

Supported by ARAN, RAR, GFR, & NARN

Issue for June 2023

Celebrating and Expanding Refugee Resettlement in Australia

Available to download at –

- <https://aran.net.au/resources/letter-writing/>
- <https://ruralaustraliansforrefugees.org.au/write-a-letter>



Included in this kit is the information you need to create your own letters or use the proformas

- Guide and Background notes prepared by ARAN's Letter Writing Network.
- Postal Addresses for MPs and Senators
- Email addresses for MPs and Senators
- A proforma letter that you can copy (and personalise) to send by post or email.

Personalised letters are best –

- You might like to use the **AIDA** principle
 - **A - Attention** - grab the recipient's attention. Say something positive about the reader that is directed towards the focus of your letter. Stimulate the recipient's curiosity
 - **I - Interest & Information** - encourage the recipient to read on.
 - **D - Desire** - Getting the reader to want to do what you are seeking - in their interest to do so.
 - **A - Action** - inform the reader of the action you want them to take.

~~~~~  
Regards,  
The ARAN Letter Writing Network  
[austrefugeenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:austrefugeenetwork@gmail.com)

## ARAN Letter-Kit - June 2023

Celebrating and **Expanding** Refugee Resettlement in Australia

---

### Why it is important to write letters on this issue

Amnesty International Australia has been campaigning for the Government to raise the refugee intake. However, in the May Federal Budget, there was no commitment to increasing resources for the resettlement of more refugees.

---

### The Refugee Quota (*explainer*)

*For 2021–22, Australia's annual Humanitarian Program was set at ceiling of 13,750 places...*

*A total of [just] 13,307 resettlement visas were granted.*

<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/research-and-stats/files/australia-offshore-humanitarian-program-2021-22.pdf>

*Labor aspires to progressively increase Australia's government funded humanitarian intake to 27,000 places per year. Any community sponsored places should be in addition to the government's refugee and humanitarian program.*

ALP Platform 2021 - (Points 6 and 7, Page 131)

<https://alp.org.au/media/2594/2021-alp-national-platform-final-endorsed-platform.pdf>

Though the Government “aspires” to increase the humanitarian intake, we are yet to see even the low quota of 13,750 places filled, let alone an increase to the proposed 27,000. Amnesty suggests 30,000 places would be a better target.

Importantly, the government also needs to commit to filling all of the places in the quota each year. The Refugee Council of Australia has noted that ‘*despite assurances at the time that the number of Refugee and Humanitarian visas allocated in the Budget would be filled each year, 13,825 places were left unfilled between 2019-20 and 2021-22*’. [RCOA May 2023](#)

---

### Community Refugee Sponsorship

Many Australians want to play a practical role in welcoming and supporting refugees through the *Community Refugee Integration and Settlement Pilot* (CRISP), a sponsorship program that enables a local group of five or more people to welcome and support a refugee family from their first day in Australia.

Currently the 1,500 humanitarian annual places within the CRISP program remain part the government's already very limited humanitarian quota of 13,750. An although the Minister for Immigration, Andrew Giles has stated: “*This Government is committed to ensuring that in the future, sponsorship programs such as [CRISP] will become additional to our existing refugee intake numbers*”, this has not yet changed.

We are calling on the Minister to make these community sponsored places ADDITIONAL to the refugee quota.

---

### It is time to change that narrative.

During the 2000's, the rhetoric surrounding refugees became increasingly polarized, with negative commentary ignoring the fact that refugees bring skills, knowledge, and innovation to their host nations.

### The benefits of resettling refugees in Australia

*“Refugees make an important contribution to Australia in many areas including social engagement, workforce participation, business ownership and volunteering within our communities.”*

<https://www.redcross.org.au/act/help-refugees/refugee-facts/>

*“The positive impact of refugees has also been especially felt in regional and rural Australia. ... Successful regional and rural refugee resettlement programs have helped plug population gaps, supply much-needed labour and stimulate economic growth and services delivery. More generally, the young age profile of [refugees] makes a very positive contribution to a labour market in which new retirees now exceed new labour force entrants. ... Children of refugees achieve above average rates of success in education and employment, [and are] likely ... to achieve a university degree or diploma, to work in a professional or managerial position and to have purchased or be purchasing their own home.”*

*“There may be short-term costs as refugees are resettled and adjust to their new surroundings but, once successful resettlement has occurred, refugees are able to quickly make permanent cultural, social and economic contributions and infuse vitality and multiculturalism into the communities into which they are resettled.”*

