



**Forever Free. Always Welcome.**

**A gift in your Will to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre  
can create a legacy capable of protecting freedom, forever.**



The Home of Hope mural provides a beacon of hope and welcome to all that visit the ASRC, depicting the birds, plants and produce from the home countries of the people we support.

**“The ASRC is called by people the ‘Home of Hope’. For me, it wasn’t just a place of hope – it was a place of belief, a place where I found my strength, and I found my resilience, and my new beginnings.**

– Amida\*

\*Throughout this booklet names have been changed and stories amalgamated to protect the identity of people seeking asylum

## Who we are

**The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre (ASRC) is Australia’s largest human rights organisation providing support to people seeking asylum. We are an independent not-for-profit organisation whose programs support and empower people seeking asylum to maximise their own physical, mental and social well being. We champion the rights of people seeking asylum and mobilise a community of compassion to create lasting social and policy change. The ASRC movement is proudly supported by a community of committed volunteers and supporters.**

We began as a TAFE project in 2001, when Kon Karapanagiotidis, then a teacher, discovered that people seeking asylum were living in the community with virtually no basic support. This led to the creation of a student-run and community funded Foodbank which was launched from a tiny shop in Footscray with only a few boxes of food. That same year, the ASRC was established on 8 June 2001.

As an independent, community-led organisation, the ASRC is in a unique position to advocate for the human rights of people seeking asylum, free from the pressures of government or the private sector. For this reason, the ASRC has been able to take a leading position in the opposition of Australia’s asylum seeker policy, while offering alternatives to issues faced by people seeking asylum and refugees.

Today we are the largest independent human rights organisations for refugees and people seeking asylum. Our work on the front line with people seeking asylum informs our practice and enables us to effectively advocate for and alongside people with lived experience.

We offer more than 40 holistic programs that protect people seeking asylum from persecution and destitution, support well-being and dignity, and empower people to advance their own future.

We are proudly owned and run by our community and supported by a network of more than 1,000 volunteers and 100 staff in assisting around 7,000 people seeking asylum each year.



**The ASRC is born**





## Message from Kon

Having the freedom to determine our own futures is a blessing we all deserve and something that the ASRC strives to make possible for refugees and people seeking asylum in our community every day. Giving a gift in your will to the ASRC is a powerful, compassionate way to help us continue this important work and to ensure the future dignity, freedom and independence of people seeking asylum in our community.

The growth of this organisation and movement for human rights since 2001 is an astonishing testament to the power of community and to the shared values of justice, integrity and respect for others upon which the ASRC is founded.

Thank you for considering leaving a gift in your Will to the ASRC as an expression of your values and a legacy of freedom and welcome to future generations.

**Kon Karapanagiotidis OAM**

Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Founder and CEO



## Our vision

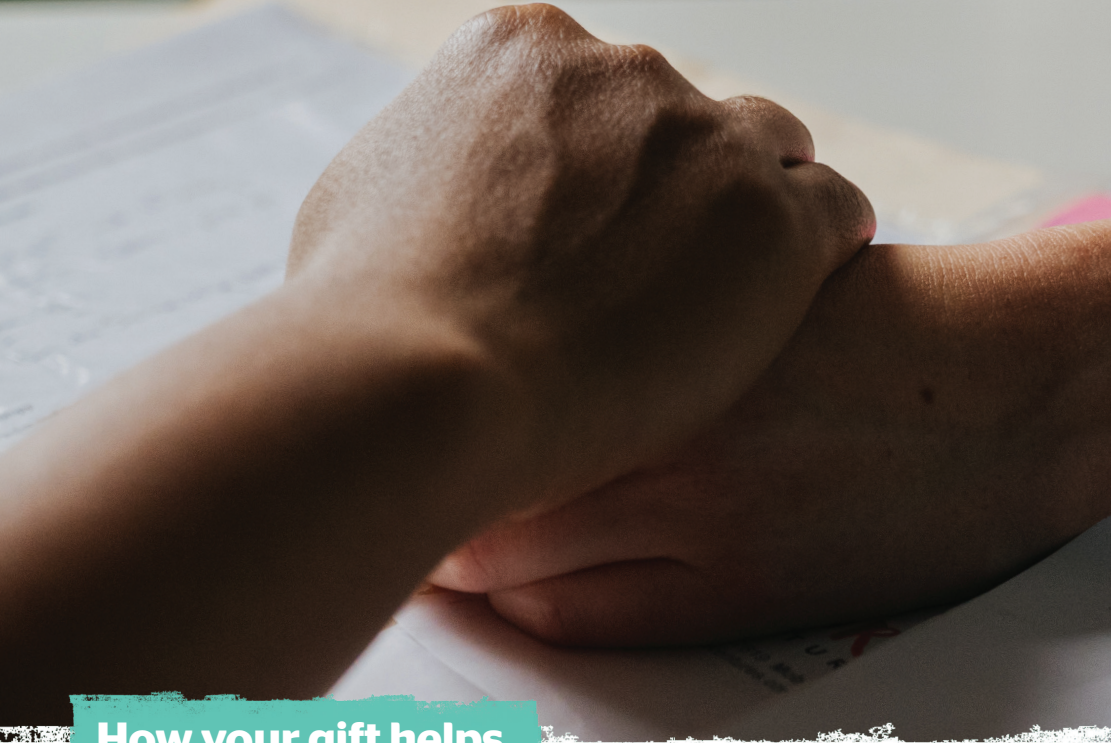
People seeking asylum and refugees can live safely, sustainably, independently and equally.

