



# ARMIA

Active Refugee & Migrant Integration in Australia

*Empowering. Educating. Inspiring. Integrating*

*"Never see a need without doing something about it"*

# The ARMIA Model

## **Strategic Plan:** **Multicultural Family Support Hub in SE Qld** Five Years 2018-2023

May 2018

*\*Promoting Socio-Economic Participation and Combating Social Isolation\**

*\*Healing and Empowering the "Forgotten Ones" to Become Healthy, Proud and Productive Australian Citizens\**

140 Mains Road, SUNNYBANK QLD 4109

Email: [admin@armia.com.au](mailto:admin@armia.com.au)

ACN: 169177959

Website: [www.armia.com.au](http://www.armia.com.au)

Tele/Fax: (07) 3344 1149

ABN: 58169177959



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## **Vision:**

An inclusive Australia where people from refugee and migrant backgrounds are supported as integrated and contributing citizens.

## **Mission:**

To empower New Australians i.e. those refugees and migrants who no longer are part of the Australian Government's settlement program to be part of the workforce or business community to proudly take their place as acknowledged and valued members of Australian society. This is done as a **Multicultural Family Support Hub in SE Queensland**, through a **Holistic Approach**. We are symbolically a "Tree" welcoming any "birds" with any needs at any time i.e. a **drop-in centre** and **bridge** between New Australians, the Government and other services providers.

## **Who We Serve:**

Those individuals who do not integrate into Australian society, even with the 5-year Australian government assistance program, which often leads to social isolation. After many years in Australia, these individuals at all ages still find it difficult to undertake the simplest of tasks that most Australians take for granted. Education, jobs, cultural differences, English language, mental health, aged care, physical health and social interaction all become barriers and can lead to extreme social isolation (especially for people with disability, elderly and single mothers), domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse, restricted work opportunities and welfare dependence, youth and child homelessness, youth exposure to radicalism and fundamentalism. ARMIA aims to shift fit and skilled individuals from welfare dependency, empowering them to recover their dignity and self-confidence, (re)join studies, the workforce and/or entrepreneurship, to finally become healthy, productive and proud Australian citizens.

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## Goals 2018-2023:

- 1. Connection:** To those people still struggling with language, isolation, systems and culture. To their communities. Assist least advantaged mainstream and indigenous people from 2018; it is also another way to promote interactive and participative integration.
- 2. Wellbeing:** For individuals, family and community. Holistic wellbeing supporting proud, contributing community members.
- 3. Leadership:** Establish ARMIA as a leading organisation in post settlement support in the eyes of our stakeholders.
- 4. Expertise:** To attract as both staff and volunteers the best qualified and committed people to support and realise our Vision.
- 5. Sustainability:** Achieve organisational and financial sustainability to support our Mission.
- 6. Partner:** Seek out and establish partnerships with complimentary organisations who best support our Mission.

## Objectives 2018-2023:

- 1. Combat Loneliness and Social Isolation** for those individuals and families who have not integrated but are no longer eligible for settlement services.
- 2. Promote Socio-Economic Participation.**
- 3. Combat Domestic Violence and Support Child and Family Protection** by utilising a **Holistic Approach** to address the underlying issues fuelling this behaviour.

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4. **Support Those Clients in Need: 2018** – 1500 clients, **2019** – 1750 clients, **2020** – 2000 clients, **2021** – 2500, **2022/3** - 3000.
5. **Secure Financial Support** via government grants, philanthropic support and donations to enable ARMIA's goals to be realised.
6. **Engage a Paid Professional Workforce** to work with volunteers to support ARMIA's goals.
7. **Achieve a Sustainable Financial Capability** through strategic social enterprises

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## Strategies 2018-2023:

- 1. Drop-In Centre and Multicultural Family Support Hub in SE Qld through a Holistic Approach:** Establish ARMIA as a welcoming drop-in centre (24/7) to attempt to assist with any problem from the CALD, mainstream and indigenous community.
- 2. Central Pillars:** Work within a framework around the following three Central Pillars:
  - **Affordable housing**
  - **Community Empowerment**
  - **Employment and Entrepreneurship**
- 3. Interconnected Programs:** Utilise five interconnected programs, each with multiple activities, within the three Central Pillars. Each group activity to enable secondary group therapy and capacity building:
  - **Education**
  - **Business initiatives**
  - **Health and Wellbeing**
  - **Community Engagement**
  - **Life Skills and Vocational Training**

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## APPENDICES

Most ARMIA Programs are increasingly overcrowded  
New centres are being requested

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**ADULTS' MORNING CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH  
CURRENTLY 25+ STUDENTS IN 1 CLASSROOM WITH 1 TEACHER**



**MOST OF THEM HAVE BEEN IN AUSTRALIA 10, 15+ YEARS  
BUT COULDN'T SPEAK BASIC ENGLISH WHEN THEY CAME TO ARMIA**

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## HOMEWORK/ACADEMIC SUPPORT SCHOOL KIDS STANDING AS THE ROOM WAS SMALL SHARING COMPUTERS



Those standing had to leave on that day.

These are the ones we work hard on, with a highly experienced team of retired university lecturers, school principals and teachers....so that they can love school again, and then have a dream of a better future, hence become productive and proud citizens. Our homework support covers more than homework i.e. we talk about living and working in Australia, our values, et caetera.

*From very serious learning difficulty we manage to put them to grades A or B+...*

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## COMMUNITY SEWING CLASSES



**ALWAYS OVERCRODED IN  
2 ROOMS  
WITH 1 TEEACHER**

LEARN SEWING SKILLS  
COMBAT SOCIAL ISOLATION  
ACCESS OTHER ARMIA SUPPORT SERVICES (COUNSELLING...)

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