*“While the benefits of resettling refugees can be great, it is important to recognise that the gains cannot be accrued unless investment is made in the settlement of new arrivals.”*

*“The resettlement of refugees is not just an exercise in international goodwill. Refugees make substantial contributions to their new country - expanding consumer markets for local goods, opening new markets, bringing in new skills, creating employment and filling empty employment niches.”*

*“Refugees are often entrepreneurial as they face the need to set up and establish themselves in a new environment.”*

*“Australia’s refugees have found success in every field of endeavour, including the arts, sports, media, science, research, business and civic and community life.”*

[https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/settlement-services-subsite/files/economic-civic-social-contributions-refugees-humanitarian-entrants-literature-review\\_access.pdf](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/settlement-services-subsite/files/economic-civic-social-contributions-refugees-humanitarian-entrants-literature-review_access.pdf)

Refugees’ stories are extremely diverse; however, there are common “ingredients for success” including having had community support and feeling motivated to “give back” to society. In 2019, Oxfam contracted Deloitte Economics to provide a report, “Economic and social impact of increasing Australia's humanitarian intake”.

*... increasing Australia’s humanitarian migration intake to 44,000 per annum over a five year period, as proposed by Oxfam Australia, could ... Increase the size of the Australian economy by \$37.7 billion net present value terms over the next 50 years. Sustain ... an additional 35,000 full time equivalent jobs in the Australian economy every year for the next 50 years. Increase private consumption [i.e. consumer spending] ... by \$18.2 billion.*

<https://www2.deloitte.com/au/en/pages/economics/articles/economic-social-impact-increasing-australias-humanitarian-intake.html>

---

## Key points to make

- Refugee quota should be raised as indicated in the Labor Policy Platform
- It is important that the annual places in the quota are all filled... it is not acceptable that Australia does not actually resettle the number of refugees in the quota
- Refugees supported through Community Sponsorship should be additional to the refugee quota
- Refugees make great Australians
- Australia is looking to migration to support our economic growth – it’s the right time to increase the refugee quota
- The politicisation of refugee policy since the early 2000s has resulted in demonizing refugees and people who seek asylum. This must change, as we know refugees supported to resettle make a great contribution, bringing skills, knowledge, and innovation to our community.

**Send your letters to your local MP if they are Labor, Greens or Independent, asking them to make representation to the Prime Minister, the Minister for Home Affairs, and the Minister for Immigration.**

## **Addresses for your letters:**

---

### **1. The Prime Minister**

The Hon Anthony Albanese MP  
Prime Minister  
PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

You cannot email the PM. Use the following link to the PM's Contact Form.

<https://www.pm.gov.au/contact-your-pm>

### **2. Clare O'Neil, Minister for Home Affairs**

The Hon Clare O'Neil MP  
Minister for Home Affairs  
PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

Email: [Clare.Oneil.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Clare.Oneil.MP@aph.gov.au)

Or use the Contact Form:

[https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators\\_and\\_Members/Contact\\_Senator\\_or\\_Member?MPID=140590](https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Contact_Senator_or_Member?MPID=140590)

### **3. Andrew Giles, Minister for Immigration**

The Hon Andrew Giles MP  
Minister for Immigration  
PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

Email: [Andrew.Giles.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Giles.MP@aph.gov.au)

### **You may also like to send a copy of your email to:**

- Greens Senator Nick McKim [senator.mckim@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.mckim@aph.gov.au)

---

### **Canberra Postal Address for all Senators**

PO Box 6100  
Senate,  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

### **Canberra Postal Address for all MPs**

PO Box 6022  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

---

Find electorate postal and email addresses for your local MP: [https://www.aph.gov.au/senators\\_and\\_members/members](https://www.aph.gov.au/senators_and_members/members)

---

Email addresses for Your local MP - [https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators\\_and\\_Members/Members](https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Members)

You may also like to send a copy of your letter to Senators in your state

- **Email addresses for all Senators are on the next page**

## EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR ALL SENATORS - UPDATED JUNE 2023

---

Email addresses for all **ACT** senators - ready to copy and paste into “TO” section of your email:

[senator.katy.gallagher@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.katy.gallagher@aph.gov.au); [Senator.David.Pocock@aph.gov.au](mailto:Senator.David.Pocock@aph.gov.au)

Email addresses for all **NSW** senators - ready to copy and paste into “TO” section of your email:

