



24 April 2023

SydWest Multicultural Services and Participate Australia join forces to benefit the community.

Participate Australia proudly announces that we are officially joining forces and merging with SydWest Multicultural Services to offer a broader range of services across Greater Western Sydney, the Inner West, and the City of Sydney.

SydWest Multicultural Services, a leading organisation on cultural diversity offers flexible and integrated services across the life cycle for refugees and migrants; support for seniors; women and families; youth; housing support; and settlement services, will officially partner with Participate Australia from the 1st of May 2023.

Participate Australia brings deep knowledge, skills, and expertise in disability services into SydWest's operations to help complement and grow services into Western Sydney, where the uptake of disability services by individuals from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CALD) remains low. In turn, the CALD expertise of SydWest and the strength in culturally appropriate aged care will assist the increasing number of seniors seeking care in the Inner West, whose first language is not English.

This decision by both Boards marks a new chapter in our combined 80-year history and sends a strong message to our sector. Our strengths need to be celebrated and leveraged, with the community always at heart of what we do. For both organisations to continue to provide valued services and to grow and prosper and meet the needs of the community, it was important to join forces. This partnership will provide continuity of front-line services along with the opportunity to improve the customer experience and grow the capabilities of our dedicated workforces.

While both organisations have merged, they will retain their presence in their respective communities and keep strengthening their partnerships in their new areas of operation. SydWest's offices remain in Blacktown, Mt. Druitt, and Rouse Hill. Participate Australia will remain in Croydon, with the Croydon Centre reopening in May 2023.

April 30 marks Angela Tsoukatos' last day as Participate Australia's CEO. Angela Tsoukatos said, "I am pleased to remain on the Board of Directors of SydWest to help strengthen the organisation's governing body and ensure Participate Australia's participants' interests are always at the forefront of the decisions we make. I am also delighted that Thom Calma will remain with Participate Australia in the role of Executive Manager, Disability and Business Growth. Thom will report to Elfa Moraitakis, CEO, SydWest Multicultural Services."

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Angela Tsoukatos on 0412 993 705 or ceo@participateaustralia.com.au.

STATEMENT ENDS/

Participate Australia

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