

Far less fortunate far worse off

Entering this financial year's final quarter, Bridge for Asylum Seekers continues its crucial support to those desperate for safety and stability in Australia. So far this year, we have distributed \$244,315 across 75 households—125 individuals, including 30 children.

Despite our efforts, financial constraints threaten the support we can offer. In the first month of the financial year \$38,000 was distributed but (due to increasing funding challenges) our average monthly spend is now just \$27,146.

This plunge leaves many asylum seekers without our full and essential support.

Your support at work

Recent 'successes' showcase the impact Bridge for Asylum Seekers offers people. Last month, nine individuals we have collectively supported no longer require assistance:

6

secured employment and became self-supporting

2

gained Federal Govt. support: increased financial stability

1

was given a permanent visa and thereby, security and belonging

Federal policies & budget

Under the newly re-elected Labor government, the 2025-26 budget has provision for \$20.23 million for expenditure on payments for asylum seeker support administered by Services Australia.

This is a tiny improvement over the estimated spend of \$20.16 million in 2024-25, but a better (yet too small) improvement over 2023-24's miserly \$16.4 million.

However, this small increase in spending does little to reverse the massive cuts to support for people seeking asylum since 2015-16, with the 2025-26 allocation representing a 93% cut on 2015-16 expenditure.



Compare this with the government's \$1.37 billion on immigration detention and compliance and \$581 million for offshore processing in 2025-26.



Case study: We were all he had

Manu faced a multitude of complex challenges, including recurring seizures plus the need for psychological therapy to address the aftermath of a stroke.

His financial situation was also dire, with a request for federally funded support (SRSS) denied due to a perceived visa irregularity.

He had previously lost his job as a painter in January 2024 following a fall and was without income or savings, relying on temporary accommodation with friends. However, this housing situation ended.

Manu was sleeping in a friend's car when he was referred to Bridge so we immediately provided crisis support, with our rental and living allowances continuing for him until Home Affairs fixed the administrative error with his visa.

Manu was finally granted SRSS and no longer needs our support.

Audited Proof

Bridge for Asylum Seekers' outgoings are just 0.42% of expenditure, so our clients directly receive

99.58%

of your donated dollars

Your donation really does help change someone's world, please click/tap below to read our annual report.



Please donate here

To recent donors: thank you for your latest generous support

No funds are expended in the creation or delivery of this Bridge communication. Work is provided pro bono by LPN Design.

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