

VIETNAMESE AUSTRALIAN WELFARE ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC. – VAWA



HIỆP HỘI AN SINH XÃ HỘI VIỆT ÚC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



36th ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Vietnamese Australian Welfare Association of NSW Inc. www.vawasydney.org.au

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PROGRAM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

On: Friday 17.10.2025

At: Fairfield Youth & Community Centre,
Fairfield NSW 2165

10:00 – 10:30: Reception & Registration

10:30: - Vietnamese & Australian National Anthems, Minute of Silence

- Welcome, Acknowledgement & Introduction: Mr Toan Nguyen, MC
- Presentation of Annual Report: MC
- Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous AGM 2024: MC
- President's Report: Mr Hoang Diep
- Treasurer's Report: Mr Minh Tran, acting Treasurer.
- Appointment of *OZ Business Services Pty Ltd* to be the auditor of VAWA
- Mr Tri Vo: State MP member for Cabramatta
- Election of Management Committee 2025-2027: Declare of vacancy, Returning Officer, nominations, acceptances, announce a new management committee.
- Lunch

VAWA'S Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: 19th September 2024

Time Commenced: 10:00am - 01:00pm

Location: Crystal Palace 219 Canley Vale Rd, Canley Heights, NSW 2166

Chairperson: Mr Toan Nguyen External Vice President

Minutes: Mr Thong Trinh Secretary

The meeting started with the Australian National anthems, Vietnamese National anthems and a minute of silence; followed by welcomed, Acknowledgement of the country and introduction by Mr Toan Nguyen, MC.

Toan Nguyen

2. Reviewed of the previous AGM minutes

20.09.2023

Mr Toan Nguyen presented the AGM Report and confirmation of minutes AGM 2023.

Moved: Mr Minh Tran

Seconded: Mr Hoang Diep

3. President Report: Mr Hoang Diep

Presidents reported delivered by Mr Hoang Diep, President of VAWA. Mr Hoang Diep expressed his appreciation to everyone and acknowledged valuable financial support from Department of Community & Justice. He also praised VAWA's outstanding achievements in delivering services & activities to the vulnerable children, young people, and their families. Mr Hoang Diep also expressed his sincere thanks to attendees from both Government and non-government agencies, the contribution of the Management Committee members, staff, and volunteers.

Launch of VAWA's Website & Domestic & Family Violence Projects.

3.1 Treasure Report: Mr. Minh Tran

Minh Tran reported the Profit & Loss Statement for the financial year end 30/06/2024

	2024	2023
Total Income:	\$ 151,646	\$ 157,788
Total Expenditure:	\$ 149,124	\$ 169,603
Surplus/Deficit:	\$ 4968	\$ 8849

Minh Tran report Consolidated Balance Sheet on 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
Total Income:	\$ 191,565	\$ 184,253
Total Expenditure:	\$ 14,432	\$ 12088
Net Assets:	\$ 177,133	\$ 172,165
Total Equity:	\$ 177,133	\$ 172,165

Minh Tran reported appoint OZ *Business* 3.2 Project Coordinator 's Reports: Ms Hanh Tran

3.3 Guess Speaker: Ms Dai Le MP, Federal Member for Fowler

3.4 Guess Speaker: Mr Walter Robinson OAM, President of Cabra-Vale Diggers & Ms Shayne Ann O's Leary, Community Group Partnership Manager, Cabra-Vale Diggers.

3.5 Guess Speaker: Ms Kerri Scott: Commissioning & Planning Officer, Dept. of Community Justice, South-Western Sydney district.

Services Pty Ltd to be the auditor of VAWA

Hanh Tran shared insights on the difficulties encountered throughout her program, highlighting the unique challenges of supporting the CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) community.

She expressed a hope that funders might consider increasing financial support for VAWA, allowing expanded resources and services tailored to the needs of the CALD community.

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Ms Dai Le had shared her speech about issue of herself facing with the community thought about her. The funder had shared about the DFV funding support. Kerri Scott introduced her role with the Department of Communities and Justice and shared that her work with VAWA began in 2023.

3.6 Celebration:

3.7 Entertainment:

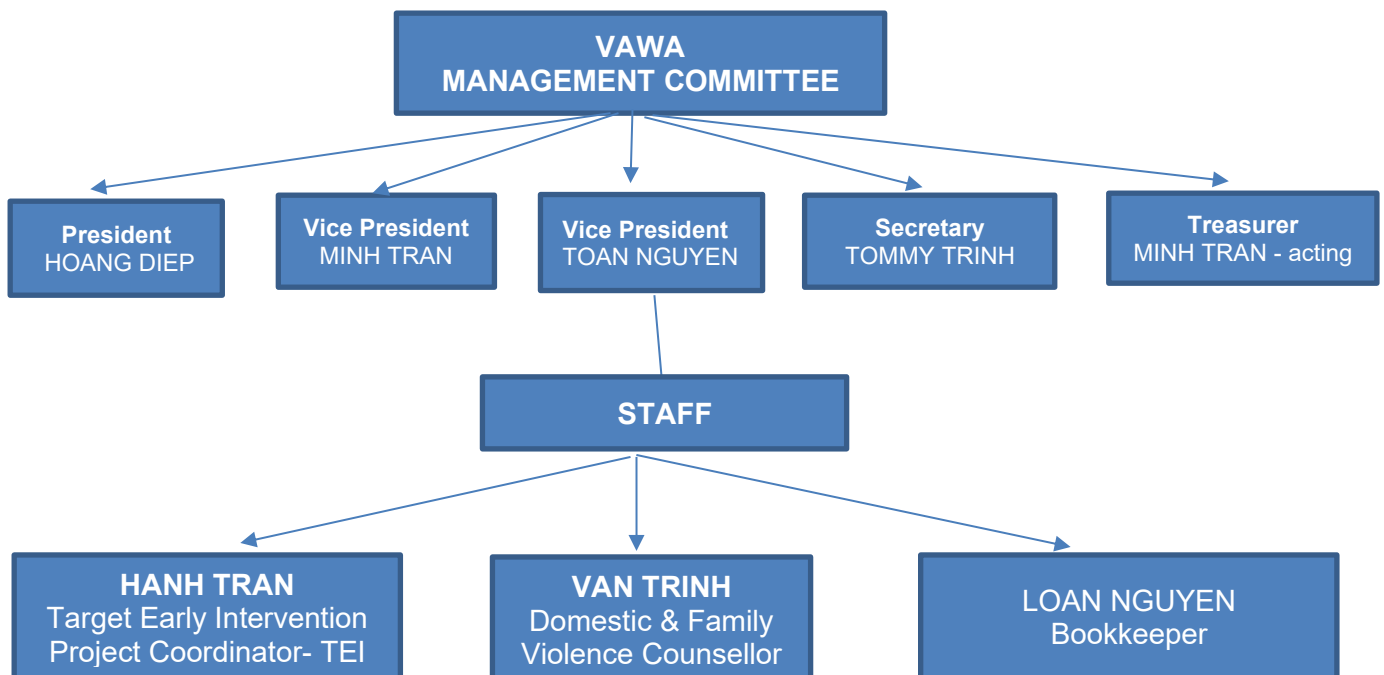
MC Toan Nguyen and Mr Hoang Diep invited all Former Presidents, MC and Volunteer to come up celebration VAWA 35th Anniversary.

