALD young people with newly arrived young people. In this program, mentors/tutors would be paid as they assist mentees with their studies.

Health

Delegates from this group addressed three domains within health that impacted young people from diverse backgrounds: sexual health, mental health and disability. They shared stories about sexual assault and lack of support from families, which were linked to ongoing mental health issues such as depression, psychosis and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Mental health was also a concern for young people who were unable to deal with the pressure of being a carer for a family member with a disability, or being perceived as "a burden" for having a disability. Other issues included the taboo nature of health issues, mistrust of service providers, and experiences of culturally inappropriate services.

Recommendations included:

- Provide targeted training for existing providers, including in settlement and education, that focuses on strategies for engaging CALD parents with health services, including providing them with information about these topics and referral pathways to appropriate services.

- Invest in training for the health and community sectors that promotes culturally appropriate health literacy and delivery, especially around sensitive issues such as mental and sexual health for young people.
- Employ workers from CALD backgrounds to deliver health services and programs.
- Invest in community education and empowerment programs for young people.
- Promote opportunities for greater social inclusion within the wider community.

“Love the choice of panel, relatable...younger people were represented/or people that started young – inspirational”



"The advocacy panel was amazing! It covered all areas and experiences. The speakers were knowledgeable and approachable"

"They gave us real world experience and advice that will guide us in our leadership endeavours"



7. FUSE 2016 Outcomes

Overwhelming feedback from delegates reflected that FUSE 2016 was a successful event with significant outcomes for delegates, resulting in broader networks (with peers, organisations, MPs and other decision-makers), as well as increased skills and knowledge.

The majority of delegates expressed interest in future advocacy work in their local communities and with MYAN. Delegates valued the opportunity to voice their opinions, discuss issues of importance, develop recommendations, share their experiences with peers, and develop practical skills and knowledge. They also requested further support to continue to apply their advocacy skills and connect with each other.

What did they learn?

- 99% of delegates indicated they learnt new skills at FUSE 2016 which could help them in future leadership and advocacy.
- 80% reported that they were very likely to apply the skills learned to promote the rights and interests of young people. The same delegates also stated they would get involved in advocacy, community organising and events to engage other young people and to work to create change in their community.
- 67% felt more confident with their advocacy skills and knowledge.
- 71% reported feeling more confident with their leadership skills and knowledge.
- 53% felt more confident in their community organising and networking skills.

Top 5 lessons

- Different leadership styles
- Using storytelling as an advocacy tool
- Importance of self-care
- How to apply skills in a community context
- Understanding what advocacy is and the forms it can take

Talking to parliamentarians

The majority of delegates (83%) found the practice 'Pitch' session with Senator Janet Rice the most useful engagement with decision-makers. This session was designed to be interactive and an opportunity to receive feedback for their ideas.

The 'Pitch' session with Senator Zed Seselja and the address from Commissioner Megan Mitchell were second in popularity and usefulness to delegates. Some delegates were particularly impressed with the feedback received from Senator Zed Seselja and would have liked to receive more of this.

These sessions were identified as useful for learning to advocate to decision-makers - receiving feedback and putting it into practice.

What comes next?

Youth Ambassadors Network

Approximately 50% of the delegates expressed their interest to join the YAN following FUSE 2016. Being part of this group would give them the opportunity to receive ongoing support and training to build on skills learned at FUSE 2016, while also opening up pathways to national and international advocacy opportunities.

Effective communication

The delegates identified the importance of remaining in contact with MYAN (state/territory and nationally) and one another, in order to continue their advocacy work, as well as supporting each other in their respective states. Delegates created a Facebook group during the event to support this. Delegates also subscribed to the MYAN eNewsletter in order to remain connected to opportunities and information for young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds nationally.

Links with other organisations

Delegates would like to be supported in future activities and advocacy by the MYAN affiliated organisations in their state or territory. Delegates see this connection as important to supporting local projects and for getting

their voices heard at the local and state levels. Each delegate was connected to their state or territory MYAN-affiliated organisation before departing for the summit and built relationships with key staff at FUSE, which aimed to ensure support for delegates post-FUSE.

Delegates made suggestions about the type of support they were interested in receiving after attending FUSE. This included staying informed about opportunities where they were able to practice advocacy and community organising skills learnt at the summit.

“Information shared could be practically applied to our lives. Sound advice was shared and we were encouraged to do our best”

What suggestions were there for the next FUSE?

The delegates strongly recommended that MYAN continue hosting FUSE and providing this unique opportunity to other young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds.

