

MEDIA RELEASE

29 May, 2018

CatholicCare TRAMS in Community Consultation for the Future

CatholicCare Social Services TRAMS (Toowoomba Refugee and Migrant Service) has been a beacon for the refugee and migrant population in Toowoomba and surrounds for over 13 years. After settling into a new space in the heart of Toowoomba, TRAMS is now looking to the future at new and exciting ways they can expand and improve the service they offer.

Building on the Toowoomba community's commitment to being a Refugee Welcome Zone, this Wednesday (30/5/18) TRAMS has called together community leaders, key stakeholders, service providers and staff for what is hoped to be a productive workshop in developing a way forward for the service for the next 5 years.

Through this workshop, CatholicCare Social Services Director, Mrs Kate Venables, hopes to get a real sense of how TRAMS can collaborate with a wide range of organisations to further support the migrant and refugee community. "I am pleased to say we already provide such a vital and worthwhile service. We're really seeking to build on that in new and creative ways."

"From this workshop we would like to see a collaborative framework grow and give direction on future services and initiatives that will really benefit the refugee and migrant community, and by proxy, the Toowoomba community at large."

Key areas CatholicCare Social Services TRAMS will be looking to collaborate with likeminded organisations to grow employment and education opportunities, build exciting new programs for youth, mentor and coach emerging community leaders, strengthen families and developing new ways to make a difference through pro bono and volunteer work.

"I feel really excited to see what we might achieve by working together as a community through TRAMS, taking this step forward and praying for a great outcome for us, for our current and future clients," said Mrs Venables.

Words: 293

PAGE 1 of 2

MEDIA ALERT: Kate Venables, Director of CatholicCare Social Services will be available for interview and further comment.

What: Working Together with TRAMS Workshop

When: 9:00am-12:00pm, Wednesday 30 May 2018

Where: The Shrine, 502 Ruthven St, Toowoomba – TRAMS is located next to the carpark towards the rear of the property.

For information regarding CatholicCare Social Services, contact: Kate Venables Director CatholicCare Social Services Mobile: 0427 210 298 Email: <u>kvenables@catholiccare.services</u>

Media Contact for the Catholic Diocese of Toowoomba: Ingrid McTaggart Ph: 07 4632 4277 Mobile: 0429 489 748 Email: <u>imctaggart@twb.catholic.org.au</u>

PAGE 2 of 2