Yoga group performance

Leader Yoga group invited guests to join the activity

Singing together with guests

4. The Meeting concluded at 13:00 on the same day



President's Report

It is my great honour to be part of the Vietnamese Australian Welfare Association (VAWA). First, I would like to welcome you all to our 36th Annual General Meeting and it's great to see you all today.

It is with great pleasure that I present this year's President's report for the Vietnamese Australian Welfare Association (VAWA) of NSW. This year has been a remarkable one, filled with achievements, challenges and continued dedication to our community's wellbeing.

Over the past twelve months, we applied the OWN IT Cervical Screening project with Federation of Ethnic Communities Council (FECCA), the submission was successful, and the project was successfully completed. We submitted two applications to the ClubGrant for the domestic and family violence and problem gambling projects; both projects were supported by Cabravale Club Resort, St Johns Park Bowling and Marconi Clubs. We also applied the community development grant with Fairfield City Council, and it was successful. Furthermore, we applied for a multicultural grant to purchase technology and a resuscitate machine, life saver equipment for the organisation and it was successful. These accomplishments would not have been possible without the hard work and commitment of both staff and the Management Committee members.

Despite the ongoing challenges pose by insufficient of funding and human resources, we have maintained on delivering meaningful services to the community. Our programs have reached the target number set out by the funding bodies, making the positive impacts in areas such as families and welfare, domestic and family violence, health and wellbeing.

In the past two years, we have restructured the operations of service delivery, and we are able to better serve the community.

Looking ahead, we are excited to share the upcoming problem gambling project, funded by Cabravale Club Resort, aimed at assisting Vietnamese clients and their families. We also aim to strengthen our organisation and better serve our community's needs. We remain committed to transparency, collaboration, and sustainability in all our efforts. We look forward to a positive and impactful future, where our continued efforts bring lasting benefits to those we serve, and where the expansion of our services allows us to reach and support even more individuals in need.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the current Management Committee members, Mr Minh Tran, Mr Toan Nguyen, and Mr Tommy Trinh, for their professional experiences and contributions to the association. I want to thank our staff and the volunteers for the great work that you have done for the organisation. Your contributions, support are invaluable, and together we are making a difference.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to thank you Mr Matthew Harden, Operations manager of CORE Community Services for your office space and IT support to VAWA. Your support is highly valued by us. Thank you for your continued trust and support to VAWA.

Thank you to the representatives from the Fairfield Club Grant Committee, especially to the Board Members of Cabravale Club Resort, St Johns Park Bowling Club and Marconi club, for supporting the Domestic Family Violence and Problem Gambling projects. Your support is helping us to provide the essential services to the Vietnamese community.

In closing, thank you all for your attendance. I wish everyone a wonderful day, and we look forward to your continuing support of VAWA.

Management Committee 2023-2025

President: Mr Hoang Diep
Vice President, Internal: Mr Minh Tran
Vice President, External: Mr Toan Nguyen
Secretary: Mr Tommy Trinh
Treasurer: Mr Minh Tran (Acting)

Staff

Project Coordinator: Ms Hanh Tran
Domestic & Family Violence Counsellor Ms Bich Van Trinh
Bookkeeper: Ms Thi Minh Loan Nguyen

Volunteers:

1. Ms Thi Minh Thu Nguyen: office and even duty (Fri)
2. Ms Anh Tuyet Le: office and even duty (Thur)
3. Ms Thao Phuong Bui: VIP Peer Support Group (Sat)
4. Ms Thi My Le Nguyen: VIP Peer Support Group (Sat)
5. Ms Anna Diep: Workshop/even duty
6. Ms Jenny Le: Restore Connection / Working parent group (Sat)
7. Ms Hien Thi Xuan Pham = Restore Connection / Working parent group (Sat)
8. Ms Thi Hang Tran: Healthy lifestyle & event duty (Tues)
9. Ms Thi Thu Tran Le: Healthy lifestyle (Tues)
10. Ms Anh Nguyet Le: Sunflower (Monday)

Hoang Diep President





Celebrate 50 years of Vietnamese Australians settlement at Kiribilli House, Sydney





Vietnamese Community 50th year Celebration & recognition, at NSW Parliament House



Fairfield Council Community Grant Presentation

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Treasurer's Report

Presented by Mr. Minh Tran, Acting Treasurer

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATION

In our opinion, the attached Financial Report is properly drawn up to reflect a true and fair view for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Organisation: VAWA NSW Inc.