Suggestions for FUSE 2018 included:

1. Include more opportunities to meet and hear directly from a more diverse and representative group of decision-makers.
2. Allow more time and briefing on the ‘Pitch’ to prepare for group presentations, including tips for team work.
3. Provide more opportunities and time to meet experienced advocates.
4. Tailor topics and workshops to address more specific issues in an interactive and engaging manner
5. Providing more information prior to the event about fundraising requirements and accommodation arrangements.



"I loved the amount of support by FUSE organisers. The energy, the idea of directly speaking to government representatives and that we were able to do it in the best ways we knew how (creative freedom)."

8. APPENDIX



FUSE 2016
NATIONAL MULTICULTURAL YOUTH SUMMIT | 7TH - 9TH DEC MELBOURNE

FUSE 2016 Program

Connect | Trail-blaze | Ignite



MYANO
multicultural youth advocacy network (australia)



MYANO
multicultural youth advocacy network (australia)

The Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN) is Australia's national peak body on multicultural youth issues.

The MYAN works in partnership with young people, government and the non-government sectors to promote the needs and interests of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds, and to support a targeted approach to addressing these needs in policy and service delivery.

The MYAN engages in a range of policy, advocacy and capacity building activities to achieve this. The MYAN also supports the development of young people's skills and networks to engage in advocacy and influence the national agenda. The MYAN's vision is that all young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds can access the support and opportunities they need to be active citizens in Australian society.

For more information and to learn about your state or territory affiliated MYAN organisation visit www.myan.org.au

2 FUSE Program 2016

Welcome to FUSE 2016!

Following the incredible success of FUSE 2014, the MYAN are thrilled to be bringing together 32 emerging young leaders from across Australia for a jam-packed summit focusing on leadership, community organising and advocacy.

FUSE is the only national multicultural youth event of its kind and in 2016 the MYAN are pleased to be welcoming an amazing range of facilitators, advocates, trainers and community organisers to share their expertise, experience and advice with you.

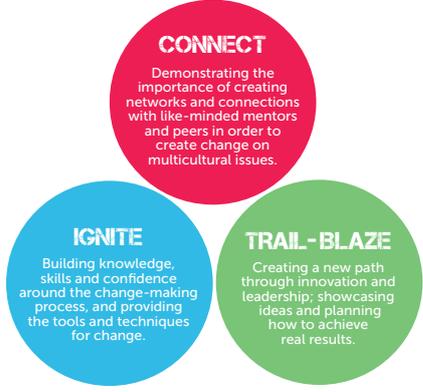
FUSE 2016 is all about building on your existing skills and experiences to address the issues that matter to you. Over the three days of the summit we look forward to you meeting heaps of new people, as you learn and share your knowledge and ideas with this group of passionate young people from all over Australia.

We hope you have a wonderful, rewarding and inspiring experience that motivates you to return to your homes and communities and work on the issues and ideas you are most passionate about.

MYAN Australia

FUSE Program 2016

The FUSE Summit is all about experiencing new things, building your knowledge, challenging yourself and sharing your passion and ideas with others. Based on these ideas, the summit is centred around the following themes:



- CONNECT**
Demonstrating the importance of creating networks and connections with like-minded mentors and peers in order to create change on multicultural issues.
- IGNITE**
Building knowledge, skills and confidence around the change-making process, and providing the tools and techniques for change.
- TRAIL-BLAZE**
Creating a new path through innovation and leadership; showcasing ideas and planning how to achieve real results.

4 FUSE Program 2016

ORIENTATION - Tuesday, 6 December 2016

9.00 – 17.00	Delegates arrive in Melbourne
17.00 – 18.30	Registration and Check In @ Hotel Jasper, 489 Elizabeth Street, CBD
18.30 – 21.00	Welcome Dinner @ Multicultural HUB MC: YAN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction and overview of FUSE 2016 program Meet and greet with the YAN Musical performance by Samantha Pereira

REMINDERS

- Throughout the conference, we encourage you to share your experience on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using **#fusesummit16**.
- Don't forget to write down some words of encouragement and support for your fellow delegates over the next few days and share these 'warm fuzzies' with them!
- Emergency contact details are on the back of your lanyard!

