

Case study

Community Road Safety Grant



Cultural Diversity Network Incorporated

Road Safety for the Rohingya People 2020/21 Grant - \$4,400

Project Aims

The purpose of the Road Safety for Rohingya People project was to directly benefit disadvantaged Rohingya peoples through culturally appropriate education on road safety practices in NSW. Many of the participants had recently arrived in Australia and come from a non-motorised society where interaction with roads or road networks are uncommon and dangerous. There was a crucial need to inform these individuals of road safety as drivers, pedestrians and other road users.

Four workshops on road safety were held during 2021.

Implementation

Approximately 25-30 Rohingya men and women living in Canterbury-Bankstown attended the workshops. Each workshop addressed issues such as:

- NSW and Australian road rules and signage
- Child car seats and road safety around schools
- Registering, insuring and maintaining a motor vehicle
- Risk factors for drivers, passengers, pedestrians and public transport users

- Regulations and requirements for obtaining a NSW learner and probationary licence
- Speeding and other traffic infringements
- Driving under the influence and
- Fatigue.

Separate workshops took place for male and female participants to respect their religious and cultural values. Interpreters were present for both groups to provide translation and support the accessibility of the program.

Project Outcomes

The workshops improved the self-confidence of participants and helped them understand more about road safety and NSW road rules. Female participants in particular benefitted from the opportunity, saying they feel more confident in keeping their family safe. Many of the women live in multi-generational households and feel they can share the information with older parents and their children to foster multi-generational benefits of road safety. By providing information to the Rohingya community that was culturally accessible, it fostered a connection that encouraged strong participation and a better understanding of road safety in NSW.

What's next?

The Cultural Diversity Network hopes to hold more sessions for disadvantaged communities in future.

This project helped to build a safer future for road users in the Canterbury-Bankstown area supporting a safer road safety culture to save lives in NSW. This contributes to the NSW Government's State Priority target of reducing fatalities on NSW roads by 30 per cent by 2021.

“With help from the Community Road Safety Grants, the Cultural Diversity Network were able to provide crucial road safety learning to the Rohingya community. We conducted four workshops that covered topics such as NSW road rules and signage, fatigue, accompanied road crossing, and child car seats.

We were very appreciative of the investment from the Grants and would like to thank Transport for NSW for the support. With their help, we have helped this disadvantaged community understand more about road safety.”

Dr Sabrin Farooqui
President, Cultural Diversity Network Inc.

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