

Media Release

The Hon Jaala Pulford MLC

Minister for Employment

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy

Minister for Small Business



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MULTILINGUAL WOMEN KEEPING COMMUNITIES SAFE

The Andrews Labor Government is creating more than 50 jobs for women from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds to educate communities about coronavirus, as part of the *Working for Victoria* initiative.

Working for Victoria is partnering with the Multicultural Centre for Women's Health and nine other women's health organisations to create jobs for migrant and refugee women who can deliver a vital community service.

Employees will work directly with CALD communities across Victoria, helping people access the latest public health information about coronavirus and other women's health information in a range of languages.

Roles will be based in metropolitan and regional Victoria and will involve both face-to-face and online platforms, including video conferencing and social media.

The multilingual educators will be matched to each community based on the languages spoken and health needs of participants.

Employees will complete a comprehensive accredited training program to ensure that they have the skills and knowledge to effectively engage migrant communities and provide accurate and up-to-date health messaging.

Women and young people have been disproportionately affected by job losses due to the pandemic, with the tourism, hospitality and retail industries some of the hardest hit.

Working for Victoria has created more than 12,000 jobs, supporting people who have lost work due to no fault of their own.

Some 2,100 jobs have been supported in community service organisations and social enterprises to help them with increased demand of services by people affected by the pandemic – including mental health, homelessness, food provision and financial counselling.

For more information go to vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Employment Jaala Pulford

"We're helping women find jobs and ensuring everybody has the information they need to keep themselves and their families safe."

"This program will allow women to take active leadership roles in their local communities and give them fantastic employment opportunities."

Quote attributable to Minister for Women Gabrielle Williams

"Employing these women to communicate key health messages across cultural and language barriers will help people to make informed, evidence-based decisions about their health."

Quote attributable to Minister for Multicultural Affairs Ros Spence

"We're creating positions for women to speak with other women directly, giving them the health advice that they need in their preferred language."

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