## Our purpose

The human rights of people seeking asylum and refugees are at the heart of all we do.

We work with people with lived experience to deliver and enable services and build a movement that delivers equality, inclusion and justice.





## How your gift helps

A gift in your Will of any size plays a vital role in ensuring the ASRC has the freedom to fearlessly continue to protect, support and empower people seeking asylum, so they can advance their own futures. Importantly, your gift helps the ASRC build capacity to independently advocate for people seeking asylum and drive lasting change.

**“Before, I felt very alone, like no one is here to help. If you leave your country, your heart is very small. You don’t have family, relatives, no one is here. When I went to the ASRC I feel I have family, I have friends, people who care.”**

– Aheda\*



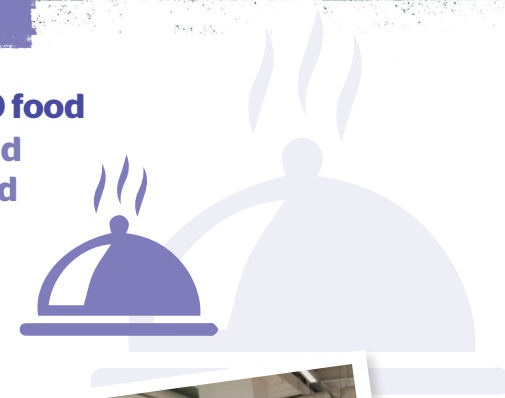
*A gift in your Will provides pathways to independence for people seeking asylum*



## Your gift can nourish

**Feed families by providing 5,000 food packs and make over a thousand home deliveries of essential food and groceries.**

**More than 80% of the people we support have no income.** The ASRC Foodbank is their only pathway to food security and personal hygiene items.



*ASRC foodbank provides food security*



A woman wearing a black hijab with white grid patterns is looking out a window. She is holding a thick, knitted blanket in shades of purple and blue. The background outside the window is blurred, showing trees and a building. A pinkish-purple rectangular box with a distressed, hand-painted edge is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing white text.

“ASRC is my home,  
my second home.

- Amida\*





## Your gift can protect

Provide a range of **primary health services**, prioritising people seeking asylum without access to Medicare.



**“I wouldn’t still be here if it wasn’t for counselling. I’ve remembered all the things you taught me and I’m using it to help other people in my new job.**

- Ayesha\*

Provide intensive **trauma-informed support** to high-risk clients.



Provide rental support to members who are facing **homelessness**, and have exhausted all other options.



**“The support of the ASRC helped me to keep going when things seemed hopeless.**

- Mulati\*



## Your gift can empower

Assist refugees and people seeking asylum to find **reliable work and develop career pathways** by partnering with employers to source suitable vacancies.



**Our Dandenong Hub** brings together community sector organisations, each with their own areas of expertise, to provide a one-stop-shop for people seeking asylum to access services, programs and community activities that increase their well-being.

Help refugees and asylum seekers find **reliable work and career pathways** through a mentoring program.







## Your gift can defend

**Actively engage in policy and law reform,** community legal education and training and outreach to detention centres.



**Advocate for people seeking asylum in onshore and offshore detention,** and provide emotional support, information about the complexities of Australia's policies, and make referrals to legal services.

**Offer holistic legal support at all stages of the refugee determination process** including expert immigration advice and representation.

**“When I came to them they were so promising towards me and they were so supportive. And they were there for me, like hope for a bright future.”**

– Yasmin\*

**“ASRC they helped me find work, pay rent and get medicine for my back. They gave me hope. I feel good that I can support my wife and daughter and keep them safe and healthy.”**

– Ali\*



Ali and Fatima\* are a married couple with a nine year old daughter, Kayla\*. Ali was working as a taxi driver but lost his job because of COVID-19. Ali suffers from chronic back pain due to a previous accident but like most people seeking asylum, Ali isn't eligible for any Government subsidies like Medicare or income support. With their case for asylum still pending before the Federal Circuit Court, and with no income or means of financial support, the family were at significant risk of homelessness and destitution. Fortunately, a friend of Ali's told the family about the ASRC and suggested they could get help with their situation.

When Ali and his family came to the ASRC they were at risk of homelessness, with no way to pay their rent, or bills, or put food on the table. Our caseworkers were able to provide rental support so they could keep their home, and ensured they had enough food to feed their family and medication to alleviate Ali's back pain.