KEY HANDLES & HASHTAGS

If you'd like to follow or share what MYAN is posting or share your own FUSE 2016 experiences, head to any one of our official social media channels:

Official event hashtag: **#fusesummit16**

Official MYAN twitter handle: **@MYANAustralia**

Official MYAN facebook page: **@MYAN Australia**

Official Instagram page: **myanaustralia**

DAY 1 – Wednesday, 7 December 2016

8.45 – 9.30	FUSE 2016 Opening MC: Carmel Guerra OAM, Chair MYAN Australia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome to Country - Wurundjeri Elder Welcome to Victoria - Helen Kaposol, Chairperson, VMC Opening of FUSE 2016 - Nadine Liddy, National Coordinator, MYAN Welcome to FUSE - Youth Ambassador to the MYAN 		
9.30 – 10.00	Team building & overview of Day 1		
10.00 – 11.30	Workshop Session 1		
	Group A Leadership styles & culturally competent leadership	Group B Introduction to advocacy	Group C Strengths & self-care
11.30 – 12.00	Morning Tea		
12.00 – 1.30	Workshop Session 2		
	Group A Strengths & self-care	Group B Leadership styles & culturally competent leadership	Group C Introduction to advocacy
1.30 – 2.15	Lunch		
2.15 – 3.45	Workshop Session 3		
	Group A Introduction to advocacy	Group B Strengths & self-care	Group C Leadership styles & culturally competent leadership
3.45 – 5.00	FUSE 2016 EXPO! Time to network - meet some of the coolest kids working in advocacy around Australia! (Oh, and have some afternoon tea.)		
5.00 – 5.30	Wrap up of Day 1		

DAY 1 – Wednesday, 7 December 2016 (Cont.)

6.30 – 9.30	FUSE 2016 Dinner @ Hotel Jasper MC: MYAN Australia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guest speaker - Megan Mitchell, National Children's Commissioner, AHRC Special Presentation - Students Against Racism
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DAY 2 – Thursday, 8 December 2016

8.45 – 9.15	Welcome, check in & overview of Day 2	
9.15 – 10.45	Workshop Session 4	
	Group A Advocacy in action: Storytelling	Group B Community leadership
10.45 – 11.15	Morning Tea	
11.15 – 12.45	Workshop Session 5	
	Group A Community leadership	Group B Advocacy in action: Storytelling
12.45 – 1.30	Lunch	
1.30 – 2.15	Planning your pitch Chance for teams to formally get together and begin planning their pitch.	
2.15 – 3.15	Advocacy panel Get some tips from advocates with serious cred!	
3.15 – 3.45	Afternoon Tea	
3.45 – 5.00	Planning your pitch (cont.)	
5.00 – 5.30	Wrap up of Day 2	
	FREE TIME	

DAY 3 – Friday, 9 December 2016

8.45 – 9.15	Welcome, check in & overview of Day 3
9.15 – 11.00	Practice pitch MC: Nadine Liddy, National Coordinator MYAN Australia Last chance to put the final touches on your pitches, with feedback from Maria Vamvakinou MP and Senator Sarah Hanson-Young.
11.00 – 11.30	Morning Tea
11.30 – 12.30	The pitch MC: Nadine Liddy, National Coordinator MYAN Australia 5 minute small group pitch on issues facing multicultural young people in Australia, highlighting action and recommendations. Special guest Senator Zed Seselja, Assistant Minister for Social Services and Multicultural Affairs.
12.30 – 1.15	Lunch
1.15 – 1.45	Photos
1.45 – 2.30	Event wrap up & close

SPECIAL GUEST



SENATOR ZED SESELJA Assistant Minister for Social Services and Multicultural Affairs

The pitch
FUZE 2016,
9 December 2016

Zed Seselja was sworn in as Assistant Minister for Social Services and Multicultural Affairs by the Governor-General on 19 July 2016.

Zed was first elected to the Senate for the Australian Capital Territory in 2013 after serving in the ACT Legislative Assembly from 2004 – 2013.

Zed was born in Canberra to Croatian immigrant parents. He is married to Roslyn and they have five children.

Before entering politics, Zed studied Arts and Law at the Australian National University and then moved into the Commonwealth Public Service working for the Department of Transport and Regional Services.



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SPEAKERS AND PRESENTERS

HELEN KAPALOS (VMC)

Welcome address
FUZE 2016 Opening,
7 December 2016

An accomplished journalist, presenter, executive producer and filmmaker, Helen Kapalos is a proud Greek Australian who is passionate about supporting Victoria's culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Since taking up her role at the Victorian Multicultural Commission (VMC), Helen has led a series of new initiatives, elevating the discourse around issues of identity politics and inclusion in our ever-evolving multicultural society. Helen is a passionate advocate for equality in the multicultural sector and leads a team of 12 Commissioners to champion various community causes.

