

Summary of projects – Refugee Health Flexible Fund 2021-22 to 2022-23, Updated March 2023



Organisation	Project name	Project description	Key contacts
Agency for Clinical Innovation	1. Regional Refugee Health Services Project	The project has produced an interactive website (with written and digital content) that provides information and guidance to assist regional LHDs seeking to establish refugee-focussed health services by documenting the way established organisational models/services are being used to deliver care to people of refugee background. General elements have been documented, as well as four vignettes that illustrate the four regional models, the impact their care has on people from refugee background, and lessons learned about successful implementation approaches and navigation of system challenges. The website hosts a resource library of consolidated resources that will support new staff orientating into refugee health system models.	Dominique Holt Dominique.Holt@health.nsw.gov.au
Cancer Institute NSW	2. Refugee Cancer Screening Partnership Project	This project is a multi-agency partnership that aims to create awareness and improve participation of refugee communities from the Middle East and Sub-Saharan African region in population-based cancer screening. The project will focus on target communities residing in regional areas.	Sheetal Challam Sheetal.Challam@health.nsw.gov.au Nina Hartcher Nina.Hartcher@health.gov.au
Centre for Oral Health Strategy	3. Enhancing Oral Health Care for Refugees in NSW	This project will ensure refugees and asylum seekers have timely access to oral health care and treatment as necessary, by providing a targeted assessment day as needed and improved access to interpreter supported treatment clinics in selected locations in regional NSW and metropolitan Sydney.	Siobhan Kelton Siobhan.Kelton@health.nsw.gov.au
Hunter New England LHD	4. Embedding Health Equity to Regional Settlement in Armidale	Armidale is Australia's first new regional refugee settlement site in over a decade. This innovative project has enhanced refugee nursing provision, providing social work, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech pathology. The creation of a refugee health multidisciplinary team has been successful in coordinating and supporting clients in accessing broader specialist needs, as well as providing dedicated health education programs, mental health support and school-based interventions.	Ashley Young Ashley.Young@health.nsw.gov.au
Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD	5. Improving Refugee Children's Outcomes Now (IRCON)	This project aims to improve mainstream services' capability in working with refugee women and children. It is a collaborative project to implement an organisational change process across the continuum of care as well as enhancing cultural responsiveness amongst mainstream staff working in maternal care and children's health and education services.	Leissa West (Pitts) Leissa.Pitts@health.nsw.gov.au

Summary of projects – Refugee Health Flexible Fund 2021-22 to 2022-23, Updated March 2023



Organisation	Project name	Project description	Key contacts
Justice Health & Forensic Mental Health Network	6. Harmony and Healing Project – developing care pathways for people with experience of torture and trauma	This project will develop a care pathway for people with lived experience of torture and trauma who are treated within secure settings including people from refugee or refugee like backgrounds. The project officer will review how the adult screening process identifies this cohort and how JHFMHN can improve the provision of culturally sensitive and trauma-informed care.	Jennifer Culph Jennifer.Culph@health.nsw.gov.au
Mental Health Branch	7. ‘Addi Moves’ – a co-designed lifestyle program for women from a refugee or asylum seeker background	Mindgardens Neuroscience Network (Mindgardens) has co-designed an adaptation of an evidence-based lifestyle intervention for people living with poor mental health (Keeping the Body in Mind). This program will evaluate this adapted intervention on participant outcomes along with a focus on building capacity of service providers to engage with and facilitate lifestyle change.	Elise Tripodi Elise.Tripodi@health.nsw.gov.au
Mid North Coast LHD	8. Holistic Health Care Clinic for Refugees	The project will contribute to more holistic culturally-sensitive care provision through additional clinical workforce, including physiotherapy and social work support to coordinate and support patients when accessing specialists outside of the Coffs Harbour area. Increased capacity will be used to coordinate patient care, offer school-based clinics and tailored health education programs.	Michele Greenwood Michele.Greenwood@health.nsw.gov.au
Northern NSW LHD	9. Strengthening the cultural responsiveness of mainstream health services in Northern NSW	The project will co-design a local Multicultural and Refugee Health Strategy. Outputs will also include governance to oversee implementation of new initiatives, increase in engagement with local CALD communities, as well as increased use of health care interpreters.	Rita Youssef-Price Rita.YoussefPrice@health.nsw.gov.au Ellie Saberi Ellie.Saberi@health.nsw.gov.au
Northern Sydney LHD	10. Pathways to Community Child and Family Health Services for Tibetan families	The Northern Beaches peninsular has the largest Tibetan refugee community in Australia. Concern has been expressed by clinicians regarding the late presentation of Tibetan children with developmental delays to early intervention services and the low uptake of the Blue Book child development checks. This project will work in partnership with Tibetan refugee families to co-design a model of care to improve access to culturally responsive child health nursing services and resources.	Kim Lyle Kim.Lyle@health.nsw.gov.au Cathy Butler Cathy.Butler@health.nsw.gov.au

