

The Ivanka Sucher Humanitarian Scholarship

Ivanka graduated as nurse in Slovenia in 1969 and subsequently worked in Germany (neurology) then in Switzerland (medical / geriatric) before coming to Australia in 1972 on a Special Passage Assistance Program.

On her arrival to Australia, she had to re-qualify for registration after completing an intensive English language course. Having qualified and worked at the Preston & Northcote Community Hospital (often referred to as PANCH) a former hospital located in Preston, then later at the Sacred Heart Hospital (later the John Fawkner Private Hospital) in Melbourne, Ivanka acquired qualifications to practice midwifery and undertook further study, graduating with a Diploma of Applied Science in Community Health Nursing. After some years of practicing Midwifery at the Sunbury Private Hospital, an opportunity presented itself in 1984 for Ivanka to develop a career in the field of Occupational Health and Safety Nursing, which she pursued with significant success until her retirement in 2015.



It is the wish of her family that Ivanka be remembered through this scholarship and thereby assist other nurses who have come to Australia, to transition from a nursing career in those countries and achieve a meaningful and successful nursing career in Australia.

The Ivanka Sucher Humanitarian Scholarship will be administered by the Australian College of Nursing to assist overseas nurses who enter Australia as refugees or overseas qualified nurses to gain post graduate education to ensure that they work to the best of their ability and to their full scope of practice in Australia

There are a number of refugees in Australia who are nurses and/or overseas trained nurses who have had to requalify in Australia and face the daunting process of becoming proficient in language as well as the nursing environment in Australia with only limited financial means at their disposal.

The Australian College of Nursing believes it is important to support nurses who are refugees from other countries and to assist them to practice and develop their nursing career so that they flourish and work to their full potential.

The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) is the national leader of the nursing profession. ACN is an accredited Institute of Higher Education for qualified nurses.

ACN supports nurses to be the best they can be to enhance healthcare and we strongly believe that all nurses should have the opportunity to contribute to health and aged care policies and healthcare delivery to all Australians.

Education continues to be a key role of, building the knowledge and skills of nurses across Australia. This scholarship aims to assist and enhance the education and thus the capabilities of nurses as leaders in this country.