

FIRWN PRINCIPLES

Anti-Racism

Promote equality and harmony amongst diverse cultures and groups.

Anti-Discrimination

No woman should be discriminated on the basis of race, ethnicity, colour, cultural background, language, religion or sexual preference.

Access and Equity

Improve the access of women from immigrant and refugee backgrounds (CALD) to the mainstream services and encourage their maximum participation in community activities.

Advocate for the creation of supportive environments.

Ensure that immigrant and refugee women have “a fair go and fair share” in the multicultural community of Fairfield.

Anti Violence

Promote safety and increase awareness of the unacceptability of violence.

HOW TO JOIN

FIRWN meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 2:30 pm at Fairfield Immigrant Women’s Health Service. Address is 92 Smart Street, Fairfield.

FIRWN is a non-funded Network which regularly submits for funding to undertake different projects.

FIRWN’s work to prevent violence against women, has been publicly recognised by a **Special Award** given by the NSW Department of Community Services on **National Stop Violence Against Women Day** .



FIRWN is thankful to Fairfield Council ,WSAAS and the Department of Women for their commitment and support over the years.

The network is as strong as its membership, support the network by becoming a member.

Fairfield
Immigrant
&
Refugee
Women’s
Network



*Acknowledging and
Celebrating the strength
of women*

**Fairfield Immigrant and
Refugee
Women’s Network**

**c/ of Ms Audrey Lai &
Dr Eman Sharobeem
P O Box 490 Fairfield 1860**

MEMBERSHIP FORM:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Organisation _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Please fill in the form and send to:

FIRWN

**P O Box 490
Fairfield 1860**

*If you need more information please
contact Audrey Lai on 92034112 or
Eman Sharobeem on 9726 4044*

Fairfield Immigrant and Refugee Women's Network (FIRWN) was first established in 1987.

Many of Fairfield City's immigrant and refugee women share similar events in their lives, both before and after arriving in Australia. The idea to establish FIRWN arose from a recognition of those common experiences as a desire to support each other and work together on issues of joint concern.

FIRWN is a network of non-English speaking background women living and, or working in the Fairfield Local Government Area.

Membership is also open to other women committed to the issues affecting immigrant and refugee women in Australia.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Over the years FIRWN has been actively involved in organising and promoting major events such as:

International Women's Day, Refugee Week & 16 days of action against violence campaigns

These events have created an opportunity for acknowledging and celebrating the strength of women in the diverse community of Fairfield LGA.

FIRWN also actively networks with other organisations both government and non-government to address the issues affecting refugee and migrant women.

MAJOR PROJECTS

♀ **Report** on Safety Issues of non-English speaking background women in Fairfield city. A publication of the report "Free from Fear" is available from FIRWN.

♀ **Anti-Violence Campaign**

A major aim of the campaign was to build community awareness with immigrant and refugee communities of the unacceptability of violence against women. Major achievements of the project has been the creation of the Anti-Violence poster,

"Women Say No to Violence"

in different languages and the development of Anti-Violence Campaign Manual. The manual covers community development strategies to be used by agencies in similar projects.

♀ **A consultation report** on Women's needs in the year 2000. The consultation was done with six different ethnic communities residing in the Fairfield LGA.

♀ Development of two **posters and postcards** "Domestic violence is Condemned by every culture" and "Domestic Violence Breaks Families" translated into eight different languages.

♀ **Safe Families**, an educational resource kit about domestic violence, sexual assault and the law, using visual materials to cut across language barriers faced by people from Non English Speaking background.