Summary of projects – Refugee Health Flexible Fund 2021-22 to 2022-23, Updated March 2023



Organisation	Project name	Project description	Key contacts
South Eastern Sydney LHD	11. Translated Health Resources for Refugee Communities	The NSW Multicultural Health Communication Service (MHCS) project will increase targeted communication of health information to people from refugee backgrounds. It will take a systematic approach to audit and translate health resources, including audio and video. It will also develop best practice guidelines around the development of health resources for refugee communities.	Sylvia Giannone Sylvia.Giannone@health.nsw.gov.au
South Western Sydney LHD	12. The Natural Helper approach to Culturally Responsive Healthcare: a consumer-centred model of care transforming chronic disease management	This project will scale-up a successful consumer partnership model of service delivery that engages vulnerable CALD community members to navigate mainstream hospital services and manage their chronic conditions. The project will recruit volunteer 'natural helpers' to partner with mainstream healthcare teams and target communities. They will deliver peer-led health coaching that complements clinical care, while supporting patients with service navigation.	Bernadette Brady bernadette.brady@health.nsw.gov.au Golsa Saberi Golsa.Saberi@health.nsw.gov.au Balwinder Sidhu Balwinder.Sidhu@health.nsw.gov.au
	13. The Digital Health Literacy and Refugee Project	This project aims to build digital health literacy and social media skills in refugee communities in South West Sydney through partnerships with health and community organisations and the University of Technology Sydney. It will utilise participatory action research, online workshops, as well as develop a train the trainer programs for digital health literacy online workshops in languages other than English.	Michael Camit Michael.Camit@health.nsw Jaithoon Venkateshwar Jaithoon.Venkateshwar@gmail.com
Sydney Children's Hospitals Network	14. PEACH (Providing Enhanced Access to Healthcare) Project for Refugees	The project will improve timely access for refugee patients to tertiary mental health services through improvement of clinical pathways, including referral pathways and care navigation/coordination for refugees and asylum seekers. It will feed into a broader body of PEACH projects, which are a network-wide Quality Improvement aimed at building and supporting sustainable screening and referral systems to enhance access to priority patients.	Avalon Tissue Avalon.tissue@health.nsw.gov.au

Summary of projects – Refugee Health Flexible Fund 2021-22 to 2022-23, Updated March 2023



Organisation	Project name	Project description	Key contacts
<p>Western Sydney LHD</p>	<p>15. Culturally responsive emotional wellbeing clinical services for people with refugee or asylum seeker experiences</p>	<p>This Transcultural Mental Health Centre (TMHC) project will work with NGOs and related services and provide emotional wellbeing services for people from Afghanistan and Sri Lanka (Tamil-speaking) who reside in Western Sydney. The project seeks to identify and ameliorate signs and symptoms of psychological distress before mental status deteriorates to the need for the public mental health service. The TMHC will also work with, support and supervise clinicians from target communities to use their cultural and language concordance and professional skills to meet the project goals.</p>	<p>Maria Cassaniti Maria.Cassaniti@health.nsw.gov.au Emalynne So Emalynne.So@health.nsw.gov.au</p>

All projects proudly funded by the NSW Government through the Refugee Health Flexible Fund 2021-22 to 2022-23.