

FUSEE 2019

CONNECT • IGNITE • TRAILBLAZE

National Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit REPORT

Contents



- 1. Executive Summary3
- 2. Background5
- 3. Program9
- 4. FUSE 2019 Outcomes.....16
- 5. Appendix18

1. Executive Summary



MYAN hosted Australia's third national multicultural youth leadership summit - *FUSE 2019* - from 14-17th April in Melbourne.

Building on the success of *FUSE 2014* and *FUSE 2016*, and with the themes of 'Connect, 'Ignite' and Trailblaze', *FUSE 2019* was once again a unique and transformative opportunity for young Australians from refugee and migrant backgrounds to build leadership and advocacy skills, expand their networks and connect with peers from across Australia.

Over 3 days, delegates participated in skills building workshops, heard from experienced advocates working in diverse sectors, explored key issues and solutions facing young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds, and engaged with decision-makers and MPs from the state and commonwealth level. Given the timing of the federal election, *FUSE 2019* also utilised MYAN Australia's election policy platform to inform discussions and guide advocacy on the final day 'pitch' to MP Tim Watts, Sen Janet Rice and Australia's National Children's commissioner, Megan Mitchell. Delegates presented on education and training, employment, settlement support, health and well-being and youth participation and inclusion.

FUSE 2019 OUTCOMES

1. 88.89% of delegates indicated that they felt confident in advocacy skills after attending *FUSE*. This was a shift from the 39% of delegates who indicated they felt confident in the same area prior to *FUSE*.
2. 99% of delegates indicated that they learnt new skills in leadership at *FUSE 2019* that they thought could help them in future leadership and advocacy activities.
3. 80% suggested they felt more confident in community organising and pitching skills after participating in *FUSE 2019*.
4. 99% reported that they were likely to apply what they learned to promote their rights and interests and those of young people. The same delegates also stated that they are most likely to be involved in creating change in their communities.
5. 70% of delegates stated that they were very likely to get involved in advocacy while 80% suggested that they were very likely to get involved in community organising/events to engage with other young people.



CONNECT

Connecting with like-minded mentors, peers and building your networks to create change.

IGNITE

Igniting new ideas and building skills, knowledge and the tools to put these into action.

TRAILBLAZE

Marking out a new path as leaders, with clear direction, ideas and plans for creating change in your communities.

2. Background



2.1 WHAT IS *FUSE*?

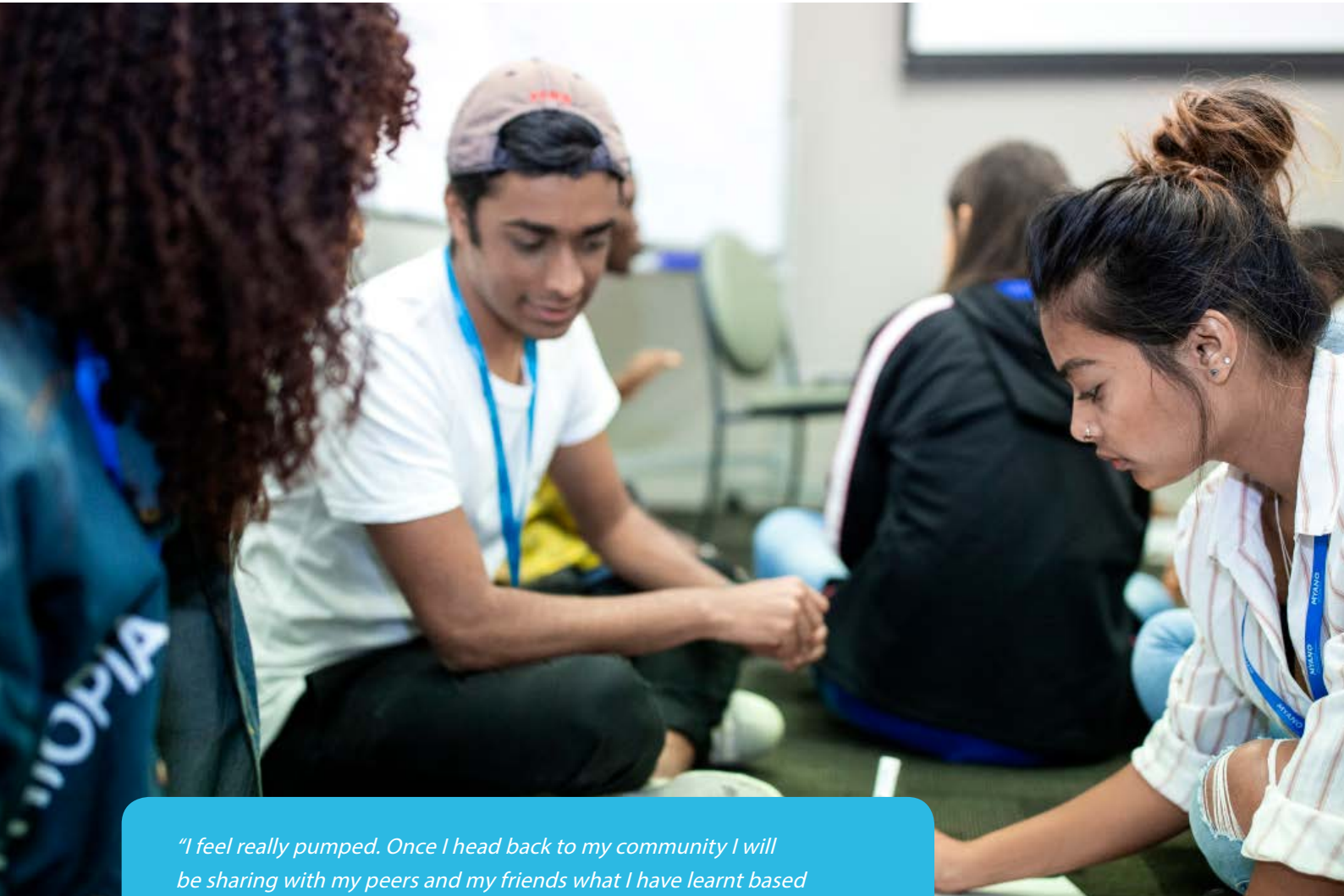
FUSE is Australia's national 3-day multicultural youth leadership summit hosted by MYAN Australia. Building on the success of *FUSE* 2014 and *FUSE* 2016, *FUSE* 2019 was held in Melbourne from the 14th - 17th of April 2019. Framed by the overarching themes of 'Connect', 'Ignite', and 'Trailblaze', *FUSE* 2019 brought together 40 emerging young leaders from refugee and migrant backgrounds from across Australia to develop skills, expand networks, and engage in advocacy with decision-makers. MYAN's national Youth Ambassadors Network (YAN) play an important role in designing and delivering *FUSE*. *FUSE* is a unique and significant leadership opportunity for young Australians from refugee, asylum-seeking and migrant backgrounds. The content and structure of the program is targeted to the needs, rights and context of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds, with delegates supported to apply their skills and knowledge at the state and local levels post *FUSE* through MYAN's partners. *FUSE* is designed to equip delegates with the skills, confidence, knowledge and networks to engage in creating changes in their communities, and at the state and national levels.