Auditor's Name: Khuong Xuan Duong

Professional Qualification: MIPA # 109428

Auditor's Signature:



Company Name: OZ Business Services Pty Ltd

Address: Lvl. 8 – 25 Restwell Street Bankstown NSW 2200

Contact Number: M. 0412 813 104

Email address: kxd.ozb@gmail.com

Date: 30 September, 2025

Vietnamese-Australian Welfare Association Inc

**Profit & Loss Statement
For the Year Ended 30 June 2025**

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Income		
Operating Grants - Department of Communities and Justice	152,306	146,801
Operating Grants - Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia	25,000	
Operating Grants - Fairfield City Council	4,000	
Operating Grants - Carers Week Grant	455	
Operating Grants - Cabra-Vale Diggers Club	51,832	
Program Income		1,364
Interest Received	3,883	3,481
Total Income	237,476	151,646
Expenditure		
Communities Networking & Events	3,472	5,828
Auditor's Remuneration	1,000	900
Advertising	355	1,065
Fair Trading Fees	56	49
Membership fee	298	86
Subscription (MYOB)	1,538	1,484
Insurance	2,608	4,808
AGM, Conference / Meeting Expenses	984	7,707
Computer Expense		7,212
Program Costs	12,876	32,278
Printing	3,060	3,395
Stationery	24	3,463
Postage		8
Rent	5,069	11,155
IT, Printer & Maintenance	250	8,319
Rounding Variances	1 -	2
Wages & Salaries	125,151	47,324
Superannuation Expense	14,185	5,194
Workers Compensation Insurance	5,387	3,466
Annual Leave Expense	1,293	2,371
Annual Leave Loading Expense	226	415
Long Service Leave Expense	2,051	739
Staff Training		600
Staff Amenities	1,413	
Police Check/WWC Check	63	
Telephone/Internet	331	1,258
Stall Hiring/Hall hire	1,371	
Incentive for participants	2,900	
Staffing Cost	809	
Projection promotion	2,677	
Project Management		
Total Expenditure	189,446	149,124
Other Income		
WC Insurance, AL & ALL Adjustment	3,248	2,446
Surplus / (Deficit)	51,278	4,968

[Handwritten Signature]

OZ BUSINESS SERVICES PTY LTD
ACCOUNTANTS & AUDITORS
ABN 44 124 737 597
PO BOX 138 GORDON NSW 2072

Vietnamese-Australian Welfare Association Inc

**Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2025**

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Current assets		
Cash at Bank - Westpac 409797	159,843	100,197
Term Deposit - Westpac	95,251	91,368
Prepayment		
Total Assets	255,095	191,565
 Current Liabilities		
GST Payable	5,082	193
Superannuation Payable	3,931	3,937
PAYG Withholding	6,265	5,679
SS Super	6,000	
Provision for Annual Leave	1,293	2,371
Provision for Annual Leave Loading	226	415
Total Current Liabilities	22,797	12,595
 Long-Term Liabilities		
Provision for Long Service Leave	3,888	1,837
Total Long-Term Liabilities	3,888	1,837
 Total Liabilities	26,685	14,432
 Net Assets	228,410	177,133
 Equity		
Provision for Equipment	47,171	47,171
Retained Earnings	129,962	124,994
Current Year Earnings	51,278	4,968
Total Equity	228,410	177,133



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ABN 16 466 185 083

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
INCOME			
Operating Grants	3		
Department of Communities and Justice		152,306	146,801
Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia		25,000	
Fairfield City Council		4,000	
Carers Week Grant		455	
Operating Grants - Cabra-Vale Diggers Club		51,832	
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Computer Expense			7,212
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Projection promotion		2,677	
Project Management			
Total Expenditure		189,446	149,124
Other Income			
WC Insurance, AL & ALL Adjustment	4	3,248	2,446
Surplus / (Deficit)		51,278	4,968

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

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[Signature]
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Project Report

Targeted Earlier Intervention (TEI) – Community Connection

Reporting Period: July 2024 – Jun 2025

Prepared by: Hanh Tran, Project Coordinator

The program was funded by the Department of Communities and Justice and provides a wide variety of support to Vietnamese children, young people, families, and communities living in Canterbury—Bankstown and Fairfield Local Government Areas.

Program Activity 1 – Community Connection

This activity provides direct support through:

- Drop-in / Face-to-face consultations
- Phone-based assistance
- Online information and referrals

Support Areas Include:

- Centrelink, housing, financial hardship, legal aid, and welfare services
- Family relationships, gambling, alcohol and drug issues, domestic violence
- Citizenship, passport, and birth certificate applications
- Disability support and carer services
- School enrolment and education navigation

Coordinates monthly information sessions for:

- Parent Support Group (Bankstown)
- Care Giving Support Group (CGSG)

These sessions feature guest speakers and service providers who deliver practical guidance on topics relevant to:

- Parents and carers and foster care of individuals with disabilities
- Broader Vietnamese community members seeking support

Partnerships and Collaboration

The program is delivered in collaboration with the following organizations:

- The CORE Community Services
- Brightside Foundation
- Vietnamese Community in Australia – NSW Chapter (VCA)
- Asian Women at Work (AWatW)
- South Western Sydney LHD Health Promotion Services
- Anglicare
- Parent Pathway / Work skills Australia – Employment and Community Services
- Metro Assist
- Ethnic Community Services Cooperative (ECCCi)
- Inclusive and Diverse Communities Inc
- Settlement Services International (SSI)
- Transcultural Mental Health Centre
- Vietnamese Buddhist Youth Association (VBYA)
- Community and Cultural Connections

These partnerships have enabled VAWA to deliver high-quality, culturally appropriate services and ensure that Vietnamese families are connected to the resources they need.

