

The Welcome Petition



TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

This petition of certain citizens of Australia draws to the attention of the House the generosity of the people of Australia. We are a nation that values mateship and giving people a fair go no matter where they are from. It makes us feel helpless to think that there are people out there who have to flee their homes and are often torn apart from their families. It makes us feel helpless because we are unable to do our bit to welcome asylum seekers and refugees. We want to build positive relationships with asylum seekers who will enrich our diverse culture, our sense of solidarity and assist our economy's growth.

Instructions For Collecting Signatures

Please note in order for the petition to be accepted by the House of Representatives certain conditions must be met:

- Hand written signatures ONLY. No scans or photocopies.
- Where possible, print the petition on blue paper. Can be found at Officeworks or contact The Welcome Petition.
- 20 signatures per page, any more won't be counted.
- Printed on one side only.
- All signed copies need to be returned to Jessica Hackett by **Feb 19th c/o Killester College, 433 Springvale Rd Springvale, Vic 3171**
- One signature per person. Ask if they have signed the petition already.
- People under the age of 18 may sign, but they need to be old enough to understand what they are signing.
- Signatures must be from Australian Citizens or permanent residents.

Contact Jessica Hackett or Volunteer Coordinator, Peita Collard:

welcomepetition@gmail.com

<http://thewelcomepetition.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/thewelcomepetition>

<https://twitter.com/WelcomePetition>

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We therefore ask the House to:

- increase the number of refugees to be accepted for resettlement
- abolish closed detention centres and resettle those living there in Australia.
As an alternative, establish reception centres on the mainland to allow us to provide support to the most vulnerable
- process people in a timely and humane way no matter how they arrive and ensure that there is a fair and adequate appeal system
- treat every refugee and every asylum seeker as you would want a citizen of Australia to be treated if they were in the same situation

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