

## Banksia shows it cares in 13 languages

**BY MELISSA HEAGNEY**

BANKSIA Palliative Care launched a new series of multilingual brochures last Thursday to better care for migrant families in Banyule, Nillumbik and Whittlesea.

The brochures cover 13 languages: Arabic, Assyrian, Bosnian, Cantonese, Croatian, Greek, Italian, Macedonian, Mandarin, Polish, Somali, Turkish and Vietnamese.

Culturally Appropriate Palliative Care project officer Sue Fisher said the brochures aimed to break down barriers.

“We chose those languages as they represent the groups within the communities we serve,” she said. “All these different language groups are under-represented in health services.”

She said one of the challenges for Banksia was ensuring all cultural beliefs were included, as many migrants had

beliefs from their traditional cultures.

Ms Fisher said the Northern Migrant Resource Centre had helped with the project, which was funded through a Federal Government grant.

Parliamentary secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator Brett Mason, was at the launch.

The multilingual brochures can be picked up from Banksia Palliative Care in Ivanhoe. Phone: 9497 2100.