



VICTORIA POLICE

Footscray Police Station Multicultural Initiatives

Leading Senior Constable Craig SPICER
Maribyrnong Community Liaison Officer

Senior Constable James RIDSDALE
Maribyrnong Youth Resource Officer





Primary Partnerships

- AMES
- Various 'Horn of Africa Community Networks'
- New Hope Foundation
- Melbourne City Mission
- Western Bulldogs Football Club (Community Branch – SpiritWest Services)
- Maribyrnong Council
- Reassurance Policing (Only LGA in Victoria with this initiative)
- Open Family
- Dept. Human Services
- **“LOCAL AND INTERNAL MEDIA”**



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Other Initiatives

- Attendance of all local Citizenship ceremonies, welcoming our new citizens.



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Presentations to Various Youth Groups

- Regular presentations conducted to local schools / Victoria University / Melbourne City Mission and AMES classes focussing on identified local issues. Eg. Road Rules / Police Powers and citizen's responsibilities.
- Benefits – general 'safety' education of CALD community and providing an understanding of Vic. law and policing.

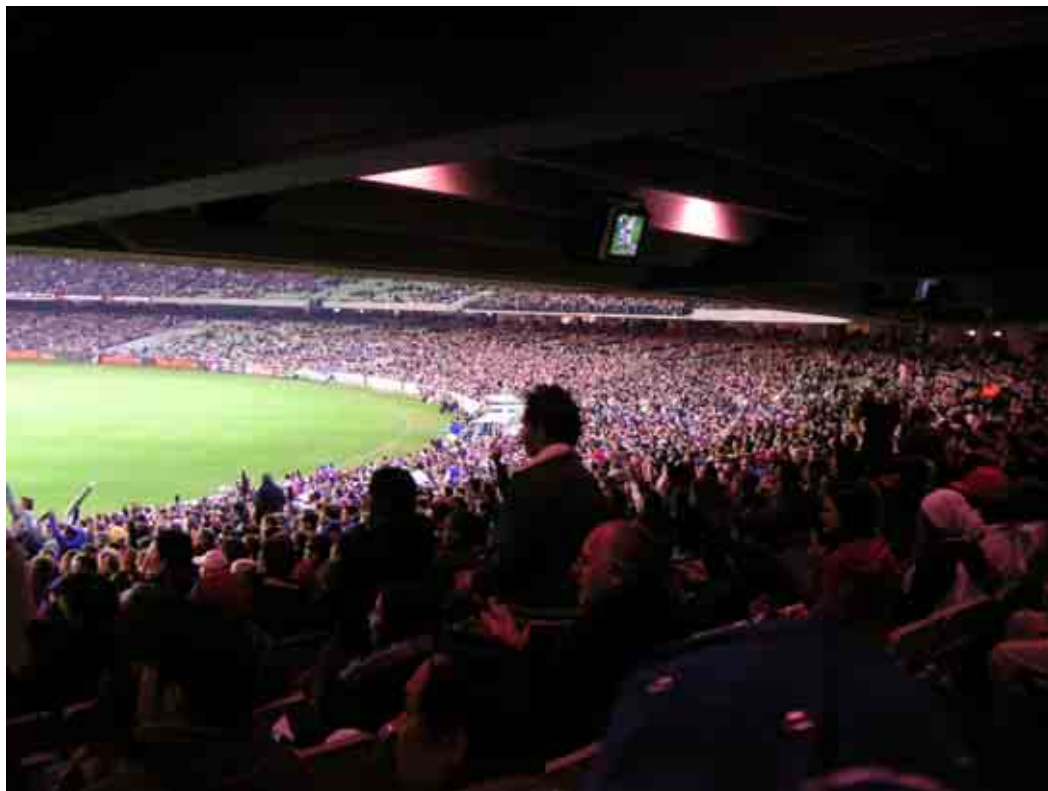




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Western Bulldogs Football Club

- ‘Footy links’ program, assisting Bulldogs Multicultural Officer with local CALD youth.
- MCG visits to Western Bulldogs Games – sponsored by the AFL and Western Bulldogs.
- Approx. 3000 youth and families (primarily local CALD youth) attending several games – escorted / entertained by police.
- Benefits – fostering positive relationships between CALD youth and police.





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High Challenge Camps

- High Challenge camps organised in partnership with DHS / Reassurance Policing Project and the local Indigenous 'Gathering Place'.
- Benefits – break down of barriers between CALD - Indigenous Youth and police.





Knife Exchange initiative

- Primary partners – 3AW, Open Family, Western Bulldogs, SIMS Metal, Security Victoria.
- Local youth encouraged to exchange knives for show bags containing Bulldogs Merchandise and AFL-Basketball and Cinema Tickets.
- Police involvement being advisory role
- Heavy coverage on local and state media





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Examples of other initiatives Cont.

- Little copper uniforms – used in media promotions with local youth focus
- Annual African Soccer Cup – played between Vic Police soccer team and combined African youth team
- Vietnamese youth soccer team playing against Vic Police soccer team
- Kenyan book donations
- Regular attendance at major festivals involving youth; Quang Minh Temple, East meets West, Braybrook Big Day Out
- Adopt a Cop program. Local primary schools adopting a local member (PCET) as a point of contact/role model (under supervision of YRO)
- Re-establishing the Footscray Blue Light Disco
- Regular use of the police bands for entertainment and the Transport Branch for transport of youth / community members to events.



IMPORTANCE OF MEDIA EXPOSURE

- The development of positive relationships with local and internal media organisations is vital with regards to publicising local station initiatives and events.
- MLO and YRO aim to have weekly exposure of positive stories and pro active measures undertaken by Footscray Police.
- Benefits – Positive police experience for the multicultural communities. Increasing the public's perception of safety, and increasing their confidence in Victoria Police – specifically Footscray / Maribyrnong LGA.



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QUESTIONS ?



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