

**SUBMISSION NO. 501**



**Australian Government**  
**Attorney-General's Department**

2 March 2012

Ms Maria Vamvakinou MP  
Chair  
Joint Standing Committee on Migration  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Vamvakinou

**Submission to the Inquiry into Multiculturalism in Australia**

On 8 February 2012, the Committee Secretary, Mr James Catchpole, wrote to Mr Roger Wilkins, Secretary of the Attorney-General's Department (the Department), inviting the Department to provide a submission on the Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Taskforce and the CVE Program, including details of projects funded through grants programs.

I am pleased to provide the attached submission from the Department, which focuses on the CVE program as it relates to the role of multiculturalism in the Federal Government's social inclusion agenda and supporting the full participation and integration into the broader Australian society of new migrants.

Violent extremists often exploit adverse political, social and economic conditions to indoctrinate, recruit and motivate others. One of the key aims of the Australian Government's CVE program is therefore to build informed, prepared and cohesive communities that are more resilient to extremist influences and recruitment by terrorists.

The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide input to the Committee on this significant issue.

Yours sincerely

Geoff McDonald  
First Assistant Secretary  
National Security Law and Policy Division



**Australian Government**  
**Attorney-General's Department**

**Submission to the Joint Standing Committee on Migration  
Inquiry into Multiculturalism in Australia**

The Countering Violent Extremism Unit in the Attorney-General's Department (the Department) thanks the Joint Standing Committee on Migration (JSCM) for the invitation to contribute to the 'Inquiry into the contribution of migration to Australian society'.

The Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Program is a component of Australia's broader counter-terrorism efforts and is designed to be preventative in nature. The focus of the Program is on addressing factors that make people vulnerable to extremist influences and recruitment by terrorists. The emphasis is on intervening early—before a law enforcement response is needed. Our approach therefore aims to strengthen community resilience to radicalisation and assist individuals to disengage from violent extremist influences and beliefs. Activities under this approach may also assist with the objectives of the social inclusion agenda, however that is not their primary purpose.

The CVE Program is directed at all types of violent extremism, regardless of the motivation or ideology, including far-right wing extremists, nationalists/separatists and those that follow a distorted militant interpretation of Islam.

There is no single pathway to violent extremism. Individuals involved in violent extremist activities have come from a diverse range of social and cultural backgrounds; they have undergone different processes of radicalisation and have been influenced by a range of different internal and external factors.

Violent extremists often exploit social and economic conditions and individual vulnerabilities to recruit and radicalise others. Our aim is to build resilience in the communities that display these vulnerabilities, for example social and economic disadvantage, cultural dissonance and marginalisation. The focus of the CVE program is not on particular ethnic, religious or cultural groups, and not directed at new migrants specifically.

### **Background**

Australia's Counter-Terrorism White Paper, released in February 2010, acknowledged the risk of home grown terrorism and the importance of developing a coordinated, national approach to addressing violent extremism.

The threat of violent extremism on Australian soil is real. Individuals inspired by violent extremist ideology remain committed to undertaking attacks in pursuit of their cause and they are present in many countries, including Australia.

In 2010 the Australian Government announced its commitment to combating violent extremism in Australia and the CVE Taskforce was established within the Attorney-General's Department. This

taskforce is now a section within the National Security Policy and Programs Branch. The CVE section developed *A National Approach to Countering Violent Extremism in Australia: the CVE Strategic Plan* (the CVE Strategy). This strategy sets out a coordinated national approach to countering violent extremism. As the strategy is a classified document a summary of the approach is included below and a copy of the publically released strategy is provided at Appendix A.

### **A national Countering Violent Extremism strategy**

The Australian Government's CVE strategy supports Australia's broader counter-terrorism efforts by addressing factors that make people vulnerable to violent extremist influences and recruitment by terrorists.

Our vision is to:

*Reduce the risk of home-grown terrorism by strengthening Australia's resilience to radicalisation and assisting individuals to disengage from violent extremist influences and beliefs.*

The benefit of achieving this vision is a reduction in the threat to Australia of violent extremism as individuals and groups choose non-violent expression of views.

To achieve our vision, the Australian Government, in cooperation with stakeholders and communities, is working to achieve the following four objectives:

1. Identify and divert violent extremists and, when possible, support them in disengaging from violent extremism.
2. Identify and support at-risk groups and individuals to resist and reject violent extremist ideologies.
3. Build community cohesion and resilience to violent extremism.
4. Achieve effective communications that challenge extremist messages and support alternatives.

Supporting individuals to choose non-violent forms of expression may reduce the 'home-grown' violent extremist threat to Australia. At the same time, an environment where the threat is reduced may encourage individuals to engage in Australia's democratic process and freely express their views and concerns in non-violent ways.

## **Stakeholders**

Building resilience to violent extremism in our communities will be a long-term challenge requiring the combined efforts of governments, community groups and individuals.