Helen has also worked in a number of philanthropic roles including Director at the Heart Foundation, Director of Federation Square, Ambassador for the Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation, and Ambassador with Community Languages Australia.

MEGAN MITCHELL (AHRC)

Guest speaker
FUZE 2016 Dinner,
7 December 2016

Megan Mitchell is Australia's first National Children's Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC). She has extensive experience in issues facing children and young people, having worked with children from all types of backgrounds, including undertaking significant work with vulnerable children. She has practical expertise in child protection, foster and kinship care, juvenile justice, children's services, child care, disabilities, and early intervention and prevention services.

In her role as Commissioner, Megan focuses solely on the rights and interests of children, and the laws, policies and programs that impact them.

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STUDENTS AGAINST RACISM

Special presentation
FUZE 2016 Dinner,
7 December 2016

Students Against Racism is a group of students who came to Australia as refugees and migrants from a diversity of countries and personal circumstances. Working with their TasTAFE teacher, Gini Ennals, they have developed a dramatic presentation, *Living in Between*, that explains why they left their homelands, the journey that brought them to Australia and their lives now.



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PANELLISTS

Advocacy Panel, 8 December 2016

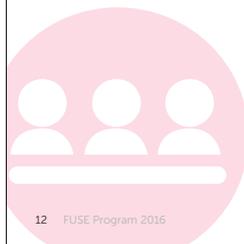
LORRAINE NGWENYA Moderator

Lorraine Nozipho Ngwenya is the proud founder of Useful Link. Lorraine has always had a passion for helping young people and in 2015, made the decision to dedicate her time to doing so. She believes young people have many challenges that face them; none greater than themselves. So it is Lorraine's goal to help as many young people as she can to realise their potential. Lorraine believes this will happen when we lose our sense of entitlement and learn to be proactive with our future.

Before Useful Link Lorraine's journey to this point has been long and beautiful. For a full bio see www.lorrainengwenya.com

YASSMIN ABDEL-MAGIED

Yassmin Abdel-Magied is a mechanical engineer, social advocate, writer and petrol head and is the 2015 Queensland Young Australian of the Year. She advocates for the empowerment of youth, women and those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and founded non-for-profit Youth Without Borders at age 16.



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CARMEL GUERRA

Carmel Guerra is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) - the first organisation in Australia to work exclusively with migrant and refugee young people.

Carmel has over 25 years' experience in the community sector. She serves on numerous boards and committees for the Government and non-Government sectors on a federal, state and local level.

Carmel has been awarded a Churchill Fellowship, earned a Centenary Medal for services to young people, migrant and refugee communities, and was entered into the Victorian Women's Honour Roll for her services to the community. In 2016 she was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to multicultural youth in Victoria.

MING YU HAH

Ming Yu is the Refugee Campaigner at Amnesty International Australia, with over 20 years experience in human rights and social justice movements. Amnesty has grown from seeking the release of political prisoners to upholding the whole range of human rights. Our work protects and empowers people - from abolishing the death penalty to protecting sexual and reproductive rights, and from combatting discrimination to defending refugee rights. We speak out for anyone and everyone whose freedom and dignity are under threat. Amnesty works tirelessly to protect the safety of millions of refugees who are forced to flee their homes to escape war, genocide, torture and persecution. See www.amnesty.org.au



Panel notes:

Lined area for panel notes.

TIM O'CONNOR

Tim O'Connor has worked in the arenas of human rights, international aid and development for over 15 years. Focusing on Asia and the Pacific and including stints in Africa and the Middle East, Tim has worked across the spectrum from NGOs to UN organisations. This has included responding to emergencies (e.g. the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami and Burma's Cyclone Nargis) and focusing on long term development programs. Having had the privilege of working with refugee and displaced communities across the world, Tim has a well-developed understanding of the challenges faced by refugees and is interested in growing that understanding in the Australian community. Tim has a background in economics and law and is currently the Acting CEO of the Refugee Council of Australia.

PRACTICE PITCH //

MARIA VAMVAKINOUP MP
Federal Member for Calwell & Co-convenor of the Australian Parliamentary Friendship Group for Multiculturalism

December 9, 2016

Maria and Sarah will hear directly from young people about the issues that matter to them.

SENATOR SARAH HANSON-YOUNG
Senator for South Australia

During this session they will provide valuable feedback to FUSE 2016 delegates on the key issues and recommendations they have identified.

