

2022–2027 Strategic Plan

The Victorian Refugee Health Network (VRHN) aims to ensure that all people from refugee or asylum seeker backgrounds in Victoria have timely access to appropriate services and other resources required to build and maintain health and wellbeing.

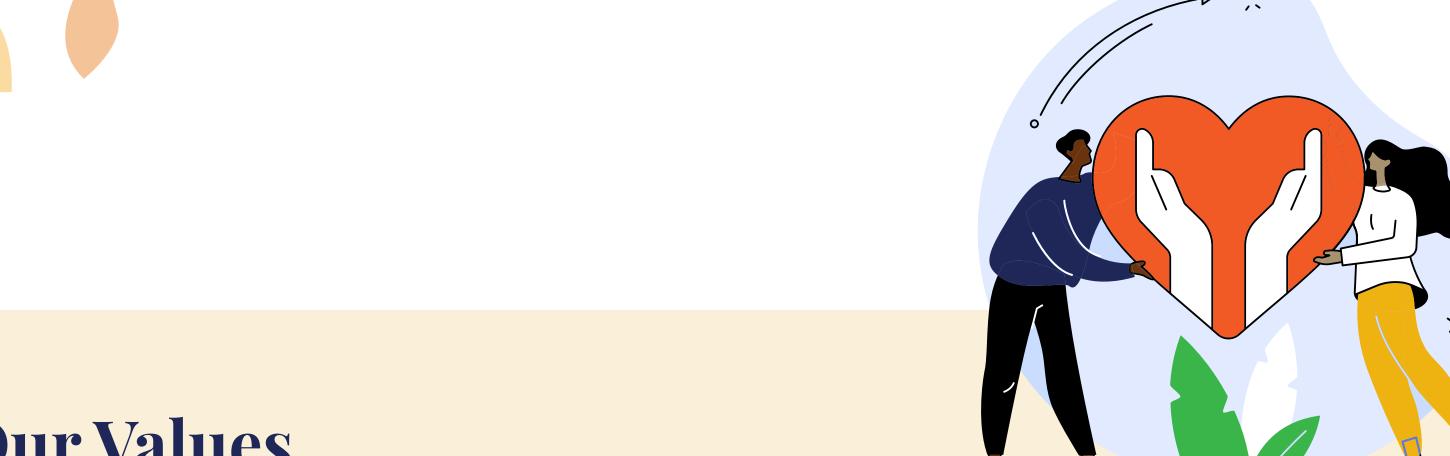


Our Vision

People from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds have timely access to appropriate services and other resources required to build health and wellbeing in Victoria.

Our Mission

Collaborating to create health equity for people from refugee and asylum seeking backgrounds in Victoria.



Our Values

We aim to build trust and confidence, promote wellbeing, and achieve the best possible outcomes by:

Collaboration

Working together, supporting and engaging the sector in all aspects of what we do.

Responsiveness

Monitor the health needs within the community and provide timely and comprehensive responses.

Accountability

We will be accountable to the Network's members, and to all people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds in Victoria.

Advocacy

We aim to shape and influence health and wellbeing policies to meet the needs of people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds in the community.

Transparency

We will foster trust and open communication to nurture a spirit of collaboration.



Our Strategic Priorities

Our strategic plan was developed with the support of a deliberative panel comprising people of refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds, frontline clinicians, and senior health service leaders. Through a deliberative engagement process the panel shaped recommendations of four strategic priorities.



1

Appropriate and Accessible Systems and Services

Priority areas include:

- Disability
- Health Services
- Rural & Regional focus

2

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Priority areas include:

- Represent community needs in sector reforms
- Mental health & wellbeing projects

3

Community and Partnerships

Priority areas include:

- Health & wellbeing partnerships
- Consult & engage community expertise

4

Workforce Development and Best Practice

Priority areas include:

- Bicultural workforce& language services
- Specialist workforce development
- Cultural competency accreditation



How do we achieve our strategic priorities?

Our strategic priorities will be achieved under each domain by improving the coordination and collaboration among health and community services and influencing policies for more accessible and appropriate health services for people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds.

We achieve our strategic priorities by building the capacity of the Victorian health sector to respond to health concerns experienced by people of refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds.

We achieve our strategic priorities by sharing and also producing information which includes the production of information sheets, data bulletins and reports.

We achieve our strategic

Refugee Health

We achieve our strategic **priorities by** collecting and analysing information directly from the community, to better understand their needs and concerns and to help inform our activities.



Creating a Sustainable Network

Capacity Building

We work to strengthen the **capacity of the health sector** to

of refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds. We do this by

by the sector to inform service planning as well as

deliver culturally safe and trauma informed care for people

delivering evidence based research reports that can be used

conducting timely consultation with relevant stakeholders.

We create a responsive, adaptable and sustainable network by actively engaging the community, health sector and government in our work, leveraging best practice processes and supporting the development of resources. We create and facilitate linkages to resource projects and activities and improve service capability for people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds.



Shape and Influence Policy

Information Sharing

We work to improve health equity through

informed. This includes utilising a variety

governmental public health messaging and

information sharing to **keep the sector**

policy updates as well as other health

information relevant to the sector.

of platforms to communicate

We advocate for policies and programs that respect and advance the health and wellbeing of people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds.

We work to promote the broader health and wellbeing needs of refugee and asylum seeker communities through formal and informal engagement with government and service providers. We harness the expertise from the health sector and the community to identify and respond to systemic issues and provide credible, trusted advice regarding policy and service development.

priorities by keeping the relevant governance and systemic structures informed of the needs of people of refugee backgrounds and advocate for the appropriate resourcing of

services to meet the health needs of the refugee community.



Sector Coordination

We help facilitate a **coordinated sector response** to meet the health and wellbeing needs of people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds following their settlement into Victoria. We work as a linkage and conduit between policy makers and the community health sector to inform inclusive policy development.





We achieve our strategic priorities by improving service coordination for people from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds, ensuring

services are more accessible for those with more complex needs and those in regional and outer metropolitan areas.