



Refugee Communities Association of Australia Inc.
For Refugees / With Refugees / By Refugees

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Media Release

RCAA Congratulates Australian Government on Granting the 1 Millionth Refugee Visa

The Refugee Communities Association of Australia (RCAA) congratulates the Australian Government on reaching a historic milestone last week the granting of the **1 millionth** refugee and humanitarian visa since Australia commenced its humanitarian intake in 1947.

This historic milestone represents far more than a number. It reflects one million stories of courage, renewal and contribution. Refugees have arrived from different regions at different times, rebuilding their lives and enriching Australia through industry, innovation and community leadership. They have embraced Australian values with pride, a deep sense of belonging and love for this nation, strengthening Australia's standing as one of the most successful multicultural countries in the world.

RCAA Chairperson, Parsu Sharma Luitl JP, said: "The granting of the one-millionth refugee visa is a moment to cherish and celebrate not only for refugees, but by all Australians with pride. While we celebrate this milestone, RCAA encourages everyone to share the positive contributions made by refugees to Australia. There are thousands of untold histories and contributions that remain largely unheard, and they deserve to be acknowledged."

Australia's world-class settlement services, supported by government funded settlement service providers and strong grassroots community leadership, have helped humanitarian entrants feel at home upon arrival, rebuild their lives and contribute to Australia's social and economic wellbeing. This milestone is an opportunity to reflect on the resilience of those who fled danger, honour their achievements and recognise Australia's long humanitarian tradition. In reality, except for a very small minority, majority of Australians are kind, compassionate and welcoming towards refugees.

Mr Sharma Luitl added: "RCAA will honour and celebrate this milestone at the 2nd RCAA National Conference in Adelaide in March 2026 and through activities across our chapters and partnerships throughout the year."

RCAA is an independent, membership-based, refugee-led peak body that works alongside people with lived experience to strengthen grassroots voices, advocate for refugee needs, build capacity and support successful settlement by identifying service gaps and helping communities access the support they need.

Guided by the principle *For Refugees, With Refugees, By Refugees*, RCAA represents refugee communities through state and territory chapters, ensuring local priorities are reflected and addressed across its work. We at RCAA are dedicated to advancing refugee leadership through advocacy, policy influence, capacity building and strong collaboration.

For more information, contact RCAA spokesperson Parsu Sharma Luitl JP on 0412 265 317 or by email: info@rcaoa.org.au