The Department works closely with a range of departments and agencies across all levels of government that have a shared interest in countering violent extremism and protecting the community. They contribute to the CVE program by:

- providing knowledge and expertise that helps us understand radicalisation processes and the factors that may make a person engage in these processes
- sharing their expertise in reducing marginalisation
- providing family, community and educational services, and
- promoting social inclusion.

Australian jurisdictions work together to ensure an efficient and effective national approach that minimises duplication and appropriately focuses resources on areas of greatest need. This coordination and cooperation is facilitated through the CVE Sub-Committee (CVESC) of the National Counter-Terrorism Committee. The CVESC comprises representatives from all jurisdictions as well as the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Australian Federal Police, and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

## **Vulnerable communities**

A number of communities in certain geographical areas across Australia have been identified as being the most vulnerable to the threat of radicalisation to violent extremism and therefore most in need of support. These communities are generally low in socio-economic status and have populations with culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. These areas overlap with two of the ten priority locations identified under the Australian Government's Social Inclusion Agenda. All of the 22 people convicted of terrorism offences in Australia resided in these areas or neighbouring areas at the time of their arrest.

While the program is designed to counter all forms of violent extremism, we focus our resources and activities on the communities where the factors of vulnerability are most prevalent.

Australia is an inclusive, multicultural nation. All Australians, regardless of background, share principles of respect, tolerance, freedom, human rights and a commitment to the rule of law and democracy. These principles unite and strengthen us in the fight against violent extremism. We all have an interest in preventing violent extremist ideologies from dividing our communities.

CVE activities aim to reduce the potential for a 'home-grown' terrorist attack by addressing factors that make people vulnerable to extremist influences, assisting individuals to disengage from violent extremist influences and beliefs, strengthening community resilience to radicalisation and empowering communities to intervene before a law enforcement response is needed. These activities may benefit the broader social inclusion agenda; however this is not the primary purpose of the CVE program.

## **The role of communities**

The CVE strategy recognises that communities, both through their own activities and in collaboration with government, play a vital role in achieving CVE objectives.

### *Supporting communities*

Communities and community leaders<sup>1</sup> are often well placed to notice changes in individuals that may indicate they are heading down a path to violent extremism. Community organisations that provide support and social welfare services can play a key role in countering violent extremism, both through their ongoing activities and with specific support from government. Communities have demonstrated that they understand the role they play and are committed to undertaking activities that address the factors that can make an individual vulnerable to radicalisation, and challenge violent extremist ideologies.

We want to continue to give communities the support and resources they need to undertake this important role. We recognise that any solutions must be locally appropriate and implemented with the active support and participation of local communities.

### *Listening to communities*

Community engagement is a key element in the Government's approach to countering violent extremism. Consultation gives communities an opportunity to express their needs, share ideas for new approaches to address violent extremism, promote respect and tolerance, and reduce marginalisation. Through activities such as the community forums, hosted by the former Attorney-General and held in Sydney and Melbourne, community leaders and representatives have shared their ideas on what is likely to reduce the appeal of violent extremism within their communities. Additionally, community leaders provide an effective channel for communication between governments and communities and can encourage constructive and positive engagement with Australia's democratic system of government.

The CVE program engages with organisations that represent vulnerable communities and provide support directly to vulnerable individuals, as well as those organisations that have the resources and strategic oversight to contribute to policy development. We take an interfaith/intercultural approach and engage with diverse and relevant organisations that are able to contribute to the CVE program.

In October 2011, the Australian Government launched the Resilient Communities website <[www.resilientcommunities.gov.au](http://www.resilientcommunities.gov.au)>. The website provides another mechanism for engaging with communities and acknowledging the role they play in countering violent extremism, providing a platform for informing the public and generating discussion about Australia's approach to countering violent extremism.

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<sup>1</sup> Many of the community leaders the CVE program engages with, represent migrant communities, however the community cohort for the CVE program is diverse and reflects in part the demography of contemporary Australian society. Today, over 44 per cent of all Australians were either born overseas or had at least one overseas born parent. The CVE community cohort includes interfaith, intercultural, welfare and support as well as sporting organisations. The focus of engagement activities is on working with organisations that represent or provide support to vulnerable communities.

## **Community grants programs**

Community grants programs are another aspect of the Government's preventative efforts to counter violent extremism in our community—with the aim of building the resilience of potentially vulnerable communities and individuals to violent extremism and encouraging positive and constructive community participation.

Since 2010, the Government has provided \$2.8 million to 29 community organisations from across the country through the Youth Mentoring and Building Community Resilience grants programs. These projects will conclude by 30 June 2012. A full list of the current projects being funded is provided at Appendix B.

These programs are an effective way for government to directly engage with the community, as well as build skills and resources in order to enable communities to better understand and actively address intolerant or extremist messages and discourage violent extremism. The grants programs seek to promote Australian values that are consistent with our multicultural policy. They do not promote an ideology of any kind, be it religious, political or otherwise. The grants provide support for projects across the areas of education, early intervention and support to challenge violent extremist ideologies.

