

Red Cross Migration Support Program

Food Drive

Red Cross are seeking donation of non-perishable food items to support asylum seekers and refugees living and Canberra and surrounding region.

The food drive will be held at the Griffin Centre (ground floor, 20 Genge Street, Canberra City) **Friday 28th May 2010 between 12pm – 2:30pm.**

What are we accepting?

- coffee/ tea / sugar / lentils / dried beans
- rice / pasta / flour / sugar / soup
- canned vegetables and fruit / long-life milk
- canned fish and meat / crackers / jelly
- toothpaste / toothbrushes / deodorant / toiletries

** Please note all items must be within use by dates

Can I give another time?

Yes – if you are unable to make it to our food drive in the City, please drop off donations at **Red Cross House Cnr Hindmarsh and Palmer St, Garran ACT 2605.**

What is the Migration Support Program?

Red Cross Migration Support Program provides services and support for refugees, asylum seekers and other vulnerable people in the community. The Migration Support Program assists with access to health care, financial support, education, counseling, accommodation, establishing community networks and other identified needs.

What is a refugee?

This is the official United Nations definition; written into Australian Law in section 3 of the Migration Act 1994.

Refugees are persons who are outside their country of nationality or their usual country of residence and unable or unwilling to return to or to seek the protection of that country because of a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.

Myth 1: Asylum seekers who arrive by boat are not 'genuine' refugees and have no right to expect us to help them

Fact: *Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries freedom from persecution* - Article 14, Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Myth 2: Australia is being 'flooded' by asylum seekers

Fact: Australia receives very, very few of the world's asylum seekers, no matter what measure of comparison you use. Here are five ways of looking at Australia's refugee situation in a global perspective:

- Australia hosts 1 refugees per 1000 inhabitants of our country, compared to the United Kingdom (4.7 refugees per 1000 inhabitants), Canada (5.2), Switzerland (6.1), Germany (7.0), Norway (7.5) Sweden (8.3), Chad (29.5), Montenegro (39.6), Syria (50.5) and Jordan (79.2)
- Australia ranks a lowly 77th in the world when countries are ranked according to the number of refugees they resettle relative to their GDP per capita
- Australia ranks 69th in the world when countries are ranked on the number of refugees they resettle on a purely per capita basis¹

Your donations will provide much needed support for asylum seeker and refugee families within the ACT and region.

We thank you for your generosity!

For further information on this event please phone 02 6234 7610 or email

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