Individual Client Outcomes - Overview

Note: The client outcomes in this report are calculated at the 'service type' level, rather than program activity. This is so you can measure the impact of the specific service types you conduct. This means the information and results in this report may differ to other outcomes reports.

Filter by Activity

- TEI - Community Centres
- TEI - Community Connections
- TEI - Community Support
- TEI - Targeted Support

Filter by Service Type

- Community Engagement
- Education and Skills training
- Facilitate Employment Pathways
- Information/advice/referral

Filter by Outlet

- TEI Bankstown LGA
- TEI Fairfield LGA
- TEI 2826-21
- TEI - Community Centres 2021-22

Filter by Outcome domain

- Age appropriate development
- Changed behaviours
- Changed knowledge and access to h...
- Changed skills

Individual clients with sessions

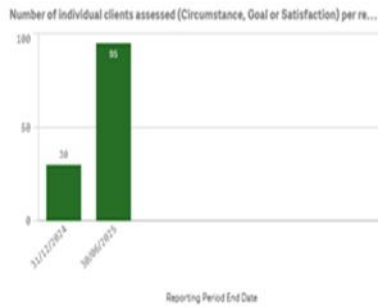
183

Individual clients assessed

102 55.7% of all

Individual clients partially assessed

61 33.3% of all



Circumstances

Individual clients assessed

66 36.1% of all

Average shift from earliest to l...

0.2

Goals

Individual clients assessed

57 31.1% of all

Average shift from earliest to l...

0.6

Satisfaction

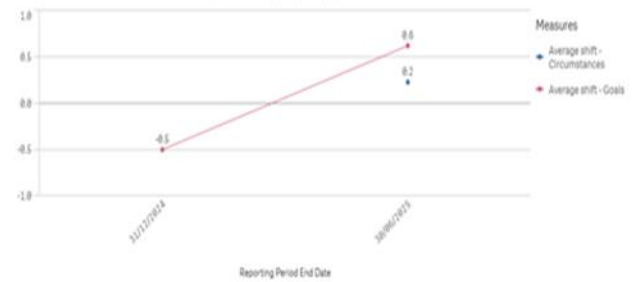
Individual clients assessed

87 47.5% of all

Average SCORE

5.0

Average shift between latest and it's earliest paired SCORE per reporting period



Overview of Client Numbers

Filter by Outlet

- TEI Bankstown LGA
- TEI Fairfield LGA

Filter by Client LGA

- Canterbury-Bankstown
- Cumberland

Filter by Indigenous status

- No
- Null

Filter by age group (5 year intervals)

- 0 to 4
- 5 to 9

Filter by age at session

- 3
- 4

Filter by reason for seeking assist...

- Age appropriate development
- Community participation & networks

Individual Clients

183

Unidentified Clients

423

Support Persons

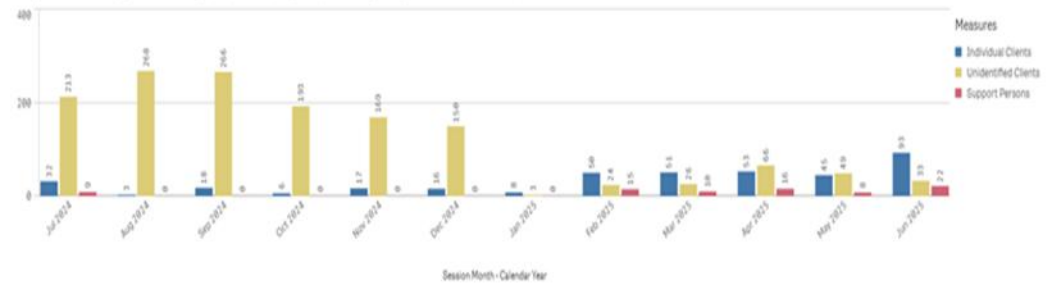
40

Clients and Support Persons per Activity and service type

Activity	Q	Service Type	Q	Individual Clients	Unidentified Clients	Combined total Individual and Unidentified Clients	Support Persons
Totals				183	423	606	40
TEI - Community Centres		Community Engagement		11	5	16	0
TEI - Community Centres		Information/advice/referral		7	5	12	0
TEI - Community Centres		Social participation		7	132	139	0
TEI - Community Connections		Community Engagement		3	0	3	0
TEI - Community Connections		Education and Skills training		14	8	22	0
TEI - Community Connections		Information/advice/referral		89	105	194	1
TEI - Community Connections		Social participation		23	30	53	0
TEI - Community Support		Education and Skills training		18	77	95	18
TEI - Community Support		Facilitate Employment Pathways		13	43	56	0
TEI - Community Support		Information/advice/referral		17	33	50	5
TEI - Community Support		Social participation		76	20	96	24

Clients and Support Persons per month

Note: By default, this chart displays the current reporting period plus two reporting periods prior. When any filter is applied, this default behavior is superseded.



Overview of Single Community SCOREs

This sheet displays information about single Community SCOREs. This is where a session's SCORE is treated as a stand-alone assessment and no pairing occurs. When a session has two Community SCOREs, only the latest SCORE is included. The earlier SCORE is ignored. Single Community SCOREs is different to the 'un-paired Community SCORE' method found in other reports and results may differ.

Filter by Activity

TEI - Community Centres
TEI - Community Connections
TEI - Community Support
TEI - Targeted Support

Filter by Outlet

TEI Bankstown LGA
TEI Fairfield LGA
TEI 2020-21
TEI - Community Centres 2021-22
TEI - Community Connections 22-23

Filter by Outlet LGA

Canterbury-Bankstown
Fairfield

Sessions with Community SC...

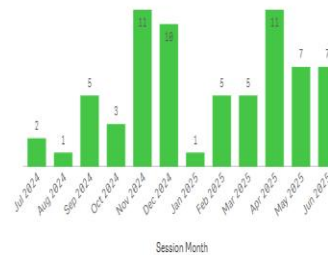
68

Average Community SCORE

4.7

Number of sessions with Community SCOREs

Note: By default, this chart displays the current reporting period plus one reporting period prior. When any filter is applied, this default behaviour is superseded.

