

Monday, 22 September 2008

WARM WELCOME FOR YOUNG MIGRANTS

The Minister for Multicultural Affairs Michael Atkinson has congratulated six community groups that have received grants to help young people who've recently settled in South Australia.

"These organisations are vital to making newcomers feel welcome. This funding is a helping hand and an encouragement to groups that are doing great work with young migrants," Mr Atkinson said.

The Multicultural Youth Development Fund, which is supported by Multicultural Youth S.A. (MYSA) and the Department for Families and Communities, has given \$35, 000 to six groups.

"This funding helps to break down the social isolation sometimes experienced by young newcomers and helps educate them about their rights and responsibilities as South Australian residents," he said.

The Sudanese Stars of S.A. received \$6,000 to run a soccer club that trains three times a week.

"This a great idea that uses sport as a vehicle to give important information to Sudanese youths about Australian law, career options, life skills and social opportunities with other soccer clubs."

The Muslim Girls Kollektive S.A. will use their \$7, 000 grant for interactive workshops on education, employment, relationships and identity for young Muslim women.

The Students' Representative Council for the Adelaide Secondary School of English Activities Group received \$4,000 to design and build a Peace Garden for students from different backgrounds to share their culture through art.

Nile United Group received \$6,890 to provide Sudanese people with independent living skills workshops and cooking, music, drama and sport programs.

The African Communities Council of S.A. received \$5,110 to train 120 young people from 27 African communities in leadership and event management skills.

The SIMBA of Congo will use \$6,000 to decrease social isolation by educating migrants on health, the Australian legal system, netball, volleyball, soccer and team skills.

MYSA Director Ms Helena de Anstiss says her organisation will support the successful applicants to deliver their projects.

"We will provide training in project management, advice and guidance to the groups, to ensure the best possible outcomes are achieved," Ms de Anstiss said.