The Youth Mentoring grants program is designed to help young Australians develop the skills to actively participate in Australian society and democratic processes. The projects funded include peace-building project in schools, leadership training and mentoring skills training for young Australians, and journalism training for young people wishing to produce news stories that reflect their views, interests and culture.

The Building Community Resilience grants program supports activities that:

- assist individuals and communities to resist and disengage from intolerant and radical ideologies, and
- encourage positive and constructive community participation.

The projects funded under this program focused on education, early intervention, support services and developing counter narratives to challenge violent extremism and extremist ideologies.

On 10 February 2012 the Australian Attorney-General, the Hon Nicola Roxon MP, announced a new round of the Building Community Resilience grants program. Under this new round, grants from \$5,000 to \$100,000 will be awarded to local initiatives that:

- develop educational resources or tools that empower people to challenge and debate violent extremist ideologies and that promote positive participation in society, or
- strengthen the skills, competencies and abilities of people to address one or more of the various factors that can lead to violent extremism.

The BCR grants program is open to community organisations in all Australian States and Territories and applications close on 16 March 2012.

All of the grant recipients have regular reporting requirements and must complete an evaluation report at the conclusion of each project. The evaluation report assesses:

- the relevance of the project in addressing the issues in vulnerable communities relating to countering violent extremism
- the effectiveness of the project (that is, were the objectives of the project achieved?), and
- the efficiency of the project's implementation (that is, was the project managed appropriately and were the resources utilised properly?).

## **Evaluation**

The CVE Unit is currently developing an evaluation strategy that will incorporate best practice in program evaluation. There are five key areas that the evaluation model will seek to measure:

- relevance – if the CVE program is in line with the local needs and priorities
- effectiveness – the extent to which the program achieves its purpose or vision
- efficiency – whether the most efficient processes has been used to achieve the CVE program's outcomes
- impact – the wider effects of the program (social, economic and environmental) on individuals, communities, and institutions, and
- sustainability – the lasting impact of the program after it has ended.

## **Other activities of relevance to the Inquiry's terms of reference**

The following activities undertaken by other areas within the Department are not an official part of the CVE program. They do however indirectly contribute to the objectives of the CVE strategy and are relevant to the Inquiry's terms of reference.

### *Social Inclusion*

The Social Inclusion Division of the Department is responsible for programs and services that assist with settlement issues for new migrants and refugees, among other groups.

Community legal centres provide a range of services and programs designed to increase community participation and address disadvantage within their communities. Centres recognise the particular needs of people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to try and find ways to resolve problems that make sense to the particular individual. Many centres conduct community legal education seminars and training sessions in partnership with organisations assisting newly arrived immigrants.

- Whittlesea Community Legal Service in Victoria provides assistance to a diverse community with 50% of clients born overseas. It works alongside the Whittlesea Community Connections' Settlement Programs to address the needs of the community. Whittlesea's Settlement Programs include casework services, women in work Community Enterprise, Settlement Youth Work and Youth Connections, Learning support Program Employment Support, Driving Education Programs Social Support Networks, a Refugee Reference

Committee and an Arabic language newsletter providing information about the local community, events and services.

- Footscray Community Legal Centre in Victoria operates a refugee tenancy project which employs a community development solicitor to run a Refugee Tenancy Clinic, undertake community legal education and document systemic tenancy and housing issues affecting refugee communities in Melbourne's west. It also operates a specialist Refugee Legal and Financial Counselling Service, to respond to the difficulties experienced by newly-arrived refugees in adjusting to Australian laws. The service has assisted predominantly Sudanese and Burmese clients because they live locally. Assistance includes change of name or birth records, credit, debt and consumer issues, fines and family law. The project receives strong pro bono support from a number of law firms. The projects utilise Sudanese and Burmese community workers who provide a bridge between their communities and the services as well as interpreting and cross-cultural communication support.

Under the National Partnership Agreement on Legal Assistance Services, the Australian Government funds legal aid commissions to provide legal assistance services to disadvantaged people that come within Commonwealth legal aid priorities. Commonwealth legal aid priorities include the provision of preventative and early intervention legal services such as community legal education, legal information and advice, minor assistance and advocacy services.

All commissions provide interpretation services in various languages. Commissions have a range of programs that are targeted to culturally and linguistically diverse clients and newly arrived people. The following is a non-exhaustive list of examples of the various initiatives for newly arrived migrants and refugees:

- Legal aid commissions collaborated nationally on a community legal education project to produce a legal education kit titled 'What's the Law?' for newly arrived migrants with limited English language skills. The kit addresses the most common legal issues experienced by recently arrived migrant and refugees. It is intended for use in classroom or community settings and includes a DVD with 10 photo stories, information for teachers and student activity sheets. The DVD kit explores the real stories of migrants and refugees, from learning about road rules, renting a house to buying a car.
- Legal Aid NSW has funded the Community education through case studies— helping migrant women in the workplace project which is designed to educate migrant worker in low-paid jobs about their rights at work.
- Victoria Legal Aid has produced a plain English and pictorial legal 'help card' and also works with local welfare agencies to run workshops to inform newly arrived migrants about their consumer rights.

