

## MEDIA RELEASE

June 25, 2021

# Family, learning and fun in Stawell

STAWELL Neighbourhood House will open its doors to the town's emerging South Sudanese community for a day of family learning and fun this weekend.

Wimmera Development Association's Settlement Services will host the day, providing road safety training to adults as well as children's activities and opportunities to learn more about local services.

WDA has worked with community leader Ayuen Kur throughout the pandemic to provide information about COVID-19 to South Sudanese families; and worked with Stawell Tuition to support students and parents with study and digital literacy support.

WDA will deliver a 'Road Safety for New Arrivals' program to adults, as part of a VicRoads Community Grants Program, while children are entertained.

WDA Settlement Services manager Sara Barron said after a year of disrupted services due to the COVID-19 pandemic – including uncertainty about this latest opportunity to bring people together after the June lockdown – she was delighted to offer people the chance to learn and mingle, in person.

"This is such an exciting day for us," she said.

"Many of the families moved to area at the end of 2019 shortly before lockdown, so weren't able to benefit from other services Stawell Neighbourhood House has to offer.

"WDA hasn't been able to deliver some of the face-to-face training we had planned to, either.

"We decided a family day would be a great way to combine both."

Victoria Police community officers, health providers and Job Advocates will be present to share news about local available supports and services, and build community cohesion.

The event runs from 10am to 5pm on Saturday, June 26.

**ENDS**

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