Hungarian Cultural Profile

PLEASE NOTE: *This profile provides an overview of some of the cultural information relating to the diverse groups of Hungarians who live in the Eastern Region of Melbourne. This description may not apply to all people as individual experiences may vary. However this profile can be used as a guide to some of the issues that may concern your clients. This is an update of the profile in the Home and Personal Care Kit developed by the MIC in 2004.*

Introduction:

- 83.2% of Hungary-born persons in Victoria arrived in Australia prior to 1986.
- There has been a decline in Hungary-born persons over the last decade due to the ageing of earlier migrants, the re-emigration of some Hungarians to other countries, and the lack of new arrivals (VMC 2013).

Migration:

- The older population of Hungarians immigrated to Australia post World War II as refugees under the Displaced Persons Scheme. The majority of them were male professionals aged between 20 to 29 years, many married Australian–born women.
- The second largest wave of Hungarian refugees arrived in 1956, escaping political turmoil in their home country.
- Hungarians also migrated to Australia from other countries including Romania, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia.

Local Demographics: Hungary-born residents in the Eastern Region

Local Government Area	Total Hungary-born Population	65-69 years	70-74 years	75-79 years	80 years and over	Total number of Hungary-born people aged 65 and over	People aged 65+ as a % of the Hungary-born population
City of Boroondara	232	32	28	30	80	170	73%
City of Knox	315	27	54	43	81	205	65%
City of Manningham	143	18	26	24	31	99	69%
City of Maroondah	135	19	25	7	23	74	55%
City of Monash	295	31	50	48	78	207	70%
City of Whitehorse	223	26	47	39	65	177	79%
Shire of Yarra Ranges	140	17	22	23	15	77	55%
Eastern Region	1483	163	252	207	366	1012	59%

(ABS Census 2011)

- There were 5,564 Hungary-born persons in Victoria at the last census, decreasing from 6,081 persons in 2006. This currently sits as 29.1% of Australia's total (Victorian Multicultural Commission 2013).
- The median age of the Hungary-born population is 68 years compared to 37 years for the total Victorian population (Victorian Multicultural Commission 2013).

Language: Hungarian-speaking people in the Eastern Region

Local Government Area	Total number of people speaking Hungarian at home	65-69 years	70-74 years	75-79 years	80 years and over	Total number of Hungarian speaking people aged 65 and over	Hungarian speaking people aged 65+ as a % of the Hungarian speaking population
City of Boroondara	235	19	13	17	62	111	47%
City of Knox	483	37	38	49	97	221	46%
City of Manningham	155	5	13	20	29	67	43%
City of Maroondah	151	13	21	14	14	62	41%
City of Monash	361	32	36	38	65	171	47%
City of Whitehorse	252	14	33	40	47	134	53%
Shire of Yarra Ranges	171	12	10	18	12	52	30%
Eastern Region	1808	135	176	186	333	830	46%

(ABS Census 2011)

- The main language spoken by Hungarians in Australia is Hungarian.
- Some older Hungarians may also speak German.
- 7.5% of the Hungary-born population in Victoria identified as speaking English 'not-well' and 0.6% spoke English 'not at all' (VMC, 2013).
- 33.8% of the Hungary-born population in Victoria assessed themselves as speaking English 'very well' and 24% as 'well' (VMC 2013).
- As individuals age, conditions such as dementia can contribute to a loss of English language and a reversion to the first language.

Religion:

- Roman Catholicism is the primary religion for Hungary-born people with 3,136 Hungary-born followers at the last census (VMC, 2013).
- Other larger represented religions affiliations among Hungary-born include Judaism, Presbyterian and Lutheran (VMC, 2013).

Attitudes and Issues with Ageing:

- Hungarians like to stay in their own home for as long as possible.
- Traditionally in Hungary the younger generation are expected to take care of elderly parents at home. However, in Australia, the Hungary-born population generally accepts placing elderly parents in nursing homes and other aged care facilities.

Attitudes to Disability and Mental Illness:

- Mental illness is generally stigmatised within the Hungary-born community.
- In Hungary, people with a mental illness or a disability are often institutionalised.

Customs / Values:

- The conventional family structure in Australia is the nuclear family. Traditionally the extended family was very important to Hungary-born people.
- Hungarian people believe it is important for relatives to be with a person who is dying.
- Hungarian Catholics believe it is important to have a Priest present when a person is dying.

Communication Styles:

- Hungarians have an expressive communication style.
- Hungary-born people value eye contact.
- Handshaking is generally acceptable.