### *Criminal Justice*

The Criminal Justice Division in the Department plays an active role in the enforcement of criminal law and the funding of crime prevention activities in Australia.

The *Proceeds of Crime Act 2002* was passed on 11 October 2002 and came into operation on 1 January 2003. This Act provides for a scheme that allows confiscated funds to be given back to the Australian community in an endeavour to prevent and reduce the harmful effects of crime in



Australia. While crime prevention activities are not generally directed at migrant or refugee communities, through this provision crime prevention grants have included:

- a project that provides refugee youth and their families who settle in Adelaide with additional services, support and mentoring to help them develop important life, social and conflict management skills, and
- a project that aims to prevent criminal recidivism and relapse to drug use for Vietnamese drug offenders in the South Western Sydney region.

#### *National Anti-Racism Partnership and Strategy*

The Australian Government launched ‘The People of Australia – Australia’s Multicultural Policy’ in February 2011. One key initiative of this policy is the National Anti-Racism Partnership (the Partnership), established to design and deliver a strategy to combat racism in the Australian community (the Strategy).

This Department is a member of the partnership, which is being led by the Race Discrimination Commissioner, supported by the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC). The Department’s representative in this Partnership is the Assistant Secretary of the Human Rights Policy Branch. The Human Rights Policy Branch is working with the Countering Violent Extremism Taskforce to ensure these two pieces of work, the National Anti-Racism Partnership and Strategy and the Countering Violent Extremism program, inform each other.

The Partnership brings together expertise from: the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, the Department of Families, Housing, Communities Services and Indigenous Affairs, and the Australian Multiculturalism Advisory Council. The Partnership also benefits from NGO participation from the Federation of Ethnic Community Councils of Australia, and the National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples.

The Strategy is expected to be launched July 2012 and implemented over the following three years, until mid-2015.

#### **Further information**

Further information about the CVE program is available at [www.resilientcommunities.gov.au](http://www.resilientcommunities.gov.au), and information about the current grant round is available at [www.ag.gov.au/cve](http://www.ag.gov.au/cve).



# Countering Violent Extremism Strategy

## What is violent extremism?

Violent extremism describes the beliefs and actions of people who support or use violence to achieve ideological, religious or political goals. This includes terrorism, other forms of politically motivated violence and some forms of communal violence.

All forms of violent extremism, no matter what their motivation, seek change through fear and intimidation rather than positive and democratic processes.

## Why is violent extremism a concern?

Actions of violent extremists threaten Australia's core values and principles, including human rights, the rule of law, parliamentary democracy, equal opportunity and freedom. The Australian Government rejects all forms of violent extremism and will continue to promote a harmonious and inclusive society.

Radicalisation processes are at work in some Australian communities and violent extremism is a real and persistent threat to Australia's security. Australia faces threats from violent extremists with a variety of motivations. Some people, including individuals in Australia, remain committed to undertaking or supporting acts of violence in pursuit of their cause.

## What is the government doing?

In partnership with communities, the Australian Government is working to address factors that make people vulnerable to extremist influences, including recruitment by terrorists, noting there is not just one path to violent extremism. Extremists often exploit social and economic conditions and individual vulnerabilities to recruit and motivate others.

The overwhelming majority of people in Australia reject violent extremism but many may not have the information they need to challenge it.

Countering violent extremism in our communities is a long-term challenge requiring the collaboration of governments, community groups and individuals.

The Countering Violent Extremism Unit in the Australian Attorney-General's Department supports a comprehensive and coordinated strategy across government, and develops initiatives to address extremist influences before these influences threaten Australia's security.

## Countering violence extremism strategy

The Australian Government's countering violent extremism strategy supports Australia's broader counter-terrorism efforts by addressing factors that make people vulnerable to extremist influences and recruitment by terrorists. The emphasis is on intervening early – before a law enforcement response might be needed.

**Our vision** is to:

*Reduce the risk of home-grown terrorism by strengthening Australia's resilience to radicalisation and assisting individuals to disengage from violent extremist influences and beliefs.*

The **benefit** of achieving the vision is:

*The threat to Australia of violent extremism is reduced as individuals and groups choose non-violent expression of views.*

Supporting individuals to choose non-violent forms of expression will reduce the extremist threat to Australia. At the same time, an environment where the threat is reduced may encourage individuals to engage in Australia's democratic process and freely express their views and concerns in non-violent ways.

