



## Media Release 18 March 2022

## #everyone belongs at Harmony Week

In partnership with local community organisations and institutions, SydWest will be hosting and taking part in a series of events to celebrate Harmony Week (15-21 March) and multiculturalism in Blacktown. Harmony Week is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

Community Story Sharing, 22 March at 11am

To be officially opened by the Mayor of Blacktown City, Tony Bleasdale, featuring a host of story sharing between the participants, presenting all a wonderful opportunity to hear stories of others to learn and connect.

Stakeholder Forum, 24 March from 2pm,

This event is especially for service providers in the region and an opportunity to share and reflect on multiculturalism, building an inclusive and respectful organisation, challenges and achievements in creating a culturally sensitive work environment and service delivery.

## **Art Competition**

All entries will be on show via video at Blacktown City Library from 22<sup>nd</sup> March when winners are announced.

Our partners include: MECA Mt Druitt, Blacktown City Council, The Salvation Army, Western Sydney Local Health District, Settlement Services International (SSI), Blacktown Area Community Centres Inc., Initiatives of Change Australia, Services Australia, Harman Foundation, NSW Police Force, Leaders Care, TAFE NSW and Creators of Peace.

Join us for our virtual Harmony Week events to celebrate inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging for all who live in Australia, from the traditional custodians of the land to those who have come from many countries around the world.

## **STATEMENT ENDS /**

Media Enquiries: For further information or to arrange interviews, contact Vikki Hine, Public Affairs & Communications, SydWest Multicultural Services on vikki.hine@sydwestms.org.au or 0428-109-215. Follow us on:

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**SydWest Multicultural Services** is a leading organisation for all cultural diversity issues responding to community needs and opportunities. Established more than 35 years ago, SydWest provides a range of services to culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) individuals and communities services to assist with settling and living productive and independent lives in the community. We offer flexible and integrated service models across the life course of refugees and migrants, supporting the self-determination and empowerment of our diverse communities. SydWest is an innovative employer of choice, with passionate, qualified and experienced bilingual and bicultural staff who are sensitive to the languages and cultures of the communities we represent. With locations in Blacktown, Mt Druitt, Penrith and Rouse Hill, we cover all matters of cultural diversity in the region.