

The potential for sport and recreation programs and organizations to address significant issues impacting on the well being of migrant and refugee young people is of great value to all communities. Sport and recreation as a site for facilitating increased social participation, social inclusion and wellbeing for migrant and refugee young people will be the focus of this workshop. Particular attention will be paid to newly arrived youth as they are vulnerable to additional discrimination and exclusion.

CMYI will present learnings from more than 10 years of policy, practice and research into working with sport and recreation as a 'site' for sector and capacity building, supporting the development of resources and increasing social inclusion outcomes for migrant and refugee young people. Policy and research activities have also suggested positive directions for development of better resources and practice for sporting organizations.

CMYI has found that much of the sport and recreation sector can be disjointed, under skilled and under resourced when it comes to networking and sharing resources. Supporting the sector to use skills and resources more effectively is vital. Allowing for specific cultural differences around what can be classified as sport or recreation is an example of where some positive changes can be made

This session will highlight a range of programs where positive outcomes for newly arrived young people have been achieved enabling greater access to and participation in sport and recreation activities and organizations; in particular the facilitation of social and personal networks, relationship building with peers and families as well as connecting with the broader community of services and support agencies able to meet their health and wellbeing needs.