## Our objectives

To achieve our vision, the Australian Government, in cooperation with partners, is working to:

1. Identify and divert violent extremists and, when possible, support them in disengaging from violent extremism
2. Identify and support at-risk groups and individuals to resist and reject violent extremist ideologies
3. Build community cohesion and resilience to violent extremism
4. Achieve effective communications that challenge extremist messages and support alternatives

Communities, both through their own activities and in collaboration with government, play a vital role in achieving these objectives.

## Our areas of work

The Government has identified a range of priority areas of work through consultation with communities, research, intelligence advice and consideration of international best practice.

Government agencies at all levels (federal, State/Territory and local) are pursuing programs that challenge violent extremism, either by building resilience to the negative influence of intolerant and extremist ideologies, or by addressing the factors that make individuals vulnerable to extremist influences.

The Government is also working with communities to challenge extremist messages and support constructive participation in Australia's democratic processes.

The Australian Government is focusing on the following areas of activity:

<b>Identification and Information Sharing</b>
Identifying violent extremist ideology at an early stage and facilitating enhanced sharing of information and intelligence.
<b>Motivation, Recruitment and Containment</b>
Understanding the process and methods of recruiters and the motivation of recruits, and containing the influence of violent extremist ideology.
<b>Referral and Support, Diversion and Rehabilitation</b>
Establishing appropriate referral mechanisms for services that support individuals to choose non violent forms of expression and participate in society.
<b>Education</b>
Building community resistance to violent extremism by equipping communities with the skills and resources to understand and address extremism and reduce marginalisation.
<b>Communication</b>
Developing key messages that inform and empower communities to challenge extremist ideologies and support the non-violent expression of views.  Encouraging the dissemination of counter narratives and providing appropriate communication channels for delivering them.

## More information

For more information please contact the Countering Violent Extremism Unit, Attorney-General's Department via email [resilientcommunities@ag.gov.au](mailto:resilientcommunities@ag.gov.au).

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**Building Community Resilience Grants – 2011-12**

Organisation	Project Name	Program type	Activity Description
Auburn Community Development Network (ACDN) (NSW)  Grant Amount: \$88,364	Dream Big Project	Business-skills building and work experience	The project is a mentoring and skills development program that gives young people real life experience in creating, operating and managing a shared business venture. Participants are mentored to develop skills and confidence in the various aspects of business such as marketing and sales, finance, human resources, management, product design and development, research and development and administration. Working in a team environment, a group of young people also have the opportunity to explore the various cultures, religious beliefs and non-religious practices and beliefs that exist in the diverse communities that make up the area.
Australian Somali Community Association (ASCA) (NSW)  Grant Amount: \$24,347	Somali Community Resilience Project	Development of community plan to address extremism	The project addresses the growing level of disengagement by young people in the Somali community by strengthening their resilience to radicalisation. The project includes forums, a mentoring program and a conference to empower young people in the Somali community to connect and engage with their local community. At the conclusion of the project the ASCA along with other project partners will develop an on-going and sustainable community development program, using ASCA's volunteer resources.
Bali Peace Park Association (WA)  Grant Amount: \$56,297	Beyond Bali Education Kit	Development of secondary school resources for students and teachers	The project is developing and producing an education resource for secondary school students (years 8/9) on the Bali bombings and the Bali Peace Park. The resource is designed to build social resilience to violent extremism by discussing issues like the social impacts of violent extremism and encouraging students to think about how societies can resist the influence of violent extremism.
Burwood Council (NSW)  Grant Amount: \$48,000	Different People Different Voices Project	Regional youth services map and interactive board game	DPDVP is a youth (12 – 24yrs) community project aimed at addressing cultural isolation and increasing community belonging, through the production of a regional youth service map supported by an intercultural interactive board game (generating the 'experience' of living in a setting of cultural cohesion and one of no cultural tolerance and the impacts). The project focuses on peer-to-peer development, community engagement and leadership to create awareness of risk factors that may lead to violent extremism and develop localised protective factors at an early stage for young people experiencing disengagement and marginalisation.
Darebin Council (VIC)  Grant Amount: \$100,000	Salam Alaykum – Darebin's Muslims Reaching Out	Youth-led activities to challenge extremist ideologies	The project builds community connections and engagement between Darebin's Muslim community and the broader Darebin community, and also builds the Omar bin Al -Kattab Mosque's capacity to manage community relations to develop and implement strategies that prevent the development of risky extremist views which can threaten community cohesion. The project involves youth from the Muslim community running team building activities with a focus on encouraging them to be more trusting of one another and encourage a positive and connection with the wider community.

