

# MHCN Statement Mental health impacts of conflicts and distress

As the peak body for families, friends, carers, and kin of people who experience mental health concerns in NSW, MHCN, acknowledges the distress caused to many sensitive people by conflicts and adverse events, domestic and international. These crises can significantly impact mental wellbeing and cause concerns for most people, but especially those who are already experiencing their own problems, rendering them more emotionally tender and heightening the response to turbulent times.

We acknowledge that these impacts are particularly profound for people who may have come to Australia from regions directly impacted by conflict, such as those with Ukrainian, Russian, Palestinian, Israeli, Syrian, Lebanese, Yemeni, Afghan, Sudanese, Muslim and Jewish backgrounds to name just a few examples.

While the causes of these conflicts are complex, MHCN joins with other people of good faith around the world in believing that solutions lie in parties from all sides recognising each other's humanity and their human rights to mutual respect and self-determination and seeking peace instead of violence. In this regard, the United Nation's Universal Declaration of Human Rights is the highest expression of human values and civilization. We note Australia's strong support for the United Nations and its principles in seeking just, rights-based solutions supported by multilateral agreements and processes that allow us to solve our problems together and not in spite of each other.

However, MHCN recognises the emotional harm distressing events have on mental health today in Australia. To assist those impacted to access mental health support, a list of resources has been compiled on the following pages.

Additionally, MHCN has listed resources for some diverse communities who may require culturally accessible support and also for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people impacted by the Voice Referendum.

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### **Multicultural and Voice Mental Health Resources**

Name	About
Australia Psychological	Search for a psychologist, refine result by selecting
Society	'Preferred Language'
	<ul> <li>http://www.psychology.org.au/Find-a-Psychologist</li> </ul>
Australian Association of	This directory can be searched by language preference
Social Workers	http://www.aasw.asn.au/find-a-social-worker/search
Ethnic Communities	Peak body for multicultural communities in NSW
Council of NSW Inc.	https://eccnsw.org.au/
Embrace Multicultural	31 language options for mental health resources
Mental Health	https://embracementalhealth.org.au/
STARTTS - NSW Service	Aimed towards refugees rebuilding their lives in Australia
for the Treatment and	https://www.startts.org.au/
Rehabilitation of Torture	
and Trauma Survivors	
Support Services, Voice	This website contains a list of support services following the
Referendum, Australian	Voice referendum:
Human Rights	Support services - Voice referendum   Australian Human
Commission	<u>Rights Commission</u>
The Transcultural Mental	Improves pathways to mental health services for culturally
Health Centre	and linguistically diverse communities
	https://www.dhi.health.nsw.gov.au/transcultural-mental-
	<u>health-centre</u>
The National Mental	Free 24/7 mental health phone line for support in NSW
Health Line	Phone: 1800 011 511
	• https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/mentalhealth/Pages/ment
	<u>al-health-line.aspx</u>
NSW Refugee Health	Promotes and protects the health of refugees and people     The formula of t
Service	of refugee-like backgrounds
	• Phone: (02) 9794 0770
	Email: <u>SWSLHD-RefugeeHealth@health.nsw.gov.au</u> http://www.gwglhd.hoglth.nsw.gov.gu/refugee
	http://www.swslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/refugee

#### **Mental Health Carers NSW Inc.**

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## Organisations aimed towards specific cultural groups – Organised alphabetically

Name	About
Centre for Muslim Wellbeing	<ul> <li>List of practitioners that are culturally responsive and experience with culturally and linguistically diverse communities <a href="Professionals List">Professionals List</a> - Centre for Muslim <a href="Wellbeing">Wellbeing</a> (cmw.org.au)</li> <li>Resources to support wellbeing <a href="Resources">Resources</a> - Centre for <a href="Muslim Wellbeing">Muslim Wellbeing</a> (cmw.org.au)</li> </ul>
Hatzolah	<ul> <li>Caters to the Jewish community</li> <li>Based in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs</li> <li>Provides care in medical emergencies before the arrival of an ambulance</li> <li>24/7 emergency number: 02 9371 2222</li> <li>https://www.hatzolah.com.au/</li> </ul>
Hayat Line- Mission of Hope	<ul> <li>Crisis support line and case management service designed for those experiencing personal distress from Muslim or culturally diverse communities.</li> <li>1300 993 398 Monday-Friday 9am-5pm</li> <li>https://missionofhope.org.au/hayat-line/</li> </ul>
Jewish House	<ul> <li>24/7 crisis line number: 1300 544 357</li> <li>In house counselling and meditation run by their Rabbi 0293860770</li> <li>reception@jewishhouse.org.au</li> <li>Jewish House: What's On</li> </ul>
The SHIFA Project	<ul> <li>Offers psycho-spiritual support for Muslims affected by the crises in Palestine and Gaza and resources for healing</li> <li>Free telehealth and in-person Psychological Counselling is available with no referral needed</li> <li>Fill out the "Contact Us" form at the end of the webpage to request a consultation; <a href="Shifa">Shifa</a> (shifaproject.org.au)</li> </ul>
United Resources for Ukrainians in Australia	<ul> <li>Offers practical supports for Ukrainians</li> <li>https://ukrainians.org.au/receive-support/</li> </ul>

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