

Refugee Mentorship Program



CatholicCare Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains is working with the newly formed charity, **Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia (CRSA)**: www.refugeesponsorship.org.au to assess how parish communities can support refugees in settling into Australia.

STEP 1

Sign up to attend an information session over Zoom on 22 July, 2 August or 26 August. Register to attend one of these sessions here. Clergy and any interested parishioners are all welcome to attend to get information about the program. www.refugeesponsorship.org.au/upcoming-public-information-sessions

STEP 2

Register a group of at least 5 community members from your Church (non-parishioners welcome). Members will need a National Criminal History Check (AFP Check) and Working With Children Check. Applications open 30 August.

STEP 3

Groups across the Diocese who have registered as a group will receive training between September and December.

Following training, groups are encouraged to research their local community through the eyes of a refugee newcomer to find out what the local opportunities, resources and challenges are likely to be (for example, investigate housing, employment, education, English language classes and cultural opportunities). Groups will also consider how they can welcome people as part of the community through social activities, events and informal ways of showing care.

STEP 4

Groups are matched with a refugee individual or family (subject to identifying a suitable individual/family living nearby or moving into the community) They may or may not be from a faith background.

STEP 5

Groups support their individual/family as a community with ongoing check-ins and support from CatholicCare



For more information,
contact **Celia Vagg** on 0433 628 438.



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