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Organisation	Project Name	Program type	Activity Description
Federation of Ethnic Communities Council of Australia (FECCA) (ACT) Grant Amount: \$39,347.50	Teaching Democracy – political extremism, global lessons for local educators project	Training and support resources for teachers to develop political consciousness of their students	The project is designed to run a two-day workshop for school teachers working in Australian schools. The workshop explores the idea of extreme political action including radicalism and extremism. The workshop provides training and information for teachers to encourage positive development of young people's political consciousness and further their constructive participation in the society. Following the workshops, FECCA will use the outcomes to develop teaching support resources which have capability to be distributed widely to schools.
Forum for Australian and Islamic Relations (FAIR) (NSW) Grant Amount: \$29,580	Southern Crescent Online Peace Initiative	Interactive website and portal linking Islamic scholars to youth / Short video documentary	The project creates an interactive website/portal geared for youth. The portal includes live chat sessions and commonly asked questions answered by international Islamic scholars to promote and educate youth about the positive and moderate calling of Islam and expand on various meanings and interpretations. As part of the project a short video documentary (15 minutes) will be created, exploring intercultural or interfaith issues. It will focus on three themes; initiating peace, building cohesion, and working towards action. This is a youth-led project supported by experienced film-makers as mentors.
Horn of Africa Relief and Development Agency (HARDA) (NSW) Grant Amount: \$19,700	Somali Youth Outreach Project	Peer-to-peer mentoring and networking for Somali youth	The project consists of developing forums/workshops for at 'risk' Somali and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) youth between the ages of 16-24. It aims to enable the target audience to identify difficulties and issues their peers are facing and encourage them to seek appropriate help. The project also aims to increase understanding amongst young Somalis and CALD youth of violent extremism and the negative impacts of extremist views and actions on society and individuals. Youth are encouraged to attend a leadership youth camp to Melbourne to engage with like-minded individuals and to share experiences on how to positively participate and become a responsible citizen in the wider community.
InterAction (VIC) Grant Amount: \$19,530	iAct interfaith Youth Leadership Program	Leadership skills building	The 'iAct' interfaith youth leadership program brings together young people from diverse faith backgrounds to build bridges of understanding & co-operation, break down stereotypes and work together on community service projects. Through this process, the participants explore their own religious identities, learn about others and gain knowledge and skills to help their communities.
Islamic Council of Queensland (ICQ) Grant Amount: \$20,000	Empowering Youth to Say No to Radicalisation	Workshops directed at youth to challenge radical ideologies	The project aims to develop counter narrative messages to challenge Islamic militancy propaganda through the use of guest speakers and workshops involving academics, Queensland Police and Imams. With established networks within congregations, these entities encourage youth who have a fear and mistrust of authority to positively participate in the Australian way of life encompassing the values of freedom, fair play, mateship and tolerance.
Islamic Council of Victoria (ICV) Grant Amount: \$62,419.30	Audio/Film Production	Audio and film production course	The Audio and Film Production project provides an opportunity for Muslim youth to engage in learning how to use sound design, sound editing and audio mixing in the process of creating soundtracks and

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Organisation	Project Name	Program type	Activity Description
			movies. This project is designed to assist disadvantaged Muslim youth to develop effective techniques, including assistance in crafting positive messages which will have long lasting effects. The project encourages young people to participate in creative development projects that will enable them to express their views in a creative positive form.
La Trobe University (VIC) Grant Amount: \$90,090	Young Australian Muslim Leadership Program	Mentoring and leadership program with domestic and international network building	The project is developing a training program, resources and a network for young people to help create an environment where young Australian Muslims are aided and empowered to play socially constructive leadership roles in their respective communities. The three linked components will also help empowered individuals gain greater prominence in the wider Australian community, and in an emerging international network of Muslim intellectuals.
Lebanese Moslem Association (LMA) (NSW) Grant Amount: \$100,000	Sharing Humanity	Leadership skills building with particular focus on theological education about Islam	The project is developing a group of Young Muslim Leaders (10 males and 10 females). The aim of the project is to enable young people to develop the skills and build the confidence necessary to influence members of their peer group and the community at large. The project works to build understanding and equip Muslims with the theological fundamentals that counter extremist ideologies and dispel misconceptions. It also develops their role as citizens, leaders and positive role models so that they can become "leaders" for mainstream Islam and assert their Australian identity.
North Melbourne Football Club (VIC) Grant Amount: \$93,000	Connect @ THE HUDDLE	Team-building skills program through football	The project targets 15-25 year olds, aiming to connect them with learning, recreation, employment opportunities, technology, community and each other. The project supports young people to develop their own arguments and messages to challenge and contest extremist ideologies through ongoing dialogue. Community leaders, role models, peers, academics, and elite professional sports people will be involved in delivering messages through the CONNECT program. These messages enhance individual identity and a sense of community belonging, reduce social isolation and create resilient leaders among young people to be better equipped to contest extremist messages and violent radicalism.
Pace e Bene (VIC) Grant Amount: \$80,870	Building Community Capacity in Nonviolent Leadership: An Interfaith Program for Young People	National interfaith/intercultural youth development program	Pace e Bene Australia will design and deliver a national interfaith/intercultural youth development program in Melbourne to skill future leaders to provide alternatives to violence in their communities through inclusion and tolerance. The project focuses on collaboration with universities, theological colleges, multi-faith networks and cultural groups. The project involves inviting 20 young leaders who show potential for active leadership in their communities to engage in an 8 day program with 2 residential retreats in early 2012.
University of Melbourne (VIC) Grant Amount: \$97,500	Curriculum for Islamic Schools	Developing education resources for Australian Islamic primary and secondary schools	In collaboration with the leadership and teachers of selected Islamic schools and Muslim peak bodies, the NCEIS is designing and developing a Common Curriculum Framework (CFF) for teaching Islamic Studies in Australian Islamic primary and secondary