2.2 WHY *FUSE*?

FUSE is grounded in MYAN's understanding of youth participation, advocacy and leadership for young people from refugee, asylum-seeking and migrant backgrounds. MYAN believes that young people from refugee, asylum-seeking and migrant backgrounds have unique experiences and knowledge as experts in their own lives and should be supported to identify and explore the issues impacting on them, find solutions and advocate for positive change. Meaningful youth participation for this group of young people is about equipping them with the knowledge, skills and resources to overcome barriers to meaningful participation, and providing the platforms to have their voices heard - to influence policy and programming agendas and create positive change in their communities.

This group of young people have a range of strengths and capabilities and are important actors in creating change. However, they often face particular barriers in accessing opportunities and having their voices heard. These include: limited or low English language skills, different cultural norms and values, lack of social and cultural capital, racism and discrimination, and settlement pressures (i.e. practical demands and responsibility for parents and family members). These barriers often mean that their voices are marginalised, which reduces their capacity to advocate for their needs, influence decision makers, or be supported as leaders in their communities.

MYAN Australia plays an important role in facilitating access to leadership and advocacy opportunities for young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds across Australia. Their engagement as active citizens in Australian society has significant and long-term benefits at the individual, family and community levels, and for a diverse and socially cohesive Australia. *FUSE* is one mechanism designed to support this.



"I feel really pumped. Once I head back to my community I will be sharing with my peers and my friends what I have learnt based on the experiences of other young leaders from different states in Australia. We had some very informative sessions and we have learnt lots, especially new ways to explore our leadership in our communities and how we can come up with ideas and new approaches, how we can get projects done and what resources are available to us to help us through that process. I'd recommend this to other young people who are eager to get out there and make a change in their community."

2.4 FUSE AIMS

FUSE aims to provide opportunities for young Australians from refugee, asylum seeking and migrant backgrounds to:

- Share perspectives, and experiences with other young people from multicultural backgrounds from around Australia;
- Explore and strengthen leadership capabilities and aspirations;
- Build skills, confidence and networks to engage in advocacy and active citizenship;
- Apply advocacy and leadership skills and engage with decision-makers;
- Access national opportunities through networking with organisations and advocacy bodies;
- Provide an opportunity for decision-makers to engage directly with young people from multicultural backgrounds from around Australia.

2.5 FUSE DELEGATES

Thirty-five young people from refugee, asylum seeking and migrant backgrounds attended *FUSE* 2019. There were representatives from each state and territory and 41% of delegates were from rural, remote and regional backgrounds.