WORKSHOPS Day 1, 7 December 2016

LEADERSHIP STYLES & CULTURALLY COMPETENT LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

Alice Gomez and Tizita Yohannes (Centre for Multicultural Youth)

This workshop will explore key aspects of leadership in a cross-cultural context, including individual leadership styles. The aim of the workshop is to unpack and reflect on the diversity of leadership styles, and to explore how culture influences leadership and culture as strength in leadership. CMY are a Victorian not-for-profit organization supporting young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds to build better lives in Australia. Read more at www.cmy.net.au

INTRODUCTION TO ADVOCACY WORKSHOP

Andrew Cummings (Andrew Cummings Training and Consulting)

This Introduction to advocacy workshop informs and inspires young people about change and advocacy concepts and activities. The workshop looks at what advocacy is and different types of advocacy. It grounds the theory in practical examples and activities that allow young people to engage with the different forms advocacy may take in practice. Andrew is a freelance consultant who has worked in young people's organisations for over 30 years.

STRENGTHS AND SELF-CARE WORKSHOP

Alexandra Long (MYAN NSW)

"Even superheroes have a self-care plan". So you want to be a change maker? It's a tough world out there...are you certain you're up for it? You sure will be by the end of this workshop! In "Even superheroes have a self-care plan" we discuss the importance of looking after ourselves as young leaders and advocates. You'll develop skills on how to work to your strengths (and even figure them out if you don't know what they are), as well as creative ways to make sure you're always up to the task of tackling the world's biggest problems.



COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

Tom Henderson & Duré de Winter (Polykala)

For groups to work well they need goodwill. This Community Leadership session will focus on leadership as a social, reflective skill that relies on the 'currency' of goodwill. The session will bring the concept of community leadership to life through facilitated experiential exercises that will leave participants not only with ideas, but experience they can draw upon in their community leadership endeavours. Read more about Polykala at www.polykala.com

ADVOCACY IN ACTION: STORYTELLING WORKSHOP

Alex Sangster & Mike McEvoy (Playback Theatre Melbourne)

This session will provide delegates with an introduction to storytelling as a tool for advocacy. Delegates will learn skills for putting a story together to make a story effective and memorable, listening and communicating an effective story, and how to adjust delivery to your audience. Playback Theatre Melbourne's workshops are active, physical, fun and practical. Read more about Playback at www.melbourneplayback.com.au



FUSE 2016 EXPO! STALLHOLDERS

YOUNG WORKERS CENTRE

youngworkers.org.au

The Young Workers Centre is a one-stop-shop for young workers who want to learn more about their rights at work or who need assistance in resolving workplace issues.

STUDENTS AGAINST RACISM

afairerworld.org/lib

The Hobart Students Against Racism (SAR) are a group of students and young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds who have come to Tasmania from countries as diverse as Sudan, Afghanistan, Bhutan, Nepal, Congo, and Burma. They share their stories to build understanding in the wider community.

AMNESTY AUSTRALIA

amnesty.org.au

Amnesty protects and empowers people - from abolishing the death penalty to protecting sexual and reproductive rights, and from combatting discrimination to defending refugee rights.

REFUGEE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

refugeecouncil.org.au

The Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA) is the national umbrella body for refugees and the organisations and individuals who support them. It has more than 200 organisational and over 900 individual members.

NATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS

nus.org.au

National Union of Students is the peak representative body for Australian undergraduate university students. NUS seek to protect and advance the rights and interests of undergraduate students by working with campus-based student organisations, running actions and campaigns, and making sure the voices of students are heard by parliamentarians.

RECOGNISE

recognise.org.au

RECOGNISE is the movement to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Australian Constitution and ensure there's no place in it for racial discrimination.

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CLIMATE COALITION

aycc.org.au

Since 2007, Australian Youth Climate Coalition has helped thousands of young Australians take action in their schools, their universities, and their communities, and take part in campaigns that put climate change in the national spotlight. The AYCC now has more than 120,000 members, 100 local groups, and more than 500 regular volunteers.

FOUNDATION FOR YOUNG AUSTRALIANS

fya.org.au

Foundation for Young Australians is all about backing the next generation of young people who are going to rethink the world and create a better future.



MYAN Australia
C/O Centre for Multicultural Youth
304 Drummond Street
Carlton VIC 3054
T: (03) 9340 3700 W: www.myan.org.au

MYANO

The Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (Australia) is
supported by the Centre for Multicultural Youth.



"FUSE! has been amazing, rewarding and overall an unforgettable experience that is invaluable."

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