



# Media Release

Thursday, 2 April 2009

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## **SPECTRUM's EMPLOYMENT SERVICES MOVE FROM 1-1 TO INNOVATION IN GROUPS**

With the announcement today by the Department of Education, Employment & Workplace Relations (DEEWR) about the successful providers of the Federal Government's Employment Services Contract for 2009-12, Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre (SMRC) confirms that it has been unsuccessful as a future Employment Services Provider, but successful as an Innovation Fund panel provider. The SMRC is now one of 198 organisations nationally eligible to develop programs under this Innovation Fund. This will provide an opportunity to capitalise on the organisation's employment, training and capacity building expertise.

Post 30 June 2009, the SMRC will continue to provide on-arrival and medium term post-arrival services, immigration legal services, training courses, as well as aged care and disability, family relationship and youth programs services from its other Preston sites, as well as from its Broadmeadows and Coburg sites.

"We are, of course, disappointed that we will not be delivering Job Services Australia in this region and sad that we will be losing 48 valued employees, representing 20% of our staff, however, we are very confident that their expertise and competence positions them well to find jobs with the new providers. We congratulate the new providers and look forward to working with them collaboratively to assist their CALD jobseekers with the many culturally tailored training and support services that Spectrum can offer," said **SMRC's CEO, Ms Rosemary Kelada**.

"In the 6 years of operations, the Job Network offices have been ranked by Government, as one of the top providers in securing employment outcomes for highly disadvantaged clients in the North and North West. The Management Team and I are confident that we can build on the past 25 years of experience in providing a wide range of support services and solutions to CALD clients," explained **Ms Kelada**.

'Our successful services will continue as strong as ever. We remain in a good financial position to continue supporting the programs we have in place and to explore new ventures for the future,' said **Ms Kelada**.

**Media Contact:** Cristina Marras 0429 707 547

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