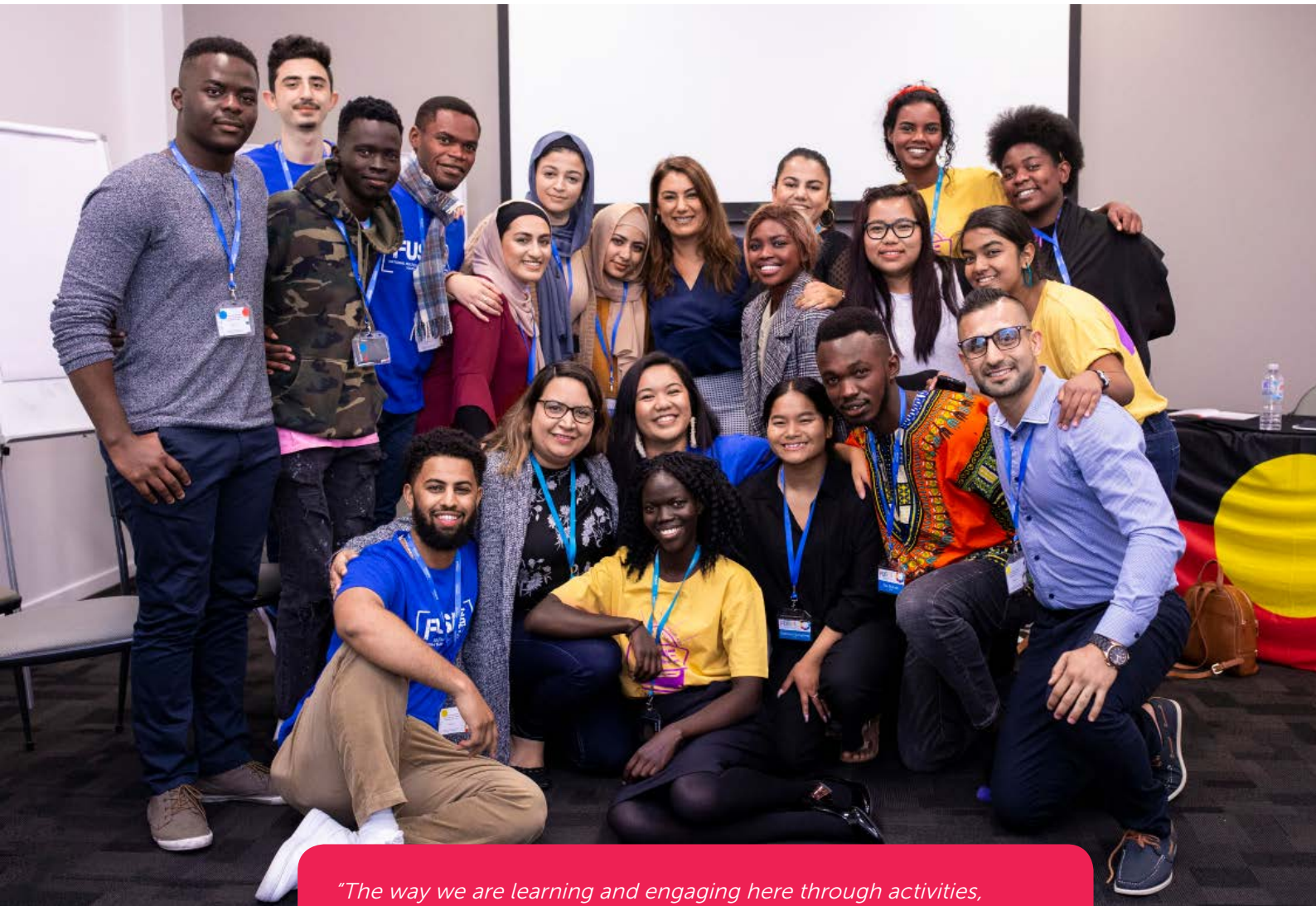
Cultural backgrounds included Australian, Assyrian, Afghani, Burundian, Burmese, Canada, Chinese, Congolese, Chin-Matu, Ethiopian, Fijian, Filipino, Ghanaian, Harari, Hazara, Iraqi, Iranian, Kenyan, Liberia, Malawi, Middle-Eastern, Munyamuleng, Nepali, Nigerian, Persian, Palestinian, South Sudanese, Sierra Leonean, Sudanese, Syrian, Samoan, Ugandan and Yoruba.

Delegates were selected through a competitive application process. For many delegates, this was their first formal leadership skills development and training opportunity.

2.6 FUSE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

FUSE 2019 was specifically tailored to the leadership and advocacy context of young people from refugee, asylum-seeking and migrant backgrounds. Across 3 days, the program combined training and skills development workshops with opportunities for sharing experiences and networking among peers and between delegates and organisations. Opportunities were provided across the 3 days to engage formally and informally with more experienced advocates and decision-makers and to apply newly acquired leadership and advocacy skills – including through the final ‘Pitch’ session with MPs.

See *FUSE* 2019 program in the appendix.



"The way we are learning and engaging here through activities, workshops, having fun and the way we get to pitch a topic to decision makers, it's all been amazing. The connections we all have now, we are all from different parts of Australia but the way we've come together it is like we have known each other for ages. It's mind boggling to me - I was not expecting this at all."

3. Program



3.1 WORKSHOPS

Workshops were facilitated by those with expertise in multicultural youth advocacy and leadership and included theory on advocacy and creating change with practical examples of advocacy and human rights activities, supporting young people to build on their strengths and utilise their own stories in their leadership and advocacy work. Workshops also covered topics of self-care and learning from Australia's First Nations Peoples.

All delegates participated in the same workshops on both days. Detailed workshop descriptions can be found [here](#).

Day 1

Leadership through Storytelling

(Mohammed Yassin and Shabnam Safa - Centre for Multicultural Youth)

Introduction to Advocacy

(Annika McCaffery and Sam Champion – YACVIC)

Care for self, Care for the Earth, and Care for others

(Majidi Warda – Elemental Training)

Day 2

Set-up your own Advocacy Project

(Shabnam Safa – Centre for Multicultural Youth and Grace Edward– QLD Representative on YAN)

Australia's First Nations Peoples: Sovereignty, Treaty 2019

(Lidia Thorpe – Former Greens MP)

3.2 EXPO

One of the objectives of *FUSE* is to support young people to build networks with organisations and individuals across sectors, including introductions to organisations and advocacy bodies working in relevant areas.

The EXPO session provided a structured opportunity for delegates to learn about each of the organisations and how young people might engage with them.

These organisations were: Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC), Foundation for Young Australians (FYA), headspace, Oaktree, and Youth Disability Advocacy Service (YDAS). The following were also invited but were unable to attend: Amnesty International, UN Youth and (in)visible.



"I loved the diversity of speakers and sessions organised. I found the workshops very good. They provided with great information in a way that is easy to apply to my everyday life."

