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| **Welcoming Early Childhood Centres for Tamariki from Refugee Backgrounds Workshops 2025: A Trauma Informed, Culturally Responsive Approach to Preschool Education: Thurs 17th July, Wed 22nd Oct, 9.00-2.30pm****Auckland Airport Holiday Inn, 2 Ascot Road, Māngere, Auckland** |
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| Refugees as Survivors NZ (RASNZ) is a specialist mental health agency based at the Mangere Refugee Resettlement Centre/Te Āhuru Mōwai o Aotearoa. We have a regional team of clinicians, social workers, youth and community workers, trainers and cross-cultural facilitators. RASNZ provides professional development opportunities for practitioners across a range of disciplines, including in education, health, mental health, social service, and refugee resettlement sectors. This workshop is designed to support education sector work with pre-schoolers from refugee backgrounds and their whanau. This practical workshop aims to enable effective practice based on the principles relevant to trauma responsiveness in the Early Childhood Education sector for refugee background tamariki.  |
| You will learn about: * The refugee journey and resettlement in New Zealand
* Working with collective cultures
* How trauma impacts children and young people’s brain, body, memory, emotions, relationships, behaviour and capacity to learn
* Responses to traumatised preschoolers in early childhood settings
* Exploration of activities and strategies that can help heal the impacts of trauma to enable improved behavioural and cognitive capacity
* Case scenarios
* Services and supports for ECEs
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| **Registration Form - The workshops are free** |
| **Name:**  |
| **Role:**  |
| **ECE/Organisation/Service**  |
| **Email**  |
| **Cell**  |
| *e-mail your registration to* *annette@rasnz.co.nz***You will receive confirmation of your booking** **Lunch will be provided- All food will be halal**Please indicate your dietary preferencesVegan □ Dairy free □Vegetarian □ Gluten Free □Other\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| **The workshop is repeated. Please tick the day you would like to attend.**  |

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| **Date** | **Time** | **Venue** | ***Please tick***  |
| Thurs 17th July 2025 | 9-2.30 | Auckland Airport, Holiday Inn-2 Ascot Road, Māngere |  |
| Wed 22nd Oct 2025 | 9-2.30 | Auckland Airport, Holiday Inn-2 Ascot Road, Māngere |  |

**Facilitators Bios**

**Whaea Ruth Ham: Head Teacher for the AUT Centre for Refugee Education Early Childhood Centre, Te Āhuru Mōwai o Aotearoa (Mangere Refugee Resettlement Centre)-** Whaea Ruth started in early childhood education as a kaiawhina in Kohanga Reo in 1986. She then went on, to start a Kohanga Reo in Manurewa, Te Timatatanga followed by a bilingual centre Best of Both Worlds. Our goal is to empower our children with their language and identity and to enable them to know they can be and do anything they choose. Whaea Ruth has been at the AUT Centre for Refugee Education ECE as a head teacher for over 10 years. Her role is to prepare families for resettlement in Aotearoa New Zealand.

**Zahra Howell: Registered Counselling Psychologist-** Zahra is a New Zealand registered counselling psychologist. She has worked with people from a wide range of cultural and linguistic backgrounds including adults and young people from refugee backgrounds. Zahra brings significant experience working in healthcare, education, private practice, as well as with organisations such as Refugees as Survivors New Zealand. As a middle eastern migrant who has been an advocate for issues related to cultural sensitivity/safety and anti-racism, Zahra is passionate about using her clinical experience and knowledge to contribute to building a more trauma informed and culturally sensitive environment for former refugees. Zahra is also involved in research, including having presented at multiple conferences and workshops, has published in The Family Journal and Contemporary Psychology, and is currently involved in research investigating the effectiveness of an online mental health intervention tool.

**Dr Annette Mortensen: RASNZ Manager Training and Development -** Annette has worked for over 25 years to improve healthcare responsiveness for Asian, refugee and migrant groups in New Zealand in a number of roles including as a public health nurse, project manager, researcher and educator. From 2000, Annette had the position of Refugee Health Coordinator for the Auckland Regional Public Health Service. In 2007, Annette took up the position of Refugee and Migrant Project Manager for the NRA (Northern Regional Alliance) where she commissioned a number of studies including the Asian and MELAA (Middle Eastern, Latin American and African) Health Needs Assessments of people living in the Auckland region. In the same year, Annette was awarded with the Supreme Harmony Award for her contribution to Muslim relations in New Zealand by the Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand (FIANZ). In 2009, she received a doctorate from Massey University. The subject of her thesis was *‘Refugees as ‘Others’: Social and Cultural Citizenship Rights for Refugees in New Zealand Health Services’.* Annette currently works for Refugees as Survivors NZ (RASNZ) as the manager of Training and Development.