

2019 was a year when United in Diversity was trying to define itself and find its feet. We knew who we are and we are fully aware of the resources and skills we have but we need to define our path and what is our path to bring maximum benefit to the community by utilising those abilities. The year began with a review of our flagship project, Tastes of Diversity, at Greendale Centre. The center prepared a barbecue for United in Diversity and we had some amazing feedback regarding how Tastes of Diversity helped change some of the existing stereotypes about food. Members of community remarked that they realised for the first time that totally vegetarian food could be actually fulfilling.

Another consequence of ToD was the need for HACCP training within the UID membership. With the help of a grant from OMI, the HACCP training was completed at Greendale Center in February 2019. Things began to pick up pace as other LGAs came forward to support UID. City of Canning put UID in touch with Harmony Beyond Fences, a neighbourhood group. UID struck a partnership with them. At the same time, UID launched its cooking social enterprise – Kitchen of Diversity – to make UID sustainable. The Kitchen of Diversity Team got the opportunity to cook at Canning Lodge.

2019 was a year of exploration and big leaps as UID found ways to engage with the community while staying true to its values.

In March, UID was invited by Roots TV to take a place on its International Women's Day Panel.

United in Diversity launched its first Social Enterprise Kitchen of Diversity (KoD). KoD employs economically marginalised women and caters for community events. The main objective is to provide an employment avenue for the women who work in KoD while creating networks for them in the community.

During its first year KoD catered for events such as South East Multicultural Network meeting, City of Canning Refugee Week event and was supported by other community organisations such as Befriend, Richmond Wellbeing and Aus-Professional Bridge.

On 30th March, 2019 UID and Harmony Beyond Fences organised a Neighbourhood Connection evening in East Cannington Park.

United in Diversity secured funding from City of Canning for 'Canning Tastes of Diversity' which was successfully completed in April 2019.

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UID members had an opportunity to get a variety of free trainings – Hazards and Critical Control Points (HACCP training), Culturally sensitive Suicide Assist Training and Mental Health First Aid training.

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UID also began collaborating with various up and coming as well as already established thriving organisations e.g., RSL Cannington, Town Teams, Richmond Wellbeing, Gosnells Bowling Club, SongFest Inc., Multicultural Futures etc.

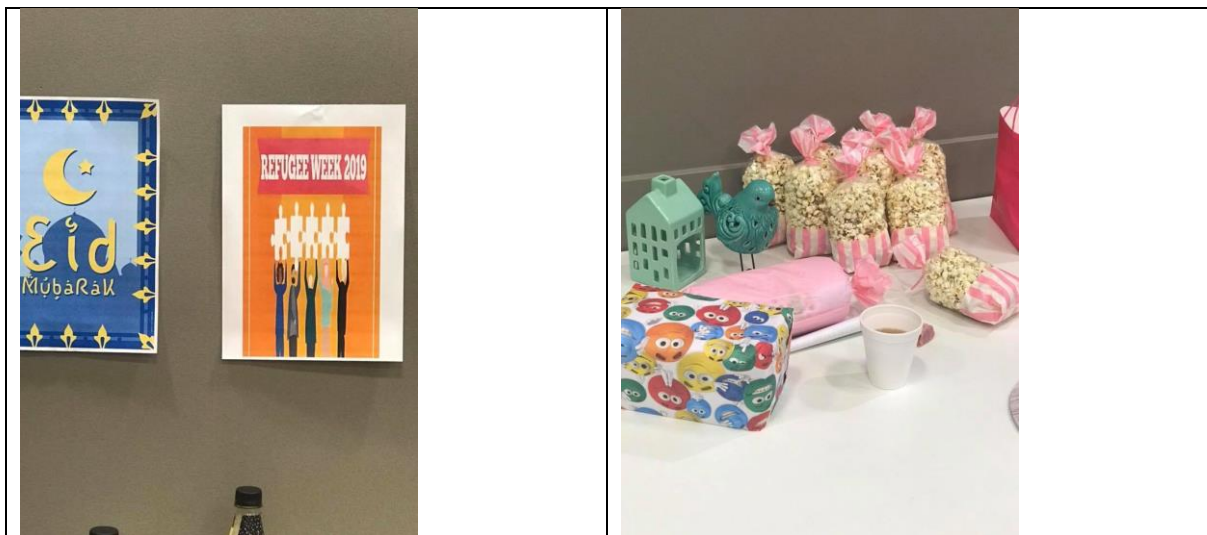
On 16th May UID showcased its social integration model at Armadale Arts Festival where attendees from Tastes of Diversity in 2018 participated in Bollywood dancing along with UID members. This event also saw the launch of Circle of Friends which concluded in 2020.