3.3 PANEL SESSIONS

Two panel sessions were held on Day 2 and Day 3, with experienced advocates and decision-makers.

Advocacy Panel

This session on Day 2 was designed as an opportunity for delegates to:

- Learn about the diversity of advocacy activities
- Learn about key elements of advocacy work
- Demonstrate and practice asking questions in public
- Build knowledge and confidence by hearing practical stories from people's experience
- Connect with diverse experienced advocates
- Learn about key strategies for engaging with decision makers and MPs

The panellists reflected diverse advocacy experiences relevant to the youth and multicultural context. They spoke about their own journeys as advocates, challenges and successes, and provided tips and advice to emerging leaders.

Panellists were:

- Nadine Liddy, National Coordinator - Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network Australia (MYAN)
- Betul Tuna, advocate and entrepreneur from Shepparton
- Fablice Manirakiza, youth leader and musician/rapper
- Lorraine Ngwenya, Founder of Useful Link
- Shabnam Safa, youth advocate and co-founder of Noor Foundation
- Apajok Biar (via video), Chairperson and Co-Founder of South Sudan Voices of Salvation Inc., MYAN NSW Youth Ambassador

The 'Pitch' Panel

The Panel session on Day 3 provided an opportunity for young people to apply their skills and knowledge through engaging directly with decision-makers and politicians to highlight issues of concern for refugee and migrant young people in Australia, and offer solutions.

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

1. Education and Training
2. Employment
3. Health and Well-being
4. Settlement Support
5. Youth Participation and Inclusion

The topics were consistent with MYAN Australia's Federal Election Policy Platform.

Prior to giving their 'Pitch', delegates worked in small groups with MYAN's partners and Youth Ambassadors Network to further explore and prioritise topics, draft and develop recommendations to put forward and to practice effective and timely delivery of their 'Pitch' to panellists.

Panellists in the final 'Pitch' session were: Tim Watts MP (Australian Labor Party), Senator Janet Rice (Australian Greens), Ms. Megan Mitchell (National Children's Commissioner, Australian Human Rights Commission).

Young people shared personal experiences about the challenges of settling in a new country and growing up in Australia with migrant parents. They described themselves as inspired, passionate, adaptable and possessing a willingness to work hard and overcome challenges. The presentations were pitched in various forms, including storytelling and spoken word.

3.4 THE 'PITCH' - KEY ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Education and Training

This group conveyed the challenges faced by newly arrived migrants and refugee students in navigating an unfamiliar education system and the challenges for parents/ families to support their child when they have minimal knowledge about the system, including in parent-teacher interviews. They noted that the education system was missing an overarching support system for young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds, which they believe would be addressed through their recommendations. These were:

- Working with students, families, school communities and organisations outside the school system using an interdisciplinary approach to address gaps within the system and encourage good practice sharing from around Australia.
- Supporting schools to implement processes that assisted parents/families to better understand and engage with the education system, including overcoming language barriers. This includes providing interpreters for teacher/parent meetings and running information sessions to improve understanding of education systems.

Watch a clip of the Education and Training pitch [here](#).



Employment

This group explored the impact of racism and discrimination among young people from diverse backgrounds in the employment context. They noted that these experiences led to unemployment and underemployment of young migrant and refugee communities, specifically mentioning that “27% of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds are unemployed and or looking for a job, 49% of them have experienced some form of discrimination and 72% of these people discriminated against based on race. No matter how much experience or how qualified, young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds will experience discrimination in seeking employment.” ([Multicultural Youth Australia Census Status Report 2017/18](#))

Recommendations were:

- Working directly between government and businesses to establish a government accreditation system that rewards businesses who can work towards being inclusive, eliminating discrimination and subconscious bias in the workplace and in recruitment processes. In order to achieve this recognition, businesses needed to embed cross cultural competency training, a commitment to diversity and employ young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds. Government could incentivise the participation of corporations in this scheme through government subsidies.
- Providing targeted support for young people from refugee and migrant communities to learn about the Australian labor market and equip them with the skills and knowledge to enable effective entry into the workforce.

Watch a clip of the Employment pitch [here](#).



Health and Wellbeing

Mental health was the focus for this group, with young people highlighting existing barriers in accessing mental health services. These included a lack of cultural responsiveness from organisations, fear from young people of not being understood, challenges within communities in understanding the concept of mental health and the stigma/taboo attached to mental health, and a limited evidence base of stories where young migrant and refugee communities have faced mental health issues which overcome stigma/negative community perceptions of mental health. The group also acknowledged the importance of the Commonwealth government's current investment into headspace centres across Australia, but expressed concern about the accessibility to these centres for young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds.

Recommendations by the group had both a short and longer-term focus, including:

Short term:

- Ensure that cultural competency training is provided for mental health practitioners, social workers, and other allied health workers that engage directly with young refugee and migrant people to address accessibility gaps.
- Establishing peer support/safe spaces where young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds can share understandings and experiences of mental health, and form a community to address stigma and taboo within communities about mental health.

Long term:

- A strategic vision for a future where young people at risk of or experiencing mental health issues are comfortable enough to seek out youth mental health services and where these services are sensitive and responsive to their cultural context/migrant and refugee experiences.
- Creating specific, trained roles within the mental health sector for people from migrant and refugee backgrounds to facilitate access, pathways and offer appropriate support.

Watch a clip of the Health and Wellbeing pitch [here](#).