[senator.ayres@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.ayres@aph.gov.au); [senator.bragg@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.bragg@aph.gov.au); [senator.cadell@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.cadell@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.davey@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.davey@aph.gov.au); [senator.faruqi@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.faruqi@aph.gov.au); [senator.hughes@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.hughes@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.kovacic@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.kovacic@aph.gov.au); [senator.mcallister@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.mcallister@aph.gov.au); [senator.oneill@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.oneill@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.payne@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.payne@aph.gov.au); ; [senator.sheldon@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.sheldon@aph.gov.au); [senator.shoebridge@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.shoebridge@aph.gov.au)

Email addresses for all **NT** senators - ready to copy and paste into “TO” section of your email:

[Senator.McCarthy@aph.gov.au](mailto:Senator.McCarthy@aph.gov.au); [senator.nampijinpaprice@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.nampijinpaprice@aph.gov.au)

Email addresses for all **Queensland** senators - ready to copy and paste into “TO” section of your email:

[senator.allman-payne@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.allman-payne@aph.gov.au); [senator.canavan@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.canavan@aph.gov.au); [senator.chisholm@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.chisholm@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.green@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.green@aph.gov.au); [senator.hanson@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.hanson@aph.gov.au); [senator.mcdonald@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.mcdonald@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.mcgrath@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.mcgrath@aph.gov.au); [senator.rennick@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.rennick@aph.gov.au); [senator.roberts@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.roberts@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.scarr@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.scarr@aph.gov.au); [senator.waters@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.waters@aph.gov.au); [senator.watt@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.watt@aph.gov.au)

Email addresses for all **SA** senators - ready to copy and paste into “TO” section of your email:

[senator.antic@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.antic@aph.gov.au); [senator.birmingham@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.birmingham@aph.gov.au); [senator.farrell@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.farrell@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.fawcett@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.fawcett@aph.gov.au); [senator.grogan@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.grogan@aph.gov.au); [senator.hanson-young@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.hanson-young@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.liddle@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.liddle@aph.gov.au); [senator.mclachlan@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.mclachlan@aph.gov.au); [senator.pocock@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.pocock@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.ruston@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.ruston@aph.gov.au); [senator.marielle.smith@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.marielle.smith@aph.gov.au); [senator.wong@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.wong@aph.gov.au);

Email addresses for all **Tasmania** senators - ready to copy and paste into “TO” section of your email:

[senator.askew@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.askew@aph.gov.au); [senator.bilyk@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.bilyk@aph.gov.au); [senator.carol.brown@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.carol.brown@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.chandler@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.chandler@aph.gov.au); [senator.colbeck@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.colbeck@aph.gov.au); [senator.duniam@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.duniam@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.lambie@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.lambie@aph.gov.au); [senator.mckim@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.mckim@aph.gov.au); [senator.polley@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.polley@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.tyrrell@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.tyrrell@aph.gov.au); [senator.urquhart@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.urquhart@aph.gov.au); [senator.whish-wilson@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.whish-wilson@aph.gov.au);

Email addresses for all **Victorian** senators - ready to copy and paste into “TO” section of your email:

