



19 June 2023

Refugee Week 2023 – Fighting for Freedom and the future of settlement in Penrith

SydWest Multicultural Services is celebrating Refugee Week 2023 with an important event being held in Penrith on Friday 23 June 2023 from 11am.

The purpose of this event is to explore the future of settlement in the Penrith and Nepean regions, as part of our commitment to supporting new settlers and refugees as they navigate the settlement process and integrate into new communities.

This event is being held in partnership with Penrith City Council, Settlement Services International, and Nepean Multicultural Access.

We will explore discussions around future opportunities Penrith offers as a welcoming and friendly refugee resettlement zone. The event will be a great opportunity to hear from keynote speakers on the status and future planning for settlement, as well as help shape the agenda with the interactive panel discussion.

Guest speakers for the day include:

- Joseph La Posta, Multicultural NSW
- Dor Achiek, Settlement Services International
- Debbie Russel, CRISP- Community Refugee Integration & Settlement Pilot
- Representatives from the local community

The Future of Settlement is an important opportunity for Western Sydney to prepare and secure valuable new arrivals. We are committed to supporting new settlers as they navigate a complex settlement process to integrate into their new way of life in Australia. Our aim is to mobilise all resources to ensure Penrith and the Nepean region are a recognized, welcoming and well prepared settlement location, attracting many more refugees as their location of choice,' said Elfa Moraitakis, CEO, SydWest Multicultural Services.

STATEMENT ENDS /

Media Enquiries:

For further information or to arrange interviews and photo opportunities, contact Vikki Hine, Media and Events, SydWest Multicultural Services on vikki.hine@sydwestms.org.au or 0428-109-215.



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Established nearly 40 years ago, SydWest Multicultural Services is a leading organisation for all cultural diversity issues responding to community needs and opportunities across Greater Western Sydney. SydWest provides a range of services to Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities 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.