Settlement Support

This group focused on language as a critical component of the settlement experience for migrant and refugee young people. They highlighted that over 300 languages are spoken in Australia, however, many minority languages are not recognised by accredited national interpreter services and therefore require people to speak in their 2nd or 3rd language to engage with society, which can lead to miscommunication. They also highlighted the lack of translated materials on government services and the impact this has on navigating the settlement journey. Limitations in interpreting and translation services impacts directly on young people as they are often called on to take on the responsibility as an interpreter. This can impact negatively on family dynamics and can also hinder young people's participation in opportunities and activities.

Delegates recommended two specific solutions to address this:

- Accreditation of languages from smaller communities, in partnership with The Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators.
- Investment in the availability of interpreters across all sectors, but more urgently in emergency departments of hospitals and emergency services.

Watch a clip of the Settlement Support pitch [here](#).

Youth Participation and Inclusion

This group explored two main areas within youth participation and inclusion, namely accessibility and representation. There was reference made to the experience young people have in accessing youth services and having expectations that are not being met as services are not culturally competent and often lack representation from a wide spread of young people. They mentioned that leaders in the states and territories were not responding to their interests and needs of young people, but also felt like there was little opportunity to voice these insights.

Moreover, there was an acknowledgement of their settlement journey but a desire to want to explore more about being a young person than their journey being the sole root of identity.

Delegates expressed the consequences of these issues as affecting other parts of young people's lives such as young pregnancy without support, contact with the judiciary system or severe mental health issues.

Their recommendations included:

- An extension of their narratives and a stop to stories that cause harm to their participation.
- The appointment of a federal level Minister for youth who can bring light to their issues.
- Designing programs and services that take into consideration: i) culturally competent frameworks which make youth services accessible, ii) sustainability in programs beyond one-off opportunities, and iii) family-centred approaches, involving their families and communities to support and addressing intergenerational conflict.

Watch a clip of the Youth Participation and Inclusion pitch [here](#).



4. FUSE 2019 Outcomes



This section outlines the feedback collected from delegates through a group feedback session at the conclusion of the summit and an online survey.

Overwhelmingly delegates reported that FUSE 2019 was a successful event and achieved a range of outcomes for all the delegates. Majority of delegates expressed interest in future advocacy work in their local communities and with MYAN.

4.2 TOP 5 LESSONS



4.1 SKILLS AND FUTURE ADVOCACY

88.89%

of delegates indicated that they felt **confident in advocacy skills** after attending FUSE. This was a shift from the 39% of delegates who indicated they felt confident in the same area prior to FUSE.

ADVOCACY



80%

suggested they felt more **confident in community organising and pitching skills** after participating in FUSE 2019.

COMMUNITY ORGANISING & PITCHING



70%

of delegates stated that they were very likely to **get involved in advocacy**

80%

suggested that they were very likely to **get involved in community organising/events** to engage with other young people.

LEADERSHIP



99%

of delegates indicated that they learnt **new skills in leadership** at FUSE 2019 that they thought could help them in future leadership and advocacy activities.

YOUTH VOICES



99%

reported that they were likely to **apply what they learned** to promote their rights and interests and those of young people. The same delegates also stated that they are most likely to be involved in creating change in their communities.

4.3 ENGAGEMENT WITH PARLIAMENTARIANS AND DECISION-MAKERS

Delegates found the opportunity to engage with the 'Pitch' panel a valuable opportunity and were overall satisfied with their interaction. Delegates were especially grateful for the questions that the panel asked as this was an indication of their interest to the group on the selected issues.

The majority of delegates (83%) found the pitch a useful opportunity in applying the skills they had acquired in the leadership and advocacy capacity-building workshops. Comments from delegates suggest that the value in this session lies largely with the opportunity to directly engage with parliamentarians and decision-makers and expressed gratitude to the panel for making the time to attend *FUSE* 2019.



"FUSE 2019 was productive and worth every minute."

5. Appendix



FUSE 2019 Program

Connect | Trailblaze | Ignite



Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network Australia (MYAN) is Australia's national peak body representing the rights and interests of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds.

MYAN works in partnership with young people, government and the non-government sectors to promote the rights and interests of young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds and ensure these are recognised in policy and practice.

We facilitate national connections between young people, academics, policy makers and practitioners, provide policy expertise, provide youth leadership opportunities and develop capacity building resources.

Our vision is that all young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds can access the support and opportunities they need to be active participants in, and contributors to, Australian society.

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



Connect with MYAN on our social channels - share your ideas, thoughts and experience at FUSE with us, our broader networks and each other using the event hashtag - and don't forget to tag us!

#fusesummit19



Welcome to FUSE 2019!

Following the incredible success of FUSE 2014 and FUSE 2016, MYAN is thrilled to be bringing together 40 emerging young leaders from across Australia for a jam-packed 3-days focussed on leadership, advocacy and creating positive change.

FUSE is the only national multicultural youth event of its kind and MYAN is excited to be welcoming an amazing range of facilitators, advocates, community organisers and decision makers to share their expertise and experience with you.

FUSE 2019 is all about building and applying your skills, knowledge and networks to address the issues that matter to you – to Connect, Ignite and Trailblaze!