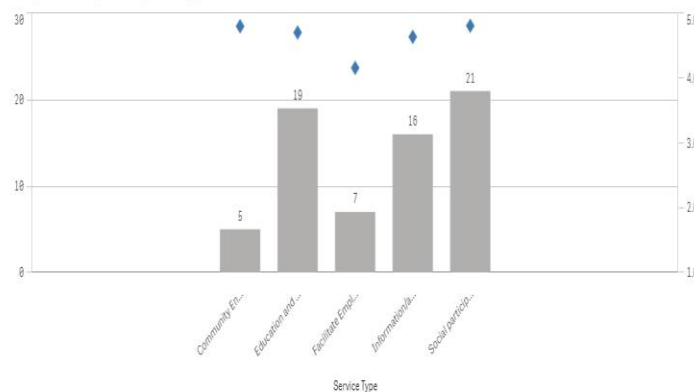


Average Community SCORE

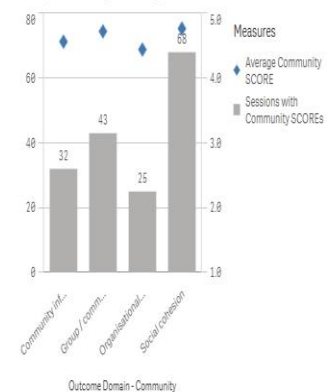
Note: By default, this chart displays the current reporting period plus one reporting period prior. When any filter is applied, this default behaviour is superseded.



Average Community SCOREs by service type



Average Community SCOREs by Outcome domain



Lunar New Year Celebration – February 2025

Honouring Vietnamese Culture with Traditional Games and Festivities

In February 2025, VAWA hosted a joyful Lunar New Year celebration that brought together Vietnamese families, elders, youth, and carers across Canterbury–Bankstown and Fairfield. The event featured traditional games such as “bầu cua cá cọp”, “Cờ cá ngựa”, and lucky red envelope challenges, creating a festive atmosphere filled with laughter, cultural pride, and intergenerational connection.

Highlights included:

- Interactive cultural games that sparked nostalgia and community bonding
- Lion dance performances and Vietnamese music
- Storytelling and craft stations for children
- Shared meals featuring festive dishes and sweets
- Wellness booths and service info tables to support families during the new year

The celebration fostered joy, belonging, and cultural continuity — reminding participants that community is at the heart of every new beginning.



Family & Domestic Violence Education Sessions: Labour Exploitation and Domestic Servitude

In partnership with Metro Assist and Settlement Services International (SSI) These targeted community education sessions addressed the intersection of family and domestic violence with labour exploitation and domestic servitude — issues that disproportionately affect migrant and refugee communities. Delivered in collaboration with Metro Assist and SSI, the

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sessions provided culturally sensitive information, legal insights, and support pathways for individuals at risk or affected.

Key outcomes included:

- Increased awareness of hidden forms of exploitation within domestic settings
- Empowerment of participants to identify and respond to coercive control and servitude
- Strengthened referral networks between community members and support services
- Enhanced collaboration across agencies to address systemic vulnerabilities



Care Giving Support Group – Monthly Meeting & Training Session

In partnership with Brightside Foundation and Transcultural Mental Health Centre

This monthly gathering offers a safe, supportive space for caregivers within the Vietnamese community to connect, share experiences, and build resilience. Each session includes tailored training and information designed to strengthen caregiving capacity and wellbeing.

Through collaboration with Brightside Foundation and Transcultural Mental Health, participants gain:

- Practical tools for managing stress, burnout, and emotional fatigue
- Culturally responsive mental health education and support
- Peer connection and shared strategies for navigating caregiving challenges
- Access to service pathways and professional guidance

The program fosters empowerment, inclusion, and holistic wellbeing for those caring for loved ones across generations.





Family Fun Day: In partnership with Inclusive and Diverse Communities Inc As part of VAWA's school holiday programming, a vibrant Families Fun Day was held in April 2025, offering a joyful and inclusive experience for Vietnamese families and the wider community.

- Interactive games and activities for children.
- Opportunities for families to connect, relax, and celebrate together.
- Music therapy

The day fostered community spirit, strengthened family bonds, and promoted social inclusion in a fun and welcoming environment.



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Sports Carnival – Community Partnership

VAWA proudly partnered with the Vietnamese Buddhist Youth Association to deliver a vibrant Sports Carnival, celebrating community spirit, physical wellbeing, and cultural connection. The event brought together children, youth, families, and volunteers for a day of inclusive sports activities, teamwork, and fun. It provided a safe and welcoming space for participants to:

- Build confidence through physical activity
- Strengthen social bonds across generations
- Promote health, harmony, and community pride

This partnership highlights the power of collaboration in creating meaningful experiences for Vietnamese families and fostering a sense of belonging.





Citizenship’s workshop

In partnership with CORE Community Services to support facilitated a Citizenship Workshop to support Vietnamese parents in understanding the Australian citizenship process. The workshop was delivered in face-to-face, ensuring accessibility for diverse participants.

Key topics included:

- Eligibility and application requirements
- Rights and responsibilities of Australian citizens
- Interview and test preparation
- Support services and translated resources

The workshop empowered participants with practical knowledge, reduced barriers to participation, and fostered a stronger sense of belonging within the broader Australian community.



Healthy Lifestyle Group

Established over a year ago, VAWA’s Healthy Lifestyle Group has grown to include 30–35 regular participants, meeting every Tuesday during the school term. The group provides a safe, welcoming space for community members to: Improve their physical and mental wellbeing - social connections - self-care. Facilitated by two dedicated volunteers, the program promotes the philosophy of “A healthy mind in a healthy body”, and has become a cherished weekly ritual for many.

