

Never more need for unity

As 2025 draws to a close, I, no doubt like you, am reeling at the recent horrific attack at Bondi. I feel as though the ground has shifted under my feet, this being the first religiously targeted shooting in Australian history. To all affected by this event, I offer my deep condolences.

Separately, I wanted to touch base with you — our donors, grantmakers and supporters — to acknowledge and thank you for your continued commitment and support.

Our latest annual report is hot off the press — *please click here*.

If you would ever like to learn about our operations, please just email me at info@bridgeforasylumseekers.org.au so I can ring you or call me directly: 0402 614 586.

My warmest wishes for the festive season,
Janet Castle, Chair, Bridge for Asylum Seekers.

1,000,000th
welcome
delivered



ABC News (just prior): Australia is set to issue its one millionth refugee visa since 1947... in a humanitarian program that grew directly out of the ashes of World War II.

The Conversation: This moment gives Australia an opportunity to...become a global leader in refugee protection again. The question is not whether we can rise to the occasion, but whether we choose to.

Click/tap above for links to the individual original reports

Your giving changes lives — here's two instances...

Case study: **Indebted & empowered**

'Patrick' arrived in 2019 on a student visa and applied for a protection visa. Our immigration process meant he had to see out the term of his student visa, with limited work rights (max. 20 hrs/week) and no Medicare access, before transitioning to a *Bridging Visa A* with the same work rights but with Medicare.

During this time, unreliable and insufficient employment led to homelessness, exacerbating Patrick's mental health situation. And, with rejection of his primary protection visa application, he was awaiting a review from the Administrative Review Tribunal (ART).

Fortunately, Patrick was referred to the Asylum Seekers Centre and, in turn to Bridge where our funds assisted him to get stable, secure accommodation. Eventually successful in his ART, Patrick was still ineligible for full work rights but Bridge's support allowed him to maintain his housing where he felt safe and secure.

An application for government support was ultimately successful (with Bridge aid then no longer needed) and shortly thereafter, Patrick got permanent residency.

Ever grateful to Bridge, particularly helping him get off the streets, Patrick feels significantly stronger and committed to being an active, productive Australian.

Case study: **Reinforcing her resilience**

Jamila, a single woman from Africa, was homeless with no income or savings when introduced to Bridge. With our assistance, she rented a room, providing much-needed safety and support while she dealt with considerable health issues.

Determined to maintain her independence, Jamila initially sought employment from within her community networks. Sadly, her health worsened and working wasn't an option.

However, Bridge maintained Jamila's financial support (covering rent and essentials) until, after quite some time, she was accepted onto a federally-funded support program. Jamila's resilience, combined with Bridge support, enabled her to regain stability and strengthen her independence.

Audited Proof

Bridge for Asylum Seekers' outgoings are just 0.61% of expenditure, so our clients directly receive

99.39%

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