Naming Conventions:

- Older Hungary-born people prefer to be addressed using their title. For example, Dr, Mr and Mrs.

Health Beliefs and Practices:

- Hungary-born people highly respect health professionals.
- A western model of health is generally accepted and well understood.
- Some Hungary-born people may not consider treatment complete without medication.

Greetings:

English Greeting	Hungarian	Closest English Pronunciation
Good Day	jó napot	YO-NA-POT
Good Morning	jó reggelt	YO-REG-GELT
Good Evening	jó estét	YO-ESH-TET
Goodbye	isten veled	ISHTEN-VALAD
Yes	igen	EE-GEN
No	nem	NEM
Thankyou	köszönöm	KUR-SUR-NURM

Key Hungarian Festivals / Significant Dates:

- Anniversary of the Revolution — *23rd of October*
- Proclamation of the Republic / Martyr's Day — *15th of March*
- Foundation Day / St Stephen's Day — *20th of August*

* For other significant dates related to religious observances, refer to the Christian and Jewish religious profiles.
* To search for exact dates of key cultural and religious events, festivals and national days for this year, visit: http://www.dss.gov.au/our-responsibilities/settlement-services/calendar-of-cultural-and-religious-dates

Local services and activities useful for Hungary-born residents in the Eastern Region

Settlement Services

Provide information, referral and casework for refugees and family migrants who arrived in the last five years.

Name	Address	Contact
Migrant Information Centre (Eastern Melbourne)	Suite 2, Town Hall Hub, 27 Bank Street, Box Hill, 3128	Ph: 9285 4888

Aged Care & Disability Support Services

Arpad Hostel

Address: 9 Garrisson Grove, Wantirna, 3152
Ph: 9801 0855
Arpad was established in 1994 to meet the needs of the older Hungarian community. The organisation offers residential accommodation with respite beds as well as independent living units.

Migrant Information Centre Aged & Disability Services

Address: Suite 2, Town Hall Hub, 27 Bank Street, Box Hill, 3128
Ph: 9275 6901 Website: http://www.miceastmelb.com.au/agedcare.htm

The Access & Support Program provides short term support to help people access aged care and other services so they can stay living at home independently. The Program provides information, referral, support and monitoring. The aged and disability team generally aims to increase access to aged care and disability services for CALD communities in the EMR through working with CALD communities to promote those services, provide information and referral and supporting organisations to provide culturally appropriate care. The team also receives funding for specific projects in this area.

Senior Citizens Groups

For more information please contact local councils or the Migrant Information Centre (Eastern Melbourne) on 9275 6905.

Name of the Club	LGA	Venue	Time / Day
Knox Hungarian Senior Citizens' Club Inc.	**Knox**	Hungarian Community Centre 760 Boronia Rd Wantirna South, 3152	10:00am – 3:00pm 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month
Nunawading Hungarian Senior Citizens' Club Inc.	**Whitehorse**	Burwood East Hall 298-336 Burwood Hwy Burwood East, 3151	10:30am – 2:00pm 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month

Other Support Services

Hungarian Community Centre, Melbourne

Address: 760 Boronia Road, Wantirna, 3152
Ph: 9801 6408 Website: http://www.hungariancentre.org.au/

The Hungarian Community Centre is a not for profit organisation providing a base for organisations and individuals to maintain their national inheritance and culture. It also endeavours to pass on the culture to future generations

Hungarian Embroiderers Circle

Address: 760 Boronia Road, Wantirna, 3152
Ph: 9874 5242
Working together to maintain the beautiful traditional embroideries and pass the skills on to younger generations. The group promotes this Hungarian art form of needlework to the wider community through demonstrations and displays. Meetings are every second Thursday at 11:00am.

References:

Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2011, *Census of Population and Housing*, viewed 29 October 2010, <http://www.abs.gov.au/census>.

Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), 2008, *Seniors from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds*, Demography on the 50 years plus Victorian population from the 2006 census, Victoria, Australia.

Victorian Multicultural Commission, 2013, *The Hungary-Born Community in Victoria*, Fact Sheet No. A-50, viewed 29 October 2014, <http://www.multicultural.vic.gov.au/images/stories/documents/2013/Censusfactsheetscommunityprofiles/50-hungary.pdf>

Victorian Multicultural Commission, 2013, *Victorian Community Profiles: 2011 Census Hungary Born,* viewed 29 October 2014, <http://www.multicultural.vic.gov.au/images/stories/documents/2013/Censusfactsheetscommunityprofiles/commprofiles/50-hungary.pdf>.