

Edmund Rice Centre WA gratefully acknowledges the support of our sponsors:

Christian Brothers Oceania Province  
Edmund Rice Foundation Australia  
The Smith Family  
Department of Health  
Parker Family Foundation  
Department of Social Services  
Crown Resorts Foundation  
Department of Local Government,  
Sport and Cultural Industries  
Annie Millicent Foundation  
Lotterywest  
Healthway – Go for 2 & 5  
Edith Cowan University  
WA Police  
Private Donors



## Keep in Touch and Follow us on Social Media



@ercwa



@erc\_wa



@ercwa



If you would like to support our work, your donation will be most gratefully accepted. Your donation will enable people from refugee and Indigenous backgrounds to continue to benefit from our educational programs. The Edmund Rice Centre Western Australia is a registered charity.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. As we are required to issue a tax receipt for all donations, please send an email to [info@ercwa.org.au](mailto:info@ercwa.org.au) when you donate, including your *full name, postal address, email address and donation amount*. You may also choose to make your donation to a specific project.

Please make cheques payable to "Edmund Rice Centre"

Donation via Website, Paypal and Direct Deposit

[www.ercwa.org.au](http://www.ercwa.org.au)

Account name: Edmund Rice Centre Mirrabooka Inc  
BSB: 066 183 Account number: 1009 1408

Do you want to receive our e-news?  
Email us at [info@ercwa.org.au](mailto:info@ercwa.org.au)

P: (08) 9440 0625  
F: (08) 9207 1178  
[info@ercwa.org.au](mailto:info@ercwa.org.au)

18 Brewer Place Mirrabooka WA 6061  
PO Box 613 Mirrabooka WA 6941  
[www.ercwa.org.au](http://www.ercwa.org.au)

# Newsletter

Issue 50

APRIL 2018



From the Director

## Remembrance and Hope

On April 25 I attended my local Anzac Day service to pay respect and to remember all Australians who served and died in war and on operational service. It is one of Australia's most important national occasions. It marks the anniversary of the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War. As well, I always take time to reflect on the number of Australians currently serving in the military, some on active service, in different parts of the world.

But Anzac Day goes beyond the anniversary of the landing on Gallipoli in 1915. It is certainly a day to think about the freedoms that have been won. However, I also pause and think about the futility of war and how little we have learnt from history.

Every day at the Edmund Rice Centre we interact with hundreds of people from a refugee background who may be attending our English classes, our computer studies, our driving courses, youth development programs or other activities. As refugees, many have fled vicious long-running wars and the most appalling persecution.

So, while I take time on Anzac Day to think about the thousands of Australians who have been involved in war or are still on active service- many in peace-keeping roles. Not a day goes by when I do not think about other places of conflict that have, and still, affect the lives of others around the world. I meet so many people from a refugee background whose families have been impacted by war. I know some of their stories, but many are too traumatised to speak of their past lives in countries as diverse as Afghanistan, Iran, Syria or Burma.

They thank God that they are safe and live in a free country like Australia. At the Centre, we are continually inspired by the work and vision of Edmund Rice who showed people that life could be lived differently and that human relationships could be better.

He wanted peace, justice and an inclusive society for everyone. I am sure that's what we all want.



*You can help us to save money!*

Do you want to receive our e-news?  
Email us at [info@ercwa.org.au](mailto:info@ercwa.org.au)

P: (08) 9440 0625  
F: (08) 9207 1178  
[info@ercwa.org.au](mailto:info@ercwa.org.au)

18 Brewer Place Mirrabooka WA 6061  
PO Box 613 Mirrabooka WA 6941  
[www.ercwa.org.au](http://www.ercwa.org.au)



## Thornlie Integrated Services Centre

Thornlie Integrated Services Centre (ISC) provide culturally appropriate and holistic services to assist children who attend the Intensive English Centre (IEC) at Thornlie Primary School and their families. The services are available for families who have arrived on Humanitarian Visas or approved family stream visa.

We have a Multicultural Community Liaison Worker and an admin assistant that work alongside a senior social worker and a nurse employed by the Department of Health. As a team we support clients' physical, social and emotional health while addressing settlement and transition issues. We also facilitate a number of groups for parents and children.



One of our groups is STEPS. It is a group for students enrolled in Thornlie IEC aged 8 to 12 and have been in Australia for at least 6 months. The group runs at Thornlie Community Centre. STEPS is a place where the students can come together out of school hours to participate in activities, crafts, art and sport in a fun and friendly environment. The aim of the program is to help build student's self-confidence, talk openly, learn new games, get to know the neighbourhood and being safe in the community, and of course having fun!

We will keep you up to date of all the happenings of these groups and other stories at the ISC in future articles.

## Over Three Hundred attend our Youth Week Sports Festival

We celebrated Youth Week by hosting a Community Sports Festival at Butterworth Park in Koondoola. We presented five different sports for young people and their parents to try: soccer, basketball, volleyball, tennis and wrestling.

In addition, we held an arts and crafts stall. The animal farm and face painting also proved popular. Our Youth Leaders also planned and hosted healthy life-style stand and discussions.

The Festival showcased how we operate our Local Parks Program which aims to increase the participation of young people from a refugee, migrant and Aboriginal background in active recreation.

The program is funded by the Department of Communities, Department of Sport and Recreation and Healthway.



## We Score with the Matildas!

Participants in our Common Goal program for girls were thrilled to attend the recent Matildas versus Thailand game of Soccer in Perth.

Our Common Goal program continues to grow with strong interest from young female players. It is based on our highly successful local parks program and operates as a Soccer Academy located next to a Mosque, which is open to all young people. The Academy already has several male teams who are active in local competitions.

The girls cheered on the Matildas to a 5-1 victory. Later they received posters signed by some of their favourite Matilda players.

The program is funded by the WA Police and the Department of Sport and recreation. Prior to the game, Superintendent Kate Taylor visited the girls and presented an inspirational talk about women's ability to achieve their goals to the group. The girls came away inspired from the Game.



## A Wrinkle in Time

Our creative Arts Project gives young people the opportunity to express themselves through various creative activities including art, dance, media and design.



We partnered with a passionate entrepreneur Joan Dellavalle; the creative mind behind Ebony & Ivory Hair and Beauty Salon who seeks to empower young people. Joan raised \$3,000 to send two hundred children and young people to a private screening of the movie "A Wrinkle in Time". Twenty of our participants attended this screening. The partnership with Joan also resulted in organizing a book reading event of "A Wrinkle in Time" and we had sixty participants attending at the Edmund Rice Centre.

Follow us on Instagram for the latest news and events @ercyouthleaders

Do you want to receive our e-news? Email us at [info@ercwa.org.au](mailto:info@ercwa.org.au)

P: (08) 9440 0625  
F: (08) 9207 1178  
info@ercwa.org.au

18 Brewer Place Mirrabooka WA 6061  
PO Box 613 Mirrabooka WA 6941  
www.ercwa.org.au

Do you want to receive our e-news? Email us at [info@ercwa.org.au](mailto:info@ercwa.org.au)

P: (08) 9440 0625  
F: (08) 9207 1178  
info@ercwa.org.au

18 Brewer Place Mirrabooka WA 6061  
PO Box 613 Mirrabooka WA 6941  
www.ercwa.org.au