Community Feedback

- Members have expressed a strong desire for the program to continue long-term, citing its positive impact on family and community wellbeing.
- The activity encourages participants to maintain good health, contributing to a better quality of life

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Program Activity 2: Community Centre - Social Participation

The Sunflower Warriors – Cancer Support Group

The Sunflower Warriors Group, supported by VAWA volunteers, was established in June 2024 to provide a safe and nurturing space for Vietnamese parents, grandparents, and carers who are living with cancer or supporting loved ones through treatment.

Meeting fortnightly on Mondays, the group engages in a variety of healing and uplifting activities, including:

- Art therapy
- Music therapy
- Gentle exercises such as yoga and tai chi
- Information sessions with guest speakers on treatment, medication, nutrition, and emotional wellbeing
- Group excursions and peer sharing

The group began with just a few members and has now grown to around 20 participants. Each member brings a unique story of courage, hardship, and resilience in the face of an incurable illness. Many have expressed feelings of fear, sadness, and uncertainty about the future.

Despite these challenges, members say that VAWA has created a vital opportunity for people with shared experiences to come together in a safe and supportive environment. Through connection and compassion, they uplift one another—physically, emotionally, and spiritually. The group has become a place to learn from peers, exchange valuable insights, and find joy in community.



Restore Connection – Community Wellness Group- for working parent.

Restore Connection offers a safe and welcoming space for working parents, carers, and volunteers to participate in a social wellness group focused on gentle movement and emotional wellbeing. Activities include Yoga, Qigong, and light exercises, designed to help participants reconnect with themselves and others, build social connections, and improve overall health. The group meets every Saturday during the school term at Fairfield Tennis Club House, with around 15 regular participants. It is facilitated by two dedicated volunteers who help create a supportive and inclusive environment.

This program provides a valuable opportunity for members to engage in activities they may have missed during the busy workweek—offering time to relax, recharge, and connect with others in similar life situations.

Community Kitchen Program – Module 2 (10 Weeks)

In partnership with Brightside Foundation, South West Sydney Local Health District- Health Promotion (SWSLHD - HP) running Community Kitchen Module 2. The group leaders facilitate a training series that delves deeper into key topics such as food security, nutrition, budget-friendly meal preparation, food label reading, and kitchen hygiene. Sessions are thoughtfully tailored to meet the specific needs and interests of participants, including dedicated content on healthy eating for carers.

Each small group is led by two trained facilitators, guiding participants through hands-on cooking activities with a focus on vegetarian meals. The program encourages practical learning, peer support, and skill-building in a culturally inclusive and supportive environment.



The Bankstown Parent Support Group was partnership with Vietnamese Community in Australian and St Brendan Catholic School, the group meets once per school term face to face and online, offering parents a welcoming space to receive updates, share experiences, and stay informed about VAWA's programs and services. Each session includes:

- Distribution of the VAWA program calendar
- Updates on current and upcoming activities
- Support with registering families and children for programs such as:

Mental Health First Course - Homework Help - Sports Hub - School holiday activities.

These gatherings help families stay connected, access valuable resources, and engage with the wider Vietnamese community in Bankstown.



In Partnership with Metro Assist, to facilitated a Road Safety Workshop offered in both face-to-face and online formats, allowing participants to access important safety information in a way that suited their needs and schedules. The hybrid delivery helped broaden community reach and promote safer practices across different age groups.

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Program Activity 3: Community Support, Education and Skills Training

Homework Help Program – Semester 2, 2024

During Semester 2 of 2024, VAWA's Homework Help Program was delivered at Bankstown PCYC every Wednesday during the school term. The program supported 24 primary school-aged children (ages 7–13) across two classes, running for a total of 16 sessions.

This initiative provided a safe and supportive environment where students received free, teacher-assisted homework support. A pre-registration assessment was conducted to understand each child's learning needs, followed by regular reassessments to monitor progress and tailor support accordingly.

The program offered working families much-needed academic assistance and helped children build confidence in their learning. Due to limited funding, the program concluded in December 2024.



VIP's Peer Support Group

The VIP's Peer Support Group provides meaningful peer support to nine children with special needs and their parents, creating a safe and inclusive space for connection, creativity, and wellbeing.

The group is led by VAWA parents, volunteers, and an NDIS provider, with two qualified instructors facilitating group therapy and dance sessions every Saturday at Fairfield Tennis Club Hall.

In addition to weekly activities, the group proudly participated in the Toshine Concert, showcasing their talents and celebrating community inclusion through performance.

This program fosters emotional support, social engagement, and joyful expression for both children and their families.





Parents play a vital role in supporting their children with special needs to engage in group activities. Their involvement includes hands-on assistance, emotional encouragement, and helping children feel safe and confident while participating.

Vietnamese Mental Health First Aid Course

VAWA delivered a standard two-day Mental Health First Aid course designed for adults aged 18 and over, with a focus on supporting the Vietnamese community in Bankstown.

Over 20 parents and volunteers participated in the training, learning how to provide initial support to adults experiencing or developing mental health challenges. The course covered practical skills, early intervention strategies, and ways to respond with empathy and confidence.

By building participants' capacity to recognise and respond to mental health issues, the program empowered families and volunteers to:

- Support others in times of need
- Strengthen community wellbeing
- Foster safer, more inclusive workplaces and social environments

This initiative plays a vital role in promoting mental health awareness and reducing stigma within the Vietnamese community.





Sport Hub

In Semester 2 of 2024, VAWA delivered a free tennis skills training program for children aged 6 to 16, held on Sundays during the school term at Condell Park. The program offered three structured classes, accommodating 20–30 participants with varying skill levels and abilities. Sport Hub provided a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment where children could build confidence, improve physical health, and develop new skills through age-appropriate coaching. Each class was tailored to meet the needs of participants, ensuring that every child felt welcome and encouraged to grow at their own pace.

