



# The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill

Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier and Western Sydney

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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**8 July 2020**

### **APPLY FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ACTION (COMPACT) GRANTS**

A funding boost for a leading youth engagement program will inspire and empower young people to stand united against hate, extremism, fear and division.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams MP is encouraging organisations in the Castle Hill community to apply for the Community Partnership Action (COMPACT) grants program, which will support community partnerships to build social cohesion and community resilience.

“Our community has demonstrated remarkable resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic,” Mr Williams said.

“There are so many outstanding community organisations working at the grassroots engaging our young people at this difficult time.

“I’m encouraging all eligible local organisations to consider applying for this grants program. We are especially keen to see applications from regional NSW to support multicultural youth in the regions.”

Acting Minister for Multiculturalism Geoff Lee has announced \$3 million over 12 months to expand the proven Community Partnership Action (COMPACT) program, a boost on previous years.

Mr Lee said the funding comes at a crucial time following the impacts of the summer bushfires and the COVID-19 pandemic on young people.

“Community is central to our ability to overcome these shocks and young people are always at the heart of the solution,” Dr Lee said.

“Since it was established, COMPACT has reached a remarkable 40,000 young people through 24 projects involving an alliance of over 60 partner organisations.

“We are excited to see another round of innovative projects to support young people across our State to thrive and reach their best potential.”

Previous successful COMPACT projects include humanitarian and volunteering initiatives, training and awareness raising programs, art and digital storytelling



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projects, anti-racism initiatives, interfaith religious collaborations, and sport leadership programs.

The 2020-21 round of the COMPACT grants program opened on Tuesday 7 July 2020. Applications close at 5pm on Wednesday 12 August. For more information and to submit an application, see: <https://multicultural.nsw.gov.au/compact>

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