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

FUSE 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 these themes:



ORIENTATION - Monday 15th April 2019

9.00 – 17.00	Delegates arrive in Melbourne	
14.00 onwards	Registration and Check In @ Hotel Jasper, 489 Elizabeth Street, CBD	
18.00	Pre-FUSE get together @ Community Hub, The Dock Music performance Event opener & introduction, overview of the program & housekeeping Ice breaker Activity Music Performance	Niasha Nadine Liddy MYAN National Coordinator Youth Ambassadors The Boite Choir
19.20	DINNER	
19.50 – 21.00	Meet and greet Closing remarks	Moderator: Celia Tran MYAN Youth Ambassadors Nadine Liddy

REMINDERS

- "Pockets of Praise" - Don't forget to write down some words of encouragement and support for your fellow delegates throughout FUSE.
- Emergency contact details are on the back of your lanyard.
In case of emergency, contact – Nadine Liddy: 0437 897 178
- Keep an eye out for photography opportunities throughout the event.
- We invite you to be part of an exciting advocacy project - come and share your ideas with us in the filming booth!
- Check out MYAN's Election Platform - the upcoming Federal Election is an important focal point for FUSE 2019.
- Please ensure you read through the Code of Conduct and Social Media Guidelines provided in your showbags and always participate respectfully.

FUSE Program 2019 4

Day 1 – Monday 15th April

8.45 – 9.30am	Welcome to Country	Wurundjeri Tribe, Wurundjeri Tribe Land Council
	Welcome to FUSE & Overview of summit	Nadine Liddy MYAN National Coordinator
9.30 – 10.00am	Team Building Activity	MYAN Youth Ambassadors; Jane Alia, Grace Edward, CeCe Hylton-Dei, Rasa Islam, Narayan Khanal, Magda Mohamed-Gamar & Tasnia Rafi
10.00 – 11.30	SESSION 1	
GROUP A	Leadership through Storytelling	CMY
GROUP B	Introduction to Advocacy	YACVic
GROUP C	Care for Self, Care for Earth, Care for Each Other	Elemental Training
11.30 – 12.00	MORNING TEA	
12.00 – 1.30	SESSION 2	
GROUP A	Introduction to Advocacy	YACVic
GROUP B	Care for Self, Care for Earth, Care for Each Other	Elemental Training
GROUP C	Leadership styles & culturally competent leadership	CMY
1.30 – 2.15	LUNCH	

Day 1 – Monday 15th April

2.15 – 3.45	SESSION 3	
GROUP A	Care for Self, Care for Earth, Care for Each Other	Elemental Training
GROUP B	Leadership through Storytelling	CMY
GROUP C	Introduction to Advocacy	YACVic
3.45 – 5.00	AFTERNOON TEA / FUSE 2019 EXPO!	Hannah Lai (STAN NSW)
5.00 – 5.30	Large group activity: Day 1 summary and report back	MYAN Youth Ambassadors
7.00 – 7.30	DINNER @ Jasper	
7.30 – 9.30	Opening address Inspirational Speaker Performance	MC: CeCe (YAN SA) Tim Lo Surdo Students Against Racism

Day 2 – Tuesday 16th April

8.45 – 9.15	Welcome, Check-in & overview of Day 2	MYAN Youth Ambassadors
9.15 – 10.45	SESSION 4	
GROUP A	Set up your own advocacy project	CMY
GROUP B	Australia's First Nations Peoples: Sovereignty, Treaty 2019	Lidia Thorpe & Meriki Onus
10.45 – 11.15	MORNING TEA	
11.15 – 12.45	SESSION 5	
GROUP A	Australia's First Nations Peoples: Sovereignty, Treaty 2019	Lidia Thorpe & Meriki Onus
GROUP B	Set up your own advocacy project	CMY
12.45 – 1.30	LUNCH	
1.30 – 2.15	SESSION 6 Planning your pitch	MYAN Australia
2.15 – 3.15	SESSION 7 Panel - Learning from experienced advocates	Facilitator: Lorraine Ngwenya Apajok Biar via video Nadine Liddy Fabrice Manirakiza Shabnam Safa Betul Tuna David Vincent

7 FUSE Program 2019

Day 2 - Tuesday 16th April

3.15 – 3.45	AFTERNOON TEA	
3.45 – 5.00	SESSION 8 Planning your pitch (continued)	MYAN Australia
5.00 – 6.00	Large group activity - including Day 2 summary & report back	MYAN Youth Ambassadors
6.30 – 7.30	DINNER & FREE-TIME	

Day 3 - Wednesday 17th April

8.00 – 8.45	HOTEL CHECK OUT	
8.45 – 9.15	Welcome, Check-in and overview of Day 3	MYAN Youth Ambassadors
9.15 – 11.00	SESSION 9 Practice pitch - last chance to put the finishing touches on your pitch	MYAN Australia
11.00 – 11.30	MORNING TEA MPs arrive	
11.30 - 1.00	SESSION 10 MP Panel Pitch: 5 minute presentation to MPs in small groups	Nadine Liddy
1.00 – 1.30	LUNCH	
1.30 – 2.15	PHOTOS	
2.15 – 3.30	Event wrap-up & closing remarks	Nadine Liddy
	Evaluation activity	MYAN Youth Ambassadors

FUSE Program 2019 8

WORKSHOPS

LEADERSHIP THROUGH STORYTELLING

Facilitated by Mohammed Yassin



CMY considers leadership as an action you take (rather than a role that you hold) to make positive change. This session will explore the use of storytelling as a leadership action and advocacy tool by exploring the personal values motivating your leadership. Through experiential learning, you will refine a story to create impact and support a key message for change.

The Centre for Multicultural Youth is a not-for-profit organisation based in Victoria, providing specialist knowledge and support to young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds. CMY's vision is that young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds are connected, empowered and influential Australians.

CARE FOR SELF, CARE FOR EARTH, CARE FOR EACH OTHER

Facilitated by Majidi Warda



In this workshop we will turn our focus inward and consider the importance of balance in a busy world. Participants will be equipped with practical self-care assessment tools to lead a life based on the principles of care.