Due to limited funding, the program concluded in December 2024.



Christmas Gifts and Hampers for Families

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support from Ethnic Community Services Cooperative and The CORE Community, who provided Christmas presents and hampers to support Vietnamese families and children during the hard time.

Their contribution brought joy, comfort, and a sense of belonging to many households, helping families feel cared for and connected during a special time of year.

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TEI Service Type: Facilitate Employment Pathways

Community Kitchen Program – Module 1 (3 Weeks) Foundations of a Community Kitchen, In partnership with Brightside Foundation & SWSLHD Health Promotion provided The Community Kitchen Program, is designed to build the capacity of local organisations and community leader to address food security challenges and support priority populations in South West Sydney.

Over three weeks, participants learned how to set up and run a community kitchen using a practical, user-friendly starter kit. The training provided:

- Guidance on logistics, planning, implementation, and evaluation
- Skills to become confident community group leaders
- Strategies to create inclusive, locally run kitchen initiatives

A total of 10 members successfully completed the training, and are now equipped to lead their own small community kitchens—bringing food, connection, and empowerment to their neighbourhoods





Participants have gained the confidence to share their cooking skills and personal experiences at community events, contributing to broader engagement and cultural exchange.

Volunteer Support Program

VAWA supports up to 12 active volunteers from the local Vietnamese community, providing them with individual support, induction, supervision, training, and ongoing program guidance.

These volunteers play a vital role in facilitating local community groups and activities, including:

- 🌻 Sunflower Support Group
- 🧑🏻‍🦺 Healthy Lifestyle Group
- 🌞 VIP's Peer Support Group
- 🌿 Restore Connection Group

In addition, two volunteers work weekly at the VAWA office, assisting with general welfare services for the Vietnamese community.

Thanks to their experience and training, three volunteers have successfully transitioned into paid roles as individual support workers, contributing further to community wellbeing and inclusion.





Networking & Interagency Collaboration

VAWA actively participates in a range of interagency networks and partnerships to strengthen community connections, share resources, and advocate for Vietnamese families across South West Sydney. Key collaborations include:

- Vietnamese Sydney Worker Interagency
- Canterbury Bankstown Multicultural Interagency
- Fairfield Child and Family Interagency
- Fairfield Emerging Communities Action Partnership
- Fairfield Multicultural Interagency
- Bilingual Group Leader Network

These partnerships enhance VAWA's ability to deliver culturally responsive programs, stay informed about local needs, contribute to coordinated service delivery for priority populations.



Healthy living at home event



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Community Development Grant 2025



Bilingual Group Leader



Working with South West Sydney Local Health District for discussions around health concerns within the Vietnamese Community



Health Education workshop partnership with Vietnamese Community in Australia NSW Chapter.



Refugees Week in Fairfield



Acknowledgments

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support and collaboration of our funding bodies DCJ and partner organizations and volunteers, whose contributions have been essential to the success of VAWA's community programs.

Their commitment to empowering Vietnamese families, promoting wellbeing and inclusion, and strengthening local capacity has enabled us to deliver meaningful services across Canterbury–Bankstown and Fairfield.

Together, we continue to build a more connected, resilient, and culturally responsive community. I sincerely thank the VAWA Management Committee for their ongoing support, leadership, and dedication. Their guidance has been essential in sustaining our programs, empowering volunteers, and delivering culturally responsive services to Vietnamese families across Canterbury–Bankstown–Fairfield. Their commitment continues to inspire our work, strengthen our impact in the community.



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Domestic Family Violence Counselling Program

The Domestic Family Violence (DFV) Counselling service commenced on 28 October 2024 and has now been in operation for 10.5 months.

Client Overview:

- Total clients supported: 32
- Each client received 6 core domestic violence counselling sessions with the option of up to two additional elective sessions if needed.”
- Sessions were delivered primarily in-person, with telehealth options provided when necessary to ensure accessibility and continuity of support.

Client Demographics:

- Predominantly males and born in Vietnam
- Limited English proficiency
- Employment in manual labour sectors (e.g., handyman, factory work)
- Common indicators of childhood trauma and absence of positive parenting role models

Families typically face financial hardship, high mortgage stress, and limited access to supportive networks or recreational outlets beyond local clubs, or other gambling venues.

Counselling Topics Covered:

- Legal Orientation (Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders and Community Based Orders)
- Cultural differences (Western and Vietnamese perspectives and cultural factors influencing domestic violence)
- Cycle of violence
- Coercive control
- Anger management strategies
- Relationship therapy including Interpersonal communication styles, cultural expectations on roles and decision making, Employment readiness, Reintegration back to society issues.
- The impact of drugs, alcohol, and gambling on family relationships and domestic violence (elective session)
- Problem-focused counselling (elective session)

Completion Rate: 90+ % completion rates with majority participants shown signs of personal improvement both in term of understanding the consequences of violence behaviour as well as the commitment to control their anger/temper by variety therapeutic techniques such as: systematic desensitization, deep breathing technique, positive thinking, positive communication styles, understanding the cultural differences between the traditional Vietnamese believes in the responsibility and roles of partners within their family unit i.e. husband/wife/defector/children and extended family members.

OWNIT Project: Cervical Screening Self-Collection (Feb–May 2025)

Funding Partners:

- Federation of Ethnic Community Council of Australia
- Department of Health and Aged Care

Served as Project Coordinator for VAWA's OWNIT initiative, which aimed to promote cervical screening self-collection among Vietnamese-speaking women.

