

To the Honourable Minister Coleman and Members of the House of Representatives,

We recognise there are currently only a few pathways for refugees to find a safe home in Australia. One of them is community-led resettlement through community sponsorship. To fully harness community generosity that can help refugees, Australia's sponsorship program needs to be designed in a way that encourages, not hinders, more people to take part, and that expands Australia's current refugee intake.

It needs to be **expanded**. It needs to be **improved**.

Right now, we have the opportunity to help celebrate the refugees in our communities and call for sponsorship of others who want to call our community home, when it is no longer safe for them to continue living in theirs. These are people who are like us. Refugees are our neighbours. Refugees play in our teams. Refugees volunteer in our communities. These are people who have lost their homes, their loved ones and life as they knew it.

Our new neighbours are asking for our help. We are calling on you to build a more generous and more accessible Community Support Program. **It must provide adequate support and services, limit costs, allow community, family and businesses to act as sponsors, it must not take places from others in need, and create more places for people in need of protection to settle in Australia.**

As a generous country we can and should do more.

Yours Sincerely,

NAME	POSTCODE	SIGNATURE	EMAIL	MOBILE	DATE OF BIRTH

Updated: 29 September 2018

**Names on this petition may also be presented to relevant Local Council staff, University Faculty and other targets. For more information contact [activism@amnesty.org.au](mailto:activism@amnesty.org.au).**

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REF-902

**Return all petitions to your local Amnesty Action Centre or post to Refugee Campaign, Locked Bag 23, Broadway, NSW 2007.**

**For more information visit [amnesty.org.au](http://amnesty.org.au) or call 1300 300 920**

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