Elemental Training programs have been created following twenty years of experience with children and young people in educational settings and youth services. Blending resources for personal wellness with earth stewardship and community connection, Elemental programs are designed to ensure young people are practically equipped to lead a life based on the principles of care – care for self, care for earth and care for each other.

9 FUSE Program 2019

WORKSHOPS



INTRODUCTION TO ADVOCACY

Facilitated by Sam Champion & Annika McCaffrey



This introduction to advocacy informs and inspires young people about change and advocacy concepts and activities. The workshop looks 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. YACVIC is the leading advocate for young people aged 12-25 in Victoria.

YACVIC is the leading advocate for young people aged 12-25 in Victoria. As a peak body, YACVIC works closely with young Victorians and the sector that supports them to deliver effective advocacy, events, training, resources and support – so that young people can live their best lives.

SET UP YOUR OWN ADVOCACY PROJECT

Facilitated by Shabnam Safa



This session will explore the Do's and Don'ts of starting your own project or initiative in the community, around an issue of interest. We will focus on the bigger 'why' followed by a deeper dive into the various stages of project development and management and highlight practical tips and tricks to walk away with.

The Centre for Multicultural Youth is a not-for-profit organisation based in Victoria, providing specialist knowledge and support to young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds. CMY's vision is that young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds are connected, empowered and influential Australians.

FUSE Program 2019 10

WORKSHOPS

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES: SOVEREIGNTY, TREATY 2019

Facilitated by Lidia Thorpe & Meriki Onus

This workshop will provide an opportunity for FUSE delegates to talk with, listen and learn from members of Australia's First Nations Peoples, including learning about reconciliation and a treaty.

Lidia is a Gunai-Gunditjmarra woman, mother of three and grandmother living on Wurundjeri country. She is the former MP for Northcote and the First Aboriginal woman in the Victorian Parliament. A lifetime advocate for Aboriginal peoples and communities for self-determination and community control, Lidia is a one of Australia's leading Aboriginal activists and commentators who has fought for the rights and voices of Nations, Clans and Tribes to have a voice in current Treaty talks. Lidia aims to unite people through the mutual traditions of environmental activism and Aboriginal peoples approach to caring for country. Lidia's work and life experience fuels her passion for a more just and equitable society across areas such as Grandmothers Against Removals, education, health, LGBTQIA+, housing and family violence.

Meriki Onus, is from the Gunai and Gunditjmarra nations and one of the co-founders of Warriors of Aboriginal Resistance (WAR).

Warriors of the Aboriginal Resistance (WAR) was established in 2014 as a collective of young Aboriginal people committed to decolonisation, resistance and revival; and the amplification of community voices through protest.

11 FUSE Program 2019

PANELLISTS

ADVOCACY PANEL, DAY 2

APAJOK BIAR

Apajok Biar is from a refugee background and is the Chairperson and Co-Founder of South Sudan Voices of Salvation Inc., a not-for profit youth-run and led organisation. Apajok is a youth advisor for Multicultural NSW, a MYAN NSW Multicultural Youth Ambassador and works for Cumberland Shire Council in the youth team. In June 2017, Apajok attended the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) NGO Consultations in Geneva with MYAN as the Australian refugee youth representative. In 2017, she also won the Western Sydney Refugee Youth Award in community leadership.

BETUL TUNA

Betul Tuna is a Senior Project Officer - Family Violence Prevention in the community services sector and co-founder of Hijack'd - a food van/catering business run by women to support women for a stronger and more resilient community. Betul's passion for social justice, in particular Women's rights has lead her into the world of business and social entrepreneurship.

DAVID NYUOL

David Nyuol Vincent is a conflict mitigation specialist whose work focuses on developing peace and reconciliation initiatives in South Sudan that connect with the South Sudanese Australian diaspora. David co-founded Peace Palette, a community development organisation based in his home village of Turalei. He has been recognised by the Victorian State Government's Multicultural Commission for Excellence in Community Development for his work in Melbourne. David is also an author of his memoir, 'The Boy Who Wouldn't Die,' was published in 2012.

FABLICE MANIRAKIZA

Fablice Manirakiza grew up as a child soldier in war-torn Burundi. In 2007 he escaped his country, arriving in Australia as a refugee to build his life in music. Now a rap icon among Australian youth, he has performed at concerts and workshops across Australia, East Timor and Africa. Fablice was named the 2016 Victorian Young Achiever of the Year, and now has been granted the Kirk Robson awards for recognition of his work.

FUSE Program 2019 12

PANELLISTS

ADVOCACY PANEL, DAY 2



LORRAINE NGWENYA (MC)

Lorraine Ngwenya is the founder of Useful Link; an organisation that seeks to empower young people in areas of employment and education. They do this by running workshops in schools, helping students solve problems for their schools and as a result get some transferable skills. Lorraine is invested in being a part of the conversation and work around changing our education system to reflect where the workplace is headed.

NADINE LIDDY

Nadine Liddy is the National Coordinator of the MYAN and has worked in the youth and multicultural sectors for over 20 years. Nadine has a background in service delivery with young people from refugee and migrant backgrounds and has also worked extensively in policy, advocacy and sector development in relation to multicultural youth issues. Nadine has also worked in the international context, undertaking research and advocacy on refugee and asylum seeker issues and supporting young people in international and regional advocacy opportunities.

SHABNAM SAFA

Shabnam grew up as an Afghan refugee in Pakistan before she called Australia home at the age of 15. Since then she has persistently worked to positively shift the way our communities see and talk about a young, former refugee, woman of colour. She is passionate about empowering and motivating young women to realise their potential, follow their aspirations and keep challenging traditional stereotypes and the status quo.

