



7. Young people

Issues

As Queensland's multicultural society expands, the number of young people from CALD communities will increase. Young people generally experience a number of issues and barriers to social, economic and political participation such as:

- the need for access to education, training and workforce opportunities
- transport disadvantage
- legal issues
- family conflict
- sexual health issues
- housing and accommodation issues
- the impacts of technology and social networking
- social isolation and peer group pressures
- mental health issues
- racism and discrimination and cultural conflict (generational and between different groups of young people at a community level).

Solutions

1. Improve the cultural competency of agencies (specialised and generic) that work with young people.
2. Improve access to youth specific employment, education, workforce and language opportunities.
3. Develop models of outreach that identify, support, train and employ peer leaders/mentors.
4. Research effective models for supporting young CALD communities to access and sustain housing, employment, training and other life opportunities.
5. Develop grass roots ending-racism campaigns that build capacity at a local level to address racism and its impacts on young people.
6. Develop and replicate successful models of education that engage young CALD people in school and other types of training.
7. Set targets for school retention levels among CALD young people with associated programs to provide flexible programs of learning.