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FEBRUARY 2024 ARAN UPDATE



See below how to join the Big (virtual) Walk 4 Refugees!

Join the Zoom briefing THURSDAY 15 February 7pm AEDT - ZOOM

LINK: [BigWalk briefing for ARAN member groups](#)

WHAT'S IN THE UPDATE?

Action required NOW:

- join the [BigWalk4Refugees](#) and share on social media **#BigWalk4Refugees**
- Refugees in PNG still in crisis - Letterwriting and Fundraising
- Sign and circulate [petition for Dixtan's release](#) - to be presented to politicians at end of February

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- **Refugees Blood Donation initiative - contributing to our community - see how you can support. Share the post from FB page** [\(20+\) Facebook](#)



Upcoming dates

- **The Big Walk 4 Refugees 13 Feb - 26 March. Zoom briefing THURSDAY 15 February 7pm AEDT - [ZOOM LINK](#)**
- **Human Rights charter forum – Access to Education - see speakers on refugees and people seeking asylum 22 Feb 1-2pm online [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)**
- **Palm Sunday 2024 - Sunday 24 March**

You can help

- **Fundraiser for women for change - Afghanistan**

TAKE CAMPAIGN ACTION NOW:

Refugees abandoned in PNG

- See [ARAN Letter Writing Kit](#) for suggested letters to politicians, and letters to editors

Urgently write to [Minister O'Neil](#), [Minister Giles](#) and [Minister Wong](#), and copy your local MP and Labor . Greens and supportive Independent Federal Senators - [find them here](#)
Suggested key points for email s and letters:

- Donate NOW to help support those who have no means of support and are at risk of losing their accommodation - [Donate here](#) and share through your networks.
- Sign the [Statement of support](#)

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Sr Jane Keogh is undertaking a solo protest in Canberra during each parliamentary sitting week - sleeping overnight, and drawing attention to the dire situation for refugees in Port Moresby. Can you support her protest with solidarity actions?



The Big Walk4Refugees - a solidarity action with the 10,000 people still in visas limbo - after 10 years on 'Fast Track'

The Big Walk 4 Refugees is a virtual walk of 16,650 km all around Australia so that people in all states and territories can show their active support for refugees, and particularly the 10,000 refugees who have been living in Australia for 10 years and are part of the community, but still remain in limbo because they do not have permanent visas. The Big Walk is inspired by the courageous journeys of asylum seekers who walked and cycled thousands of kilometres in 2023 to highlight the devastating impacts of uncertainty for refugees and asylum seekers who do not have permanent visas.

Anyone can register and contribute as an individual - the kilometres that you walk, run, swim and cycle locally count towards total virtual progress of the walk 'around Australia'. The walk will culminate in Canberra with a delegation to Parliament on Tuesday 26 March.

You can participate as an individual - just join a team and get active, or you can organize a team of your own and get others to support this initiative with you. Community walks will help to raise awareness of this important issue.

Join the online briefing to find out more. **THURSDAY 15 February 7pm AEDT - ZOOM LINK**
[BigWalk briefing for ARAN member groups](#)

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To participate in the Big (virtual) Walk 4 Refugees - Register here: www.bigwalk4refugees.au
Please also follow and share posts from [Facebook BigWalk4Refugees](#) and post pics of yourself participating! #BigWalk4Refugees

Refugees Blood Donation initiative - contributing to our community - see how you can support. See video clip by [Craig Foster](#) - he'll be at the Parramatta Blood Bank with refugees on Valentines Day - making his contribution too. Please share the posts from [Facebook page for this initiative](#).



How to join the '10,000 Refugees contributing to Australia' Team. Go to Lifeblood.com.au and when you set up your account you can choose to join the 10,000 Refugees contributing to Australia' Team.

You can help

Fundraiser supporting Women for Change. In Afghanistan there are countless orphans, many hungry people, girls are banned from education. Fundraiser organized by South Gippsland RAR - enquiries Felicia.sgrar07@gmail.com for further details. Donations to Bendigo Bank Acc name: SGRAR BSB 633000 Acc no: 155749153

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Standing up for refugee rights in Hobart

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