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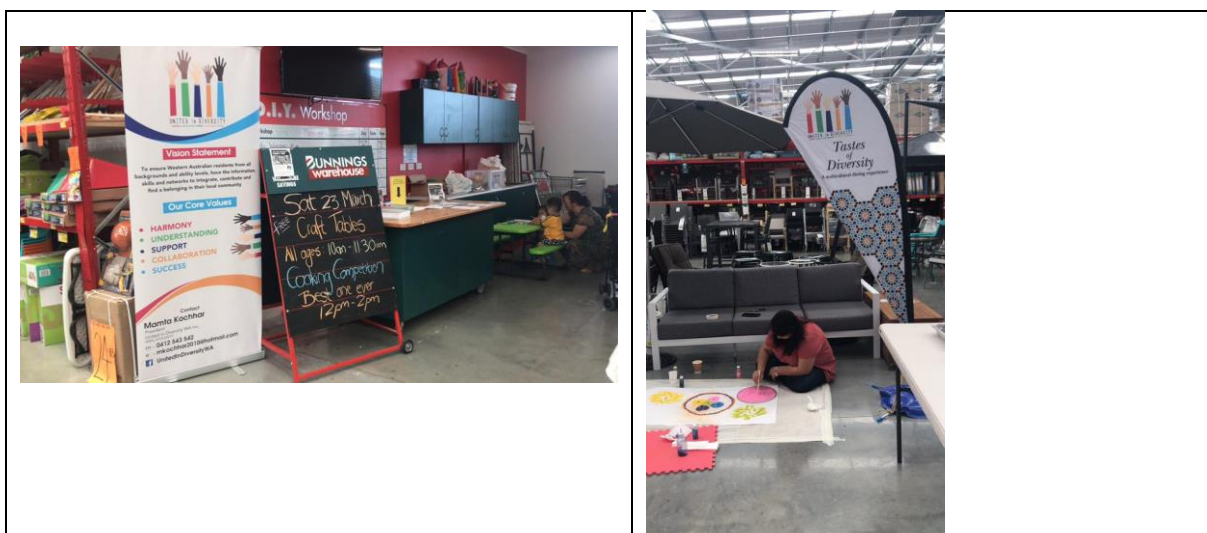
In 2019, UID also became registered with Centrelink to host job seekers undertaking voluntary work as an approved activity.

