

Amel at the NMLL Community Eid Celebration August 2014



Amel consulting with the local community at the NMLL Community Learning Festival in May 2014



Amel with Rawhia at ta NMLL Community Learning Champions Training Session held in 2014

I am from Eritrea in Africa. My sister and I came to Australia from Sudan in 2002.

In the beginning, I was not sure what it would be like here, if it was going to be strange, if I would have friends, if I would have opportunities but in the last ten years I have done lots of things. I've done volunteer work, paid work, married, had a family.

It's a modern women's matter, balancing work and children. In my country if you have kids that's it, you need to look after your kids, unless there's a financial problem there's not a choice of what you want to do. But here there are options. At the moment I volunteer because this is more flexible for my family circumstances.

I love learning and I love teaching. I love to read books about human development. In Sudan I studied my Masters in Human Development and Gender. My family and friends they always come to me and I tell them things I have learnt. My friends love to discuss matters. In humanist studies it's all about discussion and opinions.

What I would say to refugee or other ethnic communities who feel there is no place for them in Australia or any other places is there always is a place but it doesn't come to you. You should search for that place, go out and look for it. As long as you are working hard and good to others, opportunities will come and you will be happier.