

Partnership – Service, Family and CSRDO Working together to include all children

The Yarra CSRDO team supports children with additional needs to be successfully included into children's services in the municipality of Yarra. Children with additional needs include:

- Children from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds
- Children with a disability
- Aboriginal South Sea Islander children
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children

Yarra CSRDO's support childcare services and families by:

- Assisting families to access children's services
- Assisting children's services staff to develop programs that reflect the cultures of the wider community and inclusive practice
- Providing staff with resources and materials that promote diversity and inclusion such as, books, posters, music etc.
- Facilitating in-service training sessions regarding inclusion of children with disabilities and children from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds
- Provide support to staff in relation to concerns about individual children, e.g. specific inclusion strategies, referral to other services, obtaining bi-lingual support
- Assist services to access additional funding through Special Needs Subsidy Scheme (SNSS) and Casual Support Pool (CSP)
- Attend staff meetings and program planning sessions to assist with inclusion issues

Yarra CSRDO's have a wide range of resources available to services. These include:

- Posters and music
- Children's books, e.g. bi-lingual books, books that promote diversity
- Staff reference books, e.g. child development, program planning, inclusion
- Resource kits that include puzzles, posters, dolls etc.
- Language resource kits that provide visual cues and ideas for group times
- Multi-cultural programming ideas kit

Faye Sakaris CSRDO, has a particular focus, to support the needs of children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

This involves:

- Assisting services that may **not** have children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds to ensure their programs reflect the diverse communities in Yarra
- Supporting staff with multicultural programming and inclusive practises
- Supporting children with English as a 2nd language
- Supporting children who may have a refugee background

- Organising training and information sessions around cultural diversity e.g. visits to ethnic and religious centres
- Linking services to local ethnic communities

If you would like more information about CSRDO support, would like to discuss a specific issue or borrow some resources you can contact

- Faye Sakaris 9388 9998
- Alison Webster 9385 3228.

Upcoming dates:

February

15 Yarra Community Day
22 Moharram: Islamic New Year
24 Shrove Tuesday
25 Lent begins

March

3 Dolls Festival (Japan)
5-8 Moomba Festival
6 International Women's Day
10 Antipodes Festival begins (Greek)
17 St. Patrick's Day (Irish)
21 Harmony Day: International day of the elimination of racial discrimination
27-28 Lonsdale St. Glendi (Greek)

[To view a copy of the Multi-Lingual Calendar of Events 2005](#)

[Link](#)