

Case Study

Community Road Safety Grant



Anglicare North Coast

Drive to Freedom
\$5,000 - 2019/20

Project aims

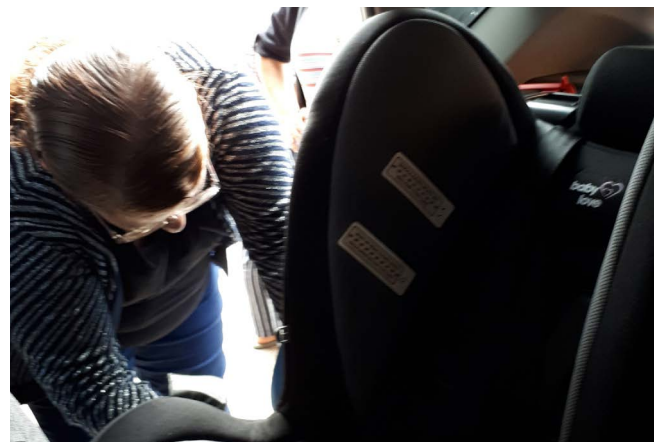
An initiative of Anglicare North Coast, the 3Es to Freedom program supports refugee and migrant women to navigate pathways to 'Education, Employment and Empowerment.'

One pathway is the Drive to Freedom initiative which aims to provide culturally competent and linguistically accessible road safety education to refugee and migrant women on the following topics:

- › Child car seats and safety around schools
- › Driving to conditions: stopping distances, navigating flood waters, driving on gravel and driver fatigue

- › Safer vehicles: buying a vehicle and basic maintenance.

Workshops are supported by offering professional driving lessons to put the participants' learning into action.



Implementation

A workshop was held to support 20 women in the Coffs Harbour and Richmond-Tweed regions to gain driving experience from professional driving instructors. The participants came from a range of countries including Iran, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Indonesia, Ghana, Vietnam, the Philippines, Egypt, Ukraine and Syria. Staff worked closely with the local driving instructors to ensure the safety and needs of the women were met.

Regional driving instructors expressed their enjoyment of increasing the women's understanding and awareness for operating a vehicle, their knowledge of the road and driving skills.

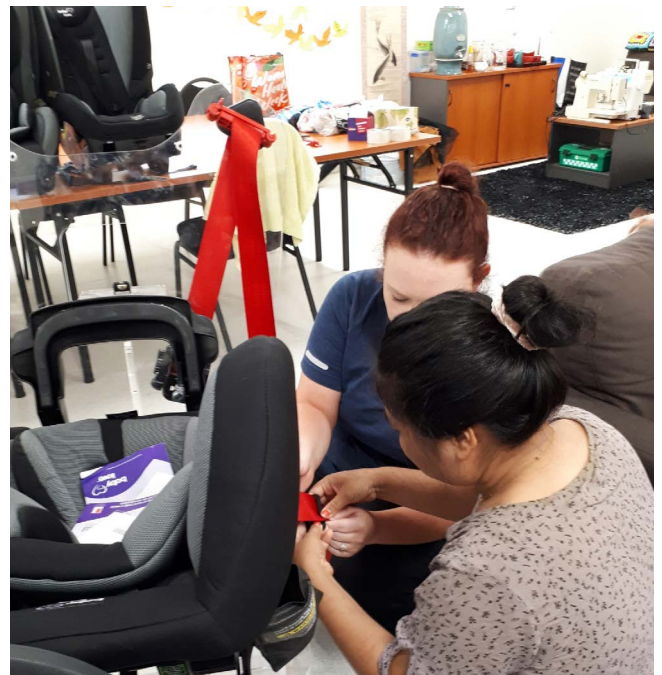
A hearing impaired participant from Syria was able to access driving lessons with the help of an Auslan interpreter who accompanied her in the vehicle to support her learning experience.

A workshop that focused on child safety informed the participants about the importance of choosing the right car seat and having it correctly fitted.

Project outcomes

Drive to Freedom has made a significant impact in the participants' self-confidence and safety on the road. It has improved their employment opportunities and independence through obtaining their driver licence.

Unfortunately, due to government Covid-19 restrictions, a number of women who prepared to take their driving tests have had to postpone.



The NSW Government's Community Road Safety Grants Program is helping to move communities across the state towards zero road trauma by providing financial support to community groups to run local projects that increase road safety awareness and support safer road use.

For more information on the next round of grants see

roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/aboutthecentre/communitygrants