

## MEDIA RELEASE

28 February 2019

### International Women's Day 2019 Blacktown Celebrates 8<sup>th</sup> March #Balance for Better

SydWest Multicultural Services is pleased to announce that they are hosting a special celebration for International Women's Day on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 from 10am** at Max Webber Function Centre, Blacktown Library, Blacktown.

The event will feature inspirational women including:

- ***Esta Paschalidis-Chilas***, Government & Member Relations Manager with Settlement Services International (SSI) will give the keynote address on *More Powerful Together*
- ***Anyier Youl***, founder of Miss Sahara, the only National Beauty Pageant for Women of African heritage in Australia, a young woman of South Sudanese background will address *Empowering young women from multicultural backgrounds*
- ***Clr Kathy Collins*** of Blacktown City Council, representing the Mayor of Blacktown, will speak briefly on the theme of #balanceforbetter
- ***Glenwood Women's Group*** to perform the Giddha, an entertaining traditional dance that they have been perfecting since forming their dance troupe in late 2018.

SydWest Multicultural Services is also pleased to announce that ***Claudia Taranto, Producer with ABC Radio National***, has kindly agreed to perform the ***MC duties*** for our event. Claudia has worked at Radio National since 1988 on a variety of programs including Life Matters, Street Stories and The Listening Room. She also taught radio production at James Cook University. Claudia enjoys the intimacy of radio and has a passion for making radio features about the kaleidoscope of ordinary life.

The event's program will feature presentations and performances, blended with group discussion activities and food. A Butterfly Wall will be produced by the guests at the event and reflecting what the women like most about themselves, part of the activities to continue to empower and inspire.

CEO of SydWest Multicultural Services, Elfa Moraitakis said:

*We are exciting to be hosting this year's event for Blacktown, where exciting new women entrepreneurs will be showcasing their offerings through food and*

*gifts during the day, part of the SydWest showcasing of our Women Taking Care of Business program.*

*We are looking forward to continuing to inspire and empower the multicultural women of the Blacktown area, to celebrating the achievements of women and the rich diversity and strengths of women in the Blacktown area.*

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For further information, contact **Vikki Hine** SydWest Multicultural Services, on Tel: (02) 9621 6633 or [vikki.hine@sydwestms.org.au](mailto:vikki.hine@sydwestms.org.au)