

facts & figures

Cuts to support for people seeking asylum



Who are they?

13,299 people are at risk of losing support, **4,059** of those are children (this was the number of people on the Status Resolution Support Services program as at 27 February 2018, and the total of those under 18)

Between **72–88%** of those who came by boat have been found to be refugees so far (72% is the percentage of people granted protection as part of the Legacy Caseload as of 30 April 2018, and 78% and 88% is the number of those still on PNG and Nauru who have been found to be refugees as of 26 February 2018)



How much do they get?

A single person gets **less than \$35 a day** to live on (for a person without children, calculated according to 89% of Newstart rates)

The poverty line in 2016 is **\$63 a day** (50% of the median income in June quarter 2016)



Where else we can save money?

A person seeking asylum living in the community costs the government on average **\$10,221**, a person in community detention **\$103,343** and a person in held detention **\$ 346,660** (averages given for 2017-2018 year to date by the Department of Home Affairs on 21 May 2018)

What we spend on offshore processing would support **almost 145,000 people** in the community (based on \$1.48 billion estimated expenditure in 2017-18, divided by average cost of those in the community)

The money we spent resettling **7** people in Cambodia would have supported **661** people in the community (based on \$6.76 million spent on resettlement excluding \$40 million in development assistance, divided by average cost of those in the community)



Who is helping?

Many organisations, large and small, are already helping thousands of people seeking asylum in Australia. There are at least **150** organisations providing services across Australia.

Over **10,000** people seeking asylum were helped in 2016 and 2017 in NSW and Victoria alone.

These agencies have helped people with housing, financial help, English classes, education and employment, and social activities.

They have done so with the help of well over **2,000** ordinary people who have volunteered their time.

All rely on tens of thousands of generous donors.