

# **Snapshot of Multicultural Katanning**

Monday 22 Oct 2019

**WALGA – Connecting Communities**

**Ziagul Sultani – Community & Youth Development Officer**  
**Denise Gallanagh Wood – Community Development & Projects Coordinator**













# Timeline: Migration Origins

Year	Group	Event/Reason
1890 – 1896	South Australia (German descent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Albany – Perth railway opens</li> <li>Flour Mill established</li> <li>New land available to purchase</li> </ul>
1905 – 1930	United Kingdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Post war soldier settlement</li> <li>State Government program to attract migrants to support agriculture (WA wide)</li> </ul>
1950 – 1960s	Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agriculture expands, farm labourers, building &amp; railway workers</li> </ul>
1973 – 1979	Christmas & Cocos Islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abattoir expands to Halal market, workers &amp; Halal slaughtermen required</li> </ul>
2002	Afghanistan (Hazara)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abattoir workers shortage, refugees needing work &amp; settlement</li> </ul>
2006	China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skilled Abattoir workers shortage, skilled workers (457 visas)</li> </ul>
2008	Myanmar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abattoir workers shortage, refugees needing work &amp; settlement</li> </ul>
2010	Burundi and Congo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refugees needing work and settlement</li> </ul>
2014	Taiwan, South Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abattoir workers shortage (6 months working visa)</li> </ul>
2020	Tongan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abattoir workers shortage (6 months working visa)</li> </ul>







## 45+ Nationalities calls Katanning Home





# Malay Community



## Snapshot:

- First group arrived – 1973
- Abattoir expands to Halal market, worked required
- 300 people living in Katanning
- Ageing population
- 50+ families
- Known as the ‘Lost Tribe’
- Close community which helps to maintain culture & religion

## Current Challenges:

- Specialised health service
- Accessing interpreters
- Transport
- Young families choosing to leave as there are no midwifery services
- Limited employment options for the younger educated generation



# Karen Community



## Snapshot:

- Arrived in 2008 to Katanning
- Abattoir workers shortage, refugees needing work & settlement
- 49 families
- Bought land
- 3 young people have gone to UNI
- They support each others very well
- When new people come to Katanning they are well supported due to larger number of community members

## Current Challenges:

- Accessing health services
- Not well connected with wider community
- Lack of Education before coming to Australia
- Employment outside of WAMMCO
- Education after High School



# Burundi Community

## Snapshot:

- Arrived in 2010
- Refugees needing work and settlement
- 10 to 15 families
- Added colour to the town
- Singing & dancing
- Loved attending the community school

## Challenges:

- Transition to employment environment
- Extreme culture shock
- Housing
- No resettlement service provider locally
- Language barriers
- Transport
- Accessing health services (Maternity services)
- Isolated from the wider community
- Men felt powerless
- Most of the community left Katanning in 2015





# Shire of Katanning

## Things we have done!

- Katanning Multicultural & Aboriginal Enhancement & Engagement Project
- Language Learning Centre – Library
- Cultural Inclusion Officer - Katanning Leisure Centre
- Women's swimming program
- Fly your Flag Project
- Healthy Hearts – CaLD walking group
- Programme support Workshops, information sessions, Meetings – MYAN WA, OMI, Department Home Affairs, Department Human Services, Migrant Resource Centre, Australian Electoral Commission, Department Local Government & Communities
- Small Business Development Programme
- Cultural Collaboration Officer





# Harmony Festival Katanning

- Celebrates Diversity
- Engagement
- Asset Based Community Development
- Creates connections
- Capacity Building
- Pride, place, belonging
- Enabling understanding
- Welcoming new community members





# Harmony Festival Katanning





# What is working in Katanning?

- We are friendly
- Generations
- Support Champions
- Affordable housing
- Employment (WAMMCO)
- Katanning Harmony Festival
- Culturally Safe
- Regional lifestyle





# Challenges

- Culturally competency within agencies & services
- Effective promotion of services
- Local translation support
- Limited resettlement support provided locally
- Difficulties utilising departmental services effectively E.g. Department of Transport, Centre Link, Legal Services
- Mental health
- No midwifery services
- Changing expectations, lifestyle options
- Decline in volunteers – resettlement support
- Limited employment options – currently WAMMCO main employer
- Transport





# A Bright New Future

## Context

Regional Migration Push

Continually change culturally diverse residents

## Recommendations

- Increased commitment (resources & services)
- Councils are representative of the community Culturally
- Quality Cultural Competency/Awareness training
- Facilitate cross community connections

## Getting Real

- Beyond tokenism
- Go beyond everyday business
- Challenge the status quo
- Rock the power base

**Diversity is Australian**





# Questions