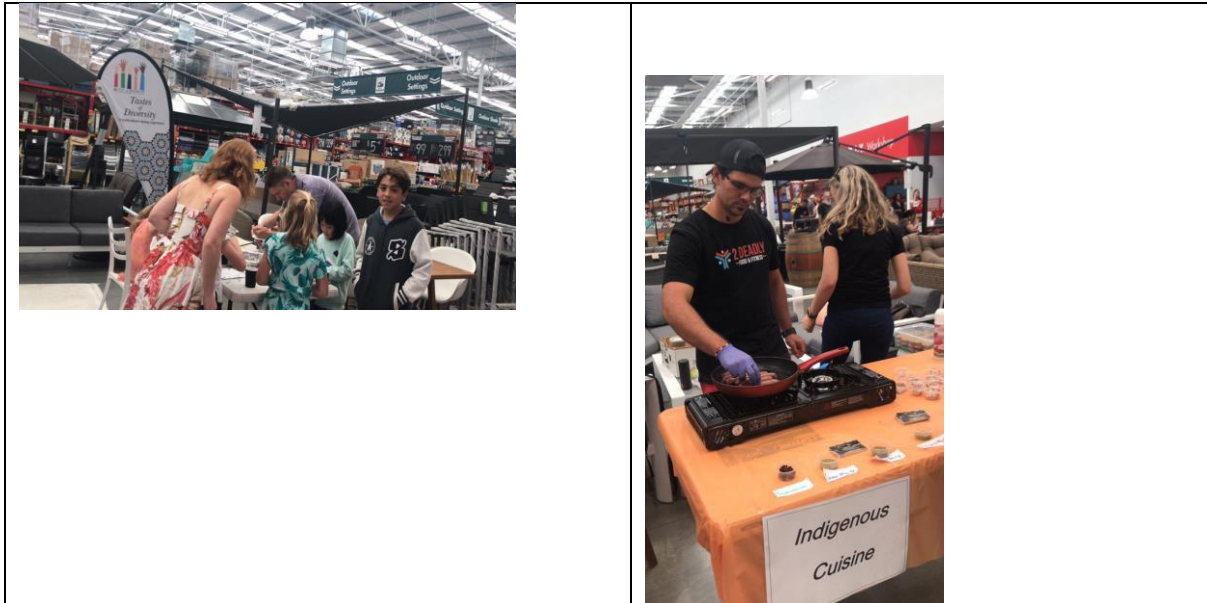
on 31st May, 2019 United in Diversity, City of Canning and Harmony Beyond Fences collaborated to host a fun, funky 'Queens Park Block Party' another community connection activity in the neighbourhood.

On 18th June, 2019 UID celebrated the Muslim festival of Eid and joined it with Baby Shower for two UID members who were soon to be mothers. UID also recognised Refugee Week at this event.



A partnership with Bunnings Warehouse for Harmony Week resulted in donation of a pantry from Bunnings for KoD. Greendale Centre which was the venue for Tastes of Diversity in 2018 became a temporary 'home' for KoD.





In July 2019, UID took TOD to Gosnells Bowling Club, a partnership that later resulted in many big projects such as Celebrate Diversity, an event to include multicultural community into Bowls and COVID Recovery project.

In October 2019, HBF and UID organised another 'Meet and Greet' for the community from East Cannington Park

On 13th October, 2019 the first Celebrate Diversity event was held at Gosnells Bowling Club. This event celebrated the diversity of Gosnells and invited members of multicultural community to have a go at the sport of Lawn Bowls.

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UID celebrated the Indian Hindu festival of lights 'Deepavali' at Batsford Way, Canning Vale on 27th October, 2019

UID continued to support other organisations such as Women of World Stage and the Greek Festival

Tastes of Diversity was concluded in Armadale and Gosnells in October 2019. UID participated in Dale Cottages Open Day at Greendale Centre on 16th November, 2019.

In August 2019, UID and Multicultural Futures started a Multicultural Enterprise Development Project with a Try, Test, Learn grant from Department of Social Services. MED Training started at Amherst Village and continued from South Metropolitan TAFE from September, 2019 till its conclusion in April 2021. The training resulted in the formation of a social enterprise – World Music Café (WMC) which launched on 21st September from Gosnells Bowling Club to coincide with Play for Change Day. World Music Café put on two more shows before concluding the year with a show in Amherst Village on 30th Nov.

United in Diversity became a member of Ethnic Communities Council of WA which is the peak body for CaLD communities in WA.

UID continued to contribute to the community and assist Edith Cowan University to translate Child Care modules of an organisation called SEWA. SEWA is an NGO in India committed to strengthening the movement of women in the informal economy by highlighting their issues at the national level and building its member organizations' capacity to empower them. The modules were to be translated from an Indian language Gujrati into English so that Edith Cowan University could collaborate with SEWA to formalise its Childcare Qualifications. UID involved Gujrati speaking AMEP students and bi-lingual community members who know Gujrati.

UID held its AGM on 19th December. This heralded a new era in UID. A new young qualified President, Neelam Wadhvani, took over. Neelam had spent all of 2019 being trained in the UID ethos as a UID volunteer and Vice President. A new committee was elected.

President – Neelam Wadhvani

Vice President – Mamta Kochhar

Secretary – Jose Cicilamma

Treasurer – Gurmayll Kaur

Member – Louise Ford

Member – Marzia Nazari

Member – Kristen Soon