# Transcript Residents of Melbourne's tower lockdowns mobilise against off-radar COVID misinformation – ABC News. 19 March 2021

**Erwin Renaldi:** Most days Abdiwasa Ismael can be found here giving out crucial information about COVID-19. He’s a resident of this public housing tower in Melbourne’s inner-North, and he knows the importance of getting health advice that’s accurate and easy to understand.

**Abdiwasa Ismael:** “We can understand each other at least, and I can speak my language to the ones that don’t know English and explain to them and update them. So, they’ll feel more comfortable with people they know.”

**Erwin Renaldi:** Mr Ismael was trained along with other residents by Cohealth, a non-profit community health service.

**Em Taylor, Cohealth:** “Going into social isolation has highlighted just how important those local relationships and connections are, in terms of getting information out.”

**Erwin Renaldi:** And getting the information out is also the aim of the federal government’s vaccine information campaign. There are translated materials advertising in 32 languages and short videos in more than 60 languages, but the feedback from the community is, this message is still too complex.

**Em Taylor, Cohealth:** “The health concierge community is saying it’s too much, too much information, what are just the most important things and how do we make it easy to digest.”

[An Imam leads a prayer out loud in a Mosque]

**Erwin Renaldi:** At this Mosque in Melbourne’s north, Imam Alaa Elzokm doesn’t want his congregation to be misinformed. He delivers talks about COVID-19 during prayer and organises online sessions with health professionals.

**Alaa Elzokm, Imam,** **Elsedeaq Heidelberg Mosque:** “We cannot transfer information to others without making sure that this information is authentic.”

**Erwin Renaldi:** A community-led response that could help save lives, Erwin Renaldi, ABC News.