



Successful Women Workshop Series Employment Skills



First Hindu Women Forum Workshop successfully delivered in Adelaide

Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia Inc. (World Hindu Council) South Australian Chapter has established the first Hindu Women Forum in Adelaide. This Forum is managed by the female leaders within the state chapter.

On Sunday 11th February 2018 the Hindu Women Forum (HWF) successfully delivered their first workshop to Hindu women in the community seeking Employment Skills.

HWF core group organised a survey of the community and identified various needs of women who have migrated from various countries to the state. The survey identified the need for support services, education in how to participate in Australian job market and fostering leadership skills.

HWF then launched the **Successful Women Workshops Series**. In the year 2018, the series will focus on three areas namely Employment Skills, Health Issues and Women's Rights.

Through word of mouth and social media advertising the workshop attracted 35 registrants.

The workshop was opened with a Welcome to Country address by our Master of Ceremony Miss Aparajitha Rangaswamy, a rising star from the VHP of SA's Youth Group.

All participants introduced themselves and shared their expectations from the workshop. Though many of the attendees were

apprehensive about public speaking, this kind of skill is what the HWF is trying to encourage.



HWF SA coordinator Smt. Aneta Pillay, provided a brief overview of the Forum and shared the goal, mission and summarised the key issues raised by the attendees and how the workshop envisions to assist them.

The first guest speaker was Mr. Bruce Needham from the Federal Department for Jobs and Small Business who provided a brief overview of services available to permanent residents and citizens of Australia and also avenues for temporary residents.



Bruce remained for the full workshop session and was happy to answer questions from the attendees throughout the event. Each attendee left with a bag full of information and stationery items courtesy of the Federal Government.

Our next guest speaker was Ms. Lynn Charlesworth from Beyond Blue to inform attendees of services available and the importance of addressing mental health issues providing examples from her own struggles in depression and anxiety.



The next presentation was a case study from a HWF member, Smt. Nivetha Subramanian. She shared her struggles in seeking employment in Australia and how she overcame these challenges, providing an inspiring story of commitment and perseverance.



The group took an afternoon tea break which allowed attendees to network and speak with our guest speakers.

When the workshop resumed, Dr. Geetika Verma, a researcher from University of South Australia and HWF member presented her lecture on resume skills. Providing a quick overview of simple ways to ensure improve our attendees resumes.



The attendees were then split up into three groups for breakout sessions. The idea was for each group to cover off on three topics being Dressing for success, Resume Clinic and Interview Skills & Networking.

All participants indicated that they needed to spend more time focussing on the Resume Clinic and the topics discussed by Dr Verma. This overwhelming demand has led to the HWF discussing the possibility of offering attendees mock interviews and a resume review service.



The event was scheduled between 2pm and 5pm however the last attendee did not leave the venue until 6.30pm pressing the overwhelming demand the Hindu women in our community have regarding employment skills.

Feedback received from the workshop has been positive and humbling. Please stay tuned for the outcome of our next workshop in May 2018.



This event would not have been possible without the generous and unselfish commitment from the members of the HWF and VHP of SA. Thank you and Hail Srijan Shakti!