[senator.babet@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.babet@aph.gov.au); [senator.ciccione@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.ciccione@aph.gov.au); [senator.henderson@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.henderson@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.hume@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.hume@aph.gov.au); [senator.mckenzie@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.mckenzie@aph.gov.au); [senator.paterson@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.paterson@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.rice@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.rice@aph.gov.au); [senator.stewart@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.stewart@aph.gov.au); [senator.thorpe@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.thorpe@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.van@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.van@aph.gov.au); [senator.walsh@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.walsh@aph.gov.au); [senator.white@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.white@aph.gov.au)

Email addresses for all **WA** senators - ready to copy and paste into “TO” section of your email:

[senator.brockman@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.brockman@aph.gov.au); [senator.cash@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.cash@aph.gov.au); [senator.cox@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.cox@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.dodson@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.dodson@aph.gov.au); [senator.lines@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.lines@aph.gov.au); [senator.matt.o'sullivan@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.matt.o'sullivan@aph.gov.au);  
[Senator.Payman@aph.gov.au](mailto:Senator.Payman@aph.gov.au); [senator.pratt@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.pratt@aph.gov.au); [senator.reynolds@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.reynolds@aph.gov.au);  
[senator.smith@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.smith@aph.gov.au); [senator.steele-john@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.steele-john@aph.gov.au); [senator.sterle@aph.gov.au](mailto:senator.sterle@aph.gov.au)

Email addresses for all MPs and Senators - [https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators\\_and\\_Members/Members](https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Members)

---

**NOTE:** If you are sending an email be sure to include your NAME and ADDRESS

The Subject line of your email could be -

**CALL TO ACTION ... .. *Celebrating and Expanding Refugee Resettlement in Australia***

**Date:**

Dear

On World Refugee Day, 20<sup>th</sup> June, we will celebrate how Australia has supported people to “Find Freedom”, and how refugees enrich our nation.

Australian governments have long recognised the benefits that refugees bring to Australia:

*“The resettlement of refugees is not just an exercise in international goodwill. Refugees make substantial contributions to their new country - expanding consumer markets for local goods, opening new markets, bringing in new skills, creating employment and filling empty employment niches.”*

Australian Government Department of Immigration and Citizenship - 2010

Australian organisations similarly recognise the contribution of refugees:

*“Refugees make an important contribution to Australia in many areas including social engagement, workforce participation, business ownership and volunteering within our communities.”*

- Australian Red Cross

The 2019 Oxfam-Deloitte Economics’ report, *Economic and Social Impact of Increasing Australia's Humanitarian Intake* stated that increasing Australia’s humanitarian intake to 44,000 per annum over a five-year period could increase the size of the Australian economy by \$37.7 billion net present value terms over the next 50 years; sustain an additional 35,000 full time equivalent jobs in the Australian economy every year for the next 50 years; and increase consumer spending by \$18.2 billion.

Ordinary Australians demonstrate their belief in refugee resettlement when they personally sponsor refugees. Yet the 1500 humanitarian visas within the Community Refugee Integration and Settlement Pilot (CRISP) program are currently from **within** the government’s overall humanitarian intake.

I am also very concerned to learn that in recent years, many places in the refugee quota have not been filled. This is not acceptable - all of the 13,825 places that were unfilled between 2021 and 2022 should be carried forward, and a special effort made to fill the places within the next 12 months, in addition to the annual quota.

I want to see the humanitarian intake raised as set out in the 2021 ALP Platform:

*... to progressively increase Australia’s government funded humanitarian intake to 27,000 places per year.*

*... to progressively increase the community sponsored refugee program intake to 5,000 places per year.*

And that these community sponsored places be in **addition to** our Humanitarian Intake.

Please raise these important issues with the Prime minister, the Minister for Immigration, the Minister for Home Affairs, and other government decision-makers.

Yours sincerely

**Your name and address**