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Organisation	Project Name	Program type	Activity Description
			schools. The CCF will help to create discerning students, who are able to differentiate mainstream, traditional Islam from violent extremism. Subjects, such as the Qur'an and Islamic History, will be presented with adherence to traditional principles. Acknowledging Australia's multicultural context, the CCF will also include a range of new topics which address issues relevant to Muslims in Australia, such as: Islam and the modern state, Islam and women, and Islam and other faiths.
University of New South Wales (UNSW)	Fairfield Liverpool Youth Exchange	Team-building skills program through football	The project is delivering weekly football coaching programs and Gala Days for younger children representative of their community. Regular football offers youth the chance to build camaraderie and learn from peer mentors in a safe, active environment. As coaching sessions are the fulcrum of Football United activity, participants get to connect, exchange and learn on-field fair play values that are intended to be replicated in life off the field. Youth are required to attend, engage and behave in school in order to participate in Football United programs. The project works to establish effective resilience and leadership building workshops, group mentoring programs (by Football United community coaches), and provide media and social networking education to project participants.
Grant Amount: \$89,800			
Victorian Arabic Social Services (VASS) (VIC)	Curbing Radicalisation Through Youth Resilience	Workshops to build resilience through positive expression	The project is developing and facilitating a series of workshops and activities aimed at building resilience by providing avenue for positive expression and mutual understanding of diversity. Activities for Arabic speaking youth living in the municipality of Hume, Moreland and Hobson's bay will engage young people by providing them with opportunities to express themselves such as making a computer game, creating a short film, media training and utilising media outlets such as youth radio and television.
Grant Amount: \$99,804			
Western Bulldogs (Footscray) Football Club (VIC)	More than a Game	Team-building skills program through football	Spirit West Services is working together with young men (15 to 25 years) who may be vulnerable to extremist views due to personal experiences of disengagement and marginalisation. The project uses sport to engage with the young men to address issues of harmony, cultural identity and social cohesion to provide an avenue for the non-violent expression of views and encourage participation in the local community. Through group training and individual mentoring, the project focuses on empowering young people to improve their decision making capabilities and equip them with skills and resources to understand and actively address intolerant or extremist messages.
Grant Amount: \$100,000			
The Youth Centre (NSW)	Building Resilience to Violent Extremism in the Canterbury-Bankstown Region: A Focus on our Youth	Developing programs to challenge extremist ideologies through non-violent expression	The project focuses on youth in the Canterbury-Bankstown region aged between 13 and 25 who have been exposed to some form of violent extremism, are at risk of being exposed to or may be sympathetic to or already influenced by extremist messages and ideologies in the community. It is developing programs that challenge extremist messages and ideologies, including those perpetuated online, and
Grant Amount: \$100,000			

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Organisation	Project Name	Program type	Activity Description
			provide avenues for the non-violent expression of views and encourage participation in our democratic society.

### Youth Mentoring Grants – 2011-12

Organisation	Project Name	Project Type	Activity Description
<p>Anglicare Sydney (NSW)</p> <p>Grant Amount: \$194,363</p>	Aussie Youth Connect	Personal development and leadership-skills building	This project is training and developing young people to become mentors. These individuals will mentor other young people between the ages of 12-24 years who are vulnerable, disadvantaged and have had difficult life circumstances. The project specifically assists mentees who have exhibited anti-social behaviour, are at risk of offending, and are at risk of having extremist views and be willing to use violence. The project promotes growth and development of the mentee's self-awareness, self-discipline and provides healthy role models, with the possibility of training them to go on to become mentors in the future. The project includes an eight week training program for mentors and mentees, on topics such as leadership, alternatives to violence and social resilience. Mentors are building community relationships and creating opportunities for engagement with young people who may be at risk of extremist views or ideologies of intolerance, leading to poor decision making and anti-social behaviours.
<p>Australian Multicultural Foundation (AMF) (National, VIC based)</p> <p>Grant Amount: \$200,000</p>	Australian Muslim Youth Mentoring and Leadership Program	Leadership-skills building and training and development of national youth-led plan	This project is equipping 16 young Australian Muslim leaders from around Australia with the skills to represent their communities. Through training and peer mentoring they are assisted to overcome any alienation they may feel, and to engage with the broader community to discount negative perceptions and dispel myths and inaccuracies about Islam. The topics covered in the training will include talking to the media, engaging with prominent leaders, conducting focus groups, public speaking, communicating, writing skills and developing proposals and mentorship skills. Following the intensive training, the youth leaders will return to their communities to complete specific tasks including peer mentoring, presentations to the broader community and community consultations to inform the development of a national youth-led event for Muslim and non-Muslim youth.
<p>Australian Muslim Women's Rights Centre (MWRC) [formerly Islamic Women's Welfare Council] (VIC)</p> <p>Grant Amount: \$200,000</p>	Aman - Youth for Peace Project	School-based mentoring programs for students and an Islamic secondary schools conference for teachers	This peace-building project is promoting mentoring programs amongst young people through school-based activities including group discussions, assignments and creative team projects. These activities are intended to provide opportunities for young Muslims to achieve a number of aims, including to voice their opinions, critically analyse situations and increase participation in democratic decision making and conflict resolution. Additionally, the project is running an Islamic secondary schools' conference. The conference gives teachers the opportunity to reflect on challenges and



