

# NATIONAL COMMUNITY HUBS PROGRAM MID-YEAR UPDATE 2019



## WHAT ARE COMMUNITY HUBS?

Community hubs are welcoming places where migrant and refugee families, particularly mothers with young children, come to connect, share, and learn.

“Education is a big thing for me. I like to learn... learning makes me feel confident. When I learn, I feel like no-one can stop me.”

- Mother, Hume Community hub

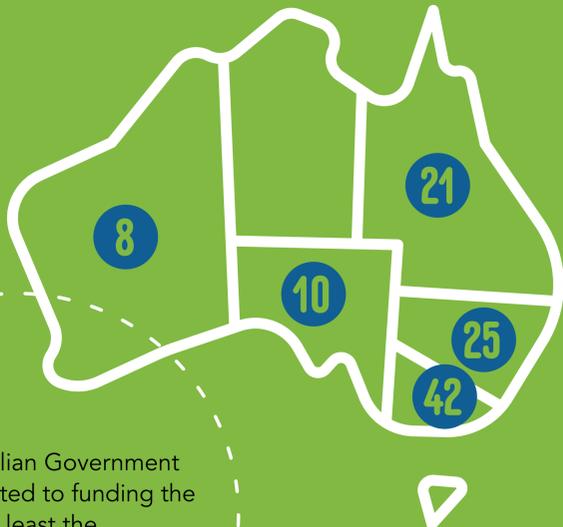
Based in primary schools (state, catholic and independent), community hubs serve as gateways to connect families with each other, with their school and with existing services. Hubs build communities through engagement, early childhood services, English conversation support, and pathways to volunteering, training and employment.

## OUR GROWING NETWORK

106 HUBS IN 2020

There are currently **74 HUBS** in Australia.

In April 2019, the Australian Government announced funding for **32 NEW HUBS** that will open next year, bringing our total to **106 HUBS**



The Australian Government has committed to funding the hubs for at least the **NEXT FOUR YEARS**

## WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 2019



**3,986** families engaged with **74 HUBS**



and attended activities **200,678** times.



**176** individuals found jobs as a result of connecting with a hub.



## for CHILDREN



Children accessed **playgroups and early years sessions** **41,205** times.



Children accessed **language and literacy programs** **10,172** times.

With the support from **Uniting and Communities for Children (Hume)** we are working to develop better resources and training tools for hub leaders and playgroup facilitators; improving access and quality of playgroups across the hubs network.

## for ADULTS

Many adults first come to hubs with their children, but eventually find that hubs also address their own needs, from access to exercise classes, cooking and sewing, or just somewhere for a cup of tea, through to all important access to English and skills training.



Adults attended **training classes** **4,528** times.



**45** hubs were able to support women with childminding.



Hubs employed **23** women as childminders

Thanks to the **Office for Women** more women are able to access classes to improve English or gain new skills which helps build confidence when seeking employment.

Hubs are helping more women practice and learn English. Thanks to funding from the Federal Government, hubs right across the network have been able to run English conversation classes. We have seen improvements in women's confidence speaking and reading English, and in looking for work.



Adults attended **English language and conversation classes** **23,518** times

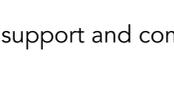
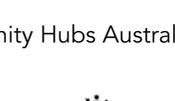


Hubs provided **12,521** volunteering opportunities.

## VOLUNTEERING

These opportunities not only support the work of the hubs, but importantly contribute to developing skills, building confidence and social cohesion, and supporting local communities.

Community Hubs Australia acknowledges the ongoing support and commitment of our funding partners.



Community Hubs Australia is thankful for the commitment and contribution of each school and community centre we work with. These achievements would not have been possible without them.

We are grateful for the contribution made by each of our partners – from our support agencies in each local government area where hubs operate through to individual partnerships that support the work of hubs in local communities.

To find out more about Community Hubs Australia visit:

[www.communityhubs.org.au](http://www.communityhubs.org.au) or call **03 8614 3430**

