

“Settling In” Project

Volunteer

Role Description



About Us:

Diversitat, also known as Geelong Ethnic Communities Council, is a registered charity whose history reaches back more than thirty years. Diversitat represents over 70,000 people of all ethnic and cultural heritages throughout the Geelong region and has 38 affiliated communities. From a single office of five staff in 1976, Diversitat has grown to operate over 10 sites in Geelong and one in Colac. Today Diversitat operates as a registered charity delivering a wide range of programs and services throughout the Barwon Region and beyond.

The “Settling In” Project goal is to build the capacity of newly arrived humanitarian entrants supported by Diversitat within the initial weeks of their arrival. The purpose of the project ensure that all new arrivals feel settled, secure and are connected to the community. The project will aim to achieve this outcome by ensuring that all new arrivals will have knowledge of available health and social services and how to access these by using public transport.

Volunteers allocated to the “Settling In” Project will be called upon to provide practical orientation to newly arrived humanitarian entrants.

Our Vision:

To empower individuals and communities to reach their full potential.

Our Mission:

Since its inception, our core mission has been to ensure that ethnic groups, organisations and individuals are given the opportunity to develop their potential and fulfil their aspirations as equal members of the community.

Our Values

Dignity, respect and acceptance are basic values defining our humanity and must be afforded to every individual in our society. We value an ecologically sustainable environment and promote and celebrate harmony, cultural diversity peace and social justice in our society.

<p>Volunteer role outline</p>	<p>As a Volunteer within the “Settling In” Project, it is expected that you will provide practical support to new arrivals by assisting them to learn about and navigate their new environments, both at home and in the community.</p> <p>This role will involve providing new arrivals with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local community information and orientation relevant to settlement; • Social and practical support to link the participant to the local and broader Australian community; • Orientation and information within the new arrivals home environment; • Demonstrations of household maintenance and how to use household appliances; • Opportunities to practice English <p>The aim of the volunteer with the “Settling In” Project is to promote empowerment and independence for refugees.</p> <p>A volunteer with the “Settling In” Project is also required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep a record of their contact with the participant (templates will be provided to volunteers and will be collected after each contact) • Comply with all Diversitat policies and procedures relating to the program including the Volunteer Policy, Confidentiality, Code of Conduct, Complaints / Grievances; and, • Seek the support of staff at Diversitat relating to any concerns or issues they have encountered whilst volunteering.
<p>Characteristics and skills required</p>	<p>The successful applicant will possess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding of and empathy with people from diverse cultural backgrounds; • Full Victorian Driver’s licence • A patient and non judgemental attitude; • Ability to be able to work independently • Good interpersonal and communication skills • Aged over 18 years. • Proficiency in a second language common to new arrivals is desirable.

What you get out of it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical experience working with people with cultural and linguistically diverse backgrounds. • A chance to be a part of, and share your community. • An opportunity to empower and support people who are newly arrived in Australia.
Time commitment	<p>Three to four hours per week (minimum 12 month commitment). This may vary according to the participant's needs and may occasionally involve an extended day with some local or city travel.</p> <p>Volunteers will indicate which day/time they will be available to partake in volunteer duties and will be contacted by the community development project worker with the details of the assignment.</p> <p>Volunteers will also have to commit to initial training sessions, workshops (as required) and will be required to log all activities undertaken whilst volunteering.</p>
Location	Volunteers will be required to meet at the Northern Community Hub Norlane or at the clients home. The sessions will be held in and around the community.
Reports to	Anita Boras, Community Development Project Worker

Application process:

All applicants are required to submit contact details for two referees.

Expressions of interest are to be sent to Community Development Project Worker, Anita Boras at anita.boras@diversitat.org.au

Successful applicants will be notified of their progress shortly after interviews and will be expected to be available for a cross cultural training session and program induction in the following weeks.

Please note all volunteer positions are subject to a police records check and require a Working With Children Check.

Any further questions, contact Anita Boras via above listed email or on 5260 6000.