



New path: Muna Hamid and son Yassin, 3, with Florence Muvandi and Shannon Anderson at the migrant centre. Picture: John Mokrzycki

Program helps migrants

■ Demie Tan and Natasha Boddy

The support and empowerment obtained through learning is helping migrant women forge career paths.

Through a Department of Training and Workforce Development initiative, Meerilinga Training College and the Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre have developed a workforce participation program to assist women from culturally diverse backgrounds complete their Certificate II in community work.

Students complete a practical component to develop the link between early childhood care and education theory while also learning practical skills to work with children.

Program trainer Shannon Ander-

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son said students did a 15-week work placement in their own communities.

Training Minister Peter Collier said training was an opportunity for migrants to develop skills which would help them develop a career.

"Training providers also provide an environment for migrants to build valuable social and professional networks that greatly assists their assimilation into the community," he said.

Program participant Muna Hamid has since done a course in child care. "I learnt a lot and the teaching methods are easy to understand," she said.