Key Activities:

- Hosted an OWNIT information stall at the TET Festival, Fairfield Showground
- Ran a Vietnamese-language naming competition for the project
- Delivered a series of educational sessions in Vietnamese to raise awareness of self-collection benefits



Community Feedback & Issues Identified:

- Misconception that self-collection can be done at home rather than in clinical settings
- Confusion caused by the sample lip gloss applicator, which resembled the screening kit and led to misunderstandings about its use

Community Partnerships & Resource Distribution, OWNIT materials (in Arabic, Chinese, English, and Vietnamese) were distributed to various networking and partnership channels such as:

- OWNIT landing page: <https://vawasydney.org.au/ownit>
- SBS Vietnamese radio (print and audio media)
- Facebook and Vietnamese media monitoring for feedback



Grant Submissions & Future Planning: Prepared funding applications for the following initiatives:

- DFV Counselling continuation
- Problem Gambling support (NSW Club)
- Diversity Small Grant (Dementia Australia)
- Senior Week 2026 (Department of Communities and Justice)

Acknowledgements

I extend my sincere gratitude to the VAWA Management Committee for their ongoing support and supervision. Special thanks to Mr. Minh Tran for his close collaboration and commitment to delivering high-quality, culturally responsive counselling and information services to Vietnamese-speaking community and all unpaid volunteers who contributes to the profound successful of the cervical screening self-collection project – Ownit as well as the financial support from Cabravale Club Resort, Federation of Ethnic Community Council of Australia who administer of the funding from Department of Health and Aging.

Warm regards,

Van B. Trinh
DFV Counsellor / Project Manager (OWNIT)
Cabramatta – 15 September 2025

Attendance and Apology List

Name	Organisation
Amy Kayrouz	MTC Future Ready
Amy Phan	SSI
Anh Do	SVWI member
Anh Linh Pham	President of VWA
Anh Tuyet Le	Volunteer
Ann Han Nguyen	SWSLHD - Bilingual Community Educator
Anna Diep	Volunteer
Anthony Hilder	Catholic Care
Basim Shamaon	NSF Navitas
Benjamin Chahola	SWSLHD
Benjamin Ondu	Odyssey Team leader of Multicultural Transition Program
Betty Lu	SWSLHD
Bich Thuy Pham	Asian Women at Work
Buli Camara	Core Community Services
Chanboramy (Ramy) Var	TMHC - Coordinator CALD Carer Support Program
Dang Khoa Nguyen	SWSLHD
Donna Shaw	Manager, Fairfield Community Corrections
Hang Trinh	SVWI member
Hanh Tran	VAWA Staff
Hien Dang	SVWI member
Hien Le	SVWI member
Hoang Diep	VAWA MC
Huy Vu	President of Vietnamese Australian Tennis Association - VATA
Jacqueline Nguyen	SVWI member – Sarina Russo / Parent Pathway
Jade Vu	DCJ
Jamie Quynh Trang Nguyen	Core Community Services Cabramatta
Jenny Le	SWSLHD
Jenny Nguyen / Thu Giang Nana	SVWI member
John Abdel-Ahad	Community Corrections
Khanh An Nguyen	DCJ
Khuong Duong	OZ Business Service, Accounting & Auditing
Kim Huynh	SVWI member
Kim Trang Ha	SWSLHD
Kylee Adams	Cabravale Club Resort
Lianne Ngo	One Door Mental Health
Linh Tran	Asian Women at Work
Mai Dam	SVWI member
Martin Ha	Justice Support Centre
Matthew Harden	Operations Manager of Core Community Services
Minh Loan Nguyen	VAWA Staff
Minh Thanh Vo	VATA
Minh Tran	VAWA MC
My Linh Nguyen	Community Worker
Nancy Ha Lee	DCJ
Nhan Tran	Director of Brightside Foundation Community Engagement
Phuoc Lanh Lu	Community Member
Quynh Nhu Dinh	VATA
Quynh Pham	Work Skills
Quynh Truong	Community Liaison Officer, Cabramatta Police
Sang Tran	Community First Step
Tam Nguyen	CASS
Teguh Syahbahar	Manager of Odyssey Multicultural Program
Thao Bui	Volunteer
Thi Hien Le	Community worker/SVWI member
Thi Kim Nga TO	Oakdene House Foundation, Fairfield

Thi My Le Nguyen	Volunteer
Thi Nguyen	Justice Support Centre
Thuy Vinh Nguyen	VWA
Tien Nguyen	SWSLHD
Toan Nguyen	VAWA MC
Tommy Trinh	VAWA MC
Tri D Vo	NSW Legislative Assembly Representing Cabramatta for the Labor Party
Tracy Nguyen	VATA
Tu Hieu Trung Nguyen	President of Lien Hiep Language School
Tu Le	Marrickville Legal Centre. Strategic Partnerships Manager
Van Trinh	VAWA Staff
Vi Pham	Executive Officer, Community & Cultural Connection - CCCI
Ying Fan	Royal NSW
Zahanna Batyrkulova	MTC
Zen Tea Lounge Foundation	Zen Tea Lounge Foundation
Apologies	
Dai Le	Federal MP
Frank Carbone	Mayor of Fairfield City Council
Jennie Siriphan	Arzu CPSO - Multicultural Service Officer
Kerri Scott CPO	DCJ
Lizzie Nguyen	Alive Care Australia - Support Coordinator
Tam Nguyen	SWSLHD
Truc Le	SVWI member
Vi Nguyen	Odyssey

Appreciation to all Partnerships



Communities and Justice

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and pay respects to Elders past and present.
I also acknowledge all the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff working with NSW Government at this time.

www.fairfieldcity.nsw.gov.au
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We acknowledge the Cabrogal of the Darug Nation who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land.
We also pay our respect to the Elders past, present and emerging of the Darug Nation.

Aged Care Services
Disability Care Services
Children's Services
Youth Services
Multicultural Communities



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and work and pay our respects to the elders past and present.



ASIAN WOMEN AT WORK INC
일 하는 아 시 안 여 성
亞 裔 女 工 互 助 會
PHỤ NỮ Á CHÂU NỖ LÀNH VIỆC



Transcultural Mental Health Centre; Ethnic Community Services Co-operative; Vietnamese Budish Youth Association (VBYA); Metro Assist.

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