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Organisation	Project Name	Project Type	Activity Description
			barriers that Muslim youth experience. This opportunity for teachers will facilitate the development of mentoring skills and strategies to address these issues.
Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) (VIC)  Grant Amount: \$143,745	Unite 4 Justice	Leadership-skills building and training	This project aims to support young people from diverse cultural backgrounds to develop practical strategies for promoting the values of shared freedoms, tolerance and a commitment to democratic values and principles. The project is working with 30 young people, from 5 – 6 secondary schools, and their communities to develop leadership skills, facilitate dialogue, and, with the support of mentors, deliver 5-6 youth led projects that promote respect and build community resilience.
Hume City Council (VIC)  Grant Amount: \$199,964	Hume Anti Violent Extremism Youth Program	Fostering cross-cultural understanding between ethnic groups through peer-mentoring	This project exposes young people to alternative ways of perceiving the world. It provides them with the skills to make positive choices through fostering cross-cultural understanding between ethnic groups. It also involves young people designing and participating in their own celebrations, and matching young people with mentors they can call on for support. The mentoring program focuses on issues such as the needs of young people within their family and community, prevention and early intervention and empowering young people to improve their decision making capabilities.
JobQuest (NSW)  Grant Amount: \$140,131	Penrith Skills for Jobs	Critical thinking, conflict resolution and peace building skills development	This project addresses the development of key social, emotional and interpersonal issues among vulnerable young people in the setting of schools and community organisations. It is designed to facilitate effective social interaction in a culturally diverse environment. The project, with group training and individual mentoring, assists participants to deal with conflicts, handle frustrations and disappointments encountered in daily life and involve families and community members to model acceptable behaviours. This will enhance the psychosocial wellbeing of participants and help them to disengage from ideologies of violent extremism.
Multicultural Media Exchange (MME) [formerly New Australia Media] (VIC)  Grant Amount: \$96,952	Media Makers	Media training program linking young Muslim Australians to journalists to express their views through various media outlets	Media Makers is a media training and mentoring program to link young Muslim Australians in urban and regional areas of Victoria with professional journalists in order to produce news stories that accurately reflect the views, interests and character of multicultural Australia. The project provides training workshops in ethics, interviewing, reporting, writing and multimedia production. Additionally, participants are matched to suitable mentors, and provided with access to mainstream English language outlets for stories. This project contributes to combating extremism by fostering citizenship, encouraging a culture of rational dialogue and debate in the public sphere, and giving participants tools and models for effective communication both within their communities and the Australian public.
Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre (VIC)	Voices for Change	Leadership and peer-mentoring skills building	The project is developing youth mentors and ambassadors who feel empowered to speak out on the extremist ideas and work with 'at risk' youth in their communities. The project engages young people

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Organisation	Project Name	Project Type	Activity Description
Grant Amount: \$142,993			aged 18 to 28. They receive training to equip them with the knowledge, skills and resources to influence and mentor other young people in their communities considered vulnerable to violent extremism. They are also trained to formulate solutions to tackle or counter intolerance and violent extremist ideologies. The project includes sessions that explore and debate issues in their communities that could lead or contribute to the attraction of intolerant or extremist views. Additionally, the project is running an inter-faith camp that brings together young people from various communities and faith backgrounds to discuss issues around extremism.
Youth Development Australia (VIC)  Grant Amount: \$200,000	inSite Projects	Multimedia and documentary making training	The project brings together four groups of between 8-10 young people from marginalised, disadvantaged, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. It encourages them to work together to produce multimedia works centred around the ideas of tolerance, understanding, community and culturally sharing. Through the semester-long project, young people are mentored by multimedia practitioners, who facilitate intensive workshops, giving the young people the skills they need to create their multimedia pieces. In the final stages of the project, participants will be offered training in presentation skills and will visit schools and community groups to talk about their involvement and present their documentaries.