Having worked in Australia, India, and Europe to promote education and global citizenship, she has co-founded two not for profit organisations helping refugees and asylum seekers with their settlement in Australia and abroad. Shabnam has previously represented Australia at the United Nations and other international summits and also holds several national and international titles in Sports Karate. She is currently finishing her studies in Neuroscience and Politics and works as a Project Officer at the Centre for Multicultural Youth. She was the 2018 recipient of MYAN's International Refugee Youth Leadership Scholarship.

13 FUSE Program 2019

PITCH PANELISTS

PANEL PITCH, DAY 3



TERRI BUTLER MP

Terri Butler was elected as the Member for Griffith in 2014 and is the Shadow Minister for Young Australians and Youth Affairs, Shadow Minister for Employment Services, Workforce Participation & Future of Work. Prior to entering politics, she was a principal at leading national law firm Maurice Blackburn. Terri established, and for five years led, that firm's Queensland Employment and Industrial Law Section.

SENATOR JANET RICE

Janet Rice was elected as a Greens Senator for Victoria in 2014. She has been a passionate environmentalist and activist for more than thirty years and as a Greens Senator, works with her colleagues to be a strong voice for a caring society, a fair economy and a clean environment in federal Parliament. Janet is committed to taking action for a caring and sustainable society. Her work focuses on her portfolios of transport and infrastructure, forests, LGBTIQ equality and agriculture and rural affairs, as well as handling workplace relations in the Senate.

MEGAN MITCHELL

Megan Mitchell is Australia's first National Children's Commissioner at the Australian Human Rights Commission, appointed in 2013. Megan has previous experience in both government and non-government roles in child protection, out-of-home care, youth justice, disability, and early childhood services. In her role as Commissioner, Megan focuses solely on the rights and interests of children, and the laws, policies and programs that impact on them.

FUSE Program 2019 14

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS



CARMEL GUERRA OAM

Chair of Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network (MYAN), and CEO and founder of the Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY), Carmel Guerra has contributed to a range of research reports relating to multicultural youth. Carmel has served on boards and committees for government and non-government sectors. She has received various medals and awards throughout the years due to her work with migrant and refugee youth. Most recently in 2016, Carmel's work was recognised with a Medal in the Order of Australia.

TIM LO SURDO

Tim is the Founder and National Co-Director of Democracy in Colour - a national racial and economic justice organisation led by people of colour. Previously, he was a Senior Organiser at United Voice where he helped young, low-paid workers start Hospo Voice - a new union in hospitality. He has led campaigns at Oaktree, been an adviser to two Senators, was the Campaigns Director at Jhatkaa (the Indian equivalent of GetUp!), led national communications at UN Youth Australia, and co-founded Open Sky - one of India's most well-known performance art communities. Tim is also on the Boards of the Southern Migrant & Refugee Centre, Stop the Traffic, Climate for Change, and The Wilderness Society (Victoria).

15 FUSE Program 2019

PEFORMERS

NIASHA

NIASHA is the true definition of dynamites come in small packages. Singer, songwriter, spoken word artist and poet, this Zimbabwean born bundle of bliss will surely get you in your feels as she delves into the topics of love, identity and living a fulfilled life. She is fresh on the music scene and is set to leave your soul taste buds tingling for more!

STUDENTS AGAINST RACISM

Students Against Racism is a group of students who have developed a dramatic presentation called Living in Between, which explains why they left their homelands, the journey that brought them to Australia and their lives now. The students developed the presentation as part of their English course at TasTAFE and now present to professional organisations, school groups and university classes to build understanding in their community.

VOICES UNBOUND CHOIR

Voices Unbound is newly formed young singers' choir that draws its repertoire from contemporary as well as traditional sounds from the various cultural communities represented in the choir. Created by The Boite, and led by sensational Australian-Chilean singer Ximena Abarca, its singers develop their technique, learn the rhythms and harmonies of various styles of music and explore their own creativity writing and arranging songs collaboratively. Overall, the project aims to produce important social and emotional shifts in the participating youth, including opportunities to develop significant connections across cultural and language boundaries, increased social inclusion and sense of belonging, increased confidence and sense of self-worth, among others.

FUSE Program 2019 16

FUSE 2019 EXPO! STALLHOLDERS

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 7 million people in over 150 countries and territories who campaign to end abuses of human rights.

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH CLIMATE COALITION

The Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC) is Australia's largest youth-run organisation, our mission is to build a movement of young people leading solutions to the climate crisis.

FOUNDATION FOR YOUNG AUSTRALIANS

FYA is a national independent non-profit organisation dedicated to delivering a range of initiatives (co)designed with young people. FYA aims to develop the skills, networks and ideas of young Australians so they can create a better future.

HEADSPACE

headspace is the National Youth Mental Health Foundation providing early intervention mental health services to 12-25 year olds, along with assistance in promoting young peoples' wellbeing.

(IN)VISIBLE

(In)visible is a community driven program that connects queer and trans people from diverse cultural and religious backgrounds (QTPOC) aged 18-25 through workshops and events.

OAKTREE

Oaktree is young people leading, demanding and creating a more just world. Oaktree is Australia's largest youthrun development agency, with over 250,000 supporters.

UN YOUTH

UN Youth Australia are one of Australia's largest youth-led organisations, educating and empowering young Australians to build the peoples' movement for the United Nations.

YDAS

The Youth Disability Advocacy Service (YDAS) is Victoria's only advocacy service that works directly with young people with disability to achieve their human rights.

17 FUSE Program 2019

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