Ali has since been supported back to work by our employment team who have been working closely with him to develop a plan that will provide a pathway to stable work. Ali's wife Fatima had never spoken with a mental health professional regarding the traumas of leaving her home. The family's caseworker organised for her to meet with someone from our Health Clinic and since then she has been regularly seeing a psychologist. Finally, their daughter Kayla has been able to access regular check-ups with Ellen in our Health Clinic, and the family now has a pre-paid prescription for medication to help manage her acute asthma.

**Your support provides hope and opportunities for people like Ali, Fatima and Kayla.**



## Become a Champion of Freedom

When you give a gift in your Will to the ASRC, you become one of our Champions of Freedom – a community of like minded fearless supporters who share a passion for the freedom and independence of people seeking asylum.

As a Champion of Freedom, you will help protect the autonomy and independence of people seeking asylum. Your gift of freedom will enable the ASRC to support and empower people to rebuild their lives in Australia.



“Why do I include the ASRC in my will? It’s simple. For justice. I know terrible things are happening to people in the world through no fault of their own. I’m doing what I can versus turning away due to overwhelm or hopelessness. At this stage of my life leaving a gift to the ASRC is my ‘can do’ action.”

*Belinda MacInnes*  
*Champion of Freedom since 2015*

“As a single ageing woman, with no dependents, where to leave my legacy was on my mind. I was already a regular donor to the ASRC when I realised I could include them in my will. I grew up in a working-class family and so I have learned the importance of pride and charity in helping people keep a positive mindset. I do not know how refugees would survive in Melbourne without the support of the ASRC and I am proud to help. I sincerely hope as a nation we have moved away from needing the ASRC by the time I pass on, but if not, I will help in any way I can, and I encourage you to do the same.

*Joanna Knight*  
*Champion of Freedom since 2018*



## Here you'll find three helpful documents

### Your choice

You can use this form to let us know of your intention to leave a gift in your Will

### Suggested wording

You can take this form with you to your legal advisor to help you give the appropriate gift in your Will

### Frequently Asked Questions

On this form you will find the answers to some of the questions you may have. If you have any other questions, please contact us on 1300 692 772 or at [wills@asrc.org.au](mailto:wills@asrc.org.au)



# Frequently Asked Questions

## Can a gift in my Will make a difference?

Absolutely. A gift in your Will of any size plays a vital role in ensuring the ASRC can continue to protect, support and empower people seeking asylum so they can advance their own futures.

## What kind of gift can I give in my Will?

There are four types of gifts you can give in your Will:

### Residual

A residual gift is a portion of your estate, or the balance remaining after your loved ones and expenses are provided for. This is the best type of gift, and one we prefer supporters to consider because it maintains the relative value of your gift and automatically adjusts to changes in the value of your estate.



### Preferred Gift

### Pecuniary

A pecuniary gift allows you to give a specific amount of money to the ASRC.

### Percentage

A percentage gift allows you to choose a proportion of either the residue of your estate, or your entire estate, to the ASRC.

### Assets

An asset is considered anything of value, such as property, shares, jewellery or works of art. We would accept the property or asset with the understanding that we would seek to sell it and liquidate the assets to fund our programs. This type of gift, while valued, incurs further costs and liabilities to the ASRC.



## **How do I leave a gift in my Will?**

There are three main steps to creating a Will.

1. Consider your loved ones and the causes to which you would like to leave a lasting legacy.
2. Choose the type of gift you would like to leave.
3. Meet with your solicitor and provide our name (Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Incorporated) and ABN (64 114 965 815).

## **I already have a Will, do I have to create a new one?**

If you already have a Will but would like to leave a bequest to the ASRC, you can do so by making a simple addition to your existing Will. Your lawyer can help you do this – this is called a ‘codicil’.

## **The ultimate goal of the ASRC is to one day close its doors, why should I leave a gift in my Will?**

While we hope the ASRC won't be needed forever, the needs of people seeking asylum don't just end once they are granted refugee status. We promise to remain agile and innovative in addressing the needs of refugees and people seeking asylum, allowing them not just to survive, but to thrive.

## **Can I choose what my gift is used for?**

We request that gifts are left to us free of prescriptions so that the ASRC has the freedom to dedicate the gift to where it is needed most. Such a decision is made by the ASRC Management team.

## **Who should I tell about my gift in my Will?**

Once you have remembered the ASRC in your Will we encourage you to let us know. You do not have to tell us, but we would love the opportunity to thank you and welcome you as Champion of Freedom.



# Suggested Wording

**Once you have chosen the type of gift you wish to give, take this slip with you and speak to your legal advisor to draft the appropriate clause. To ensure your intentions are followed, it is important to word your Will to reflect this. The suggested wordings for each type of gift are set out below:**

## **Residual**

I bequeath to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Incorporated (ABN 64114965815) the whole of the residue of my estate to be for purposes that it shall determine, and this bequest will be free from all duties. The receipt of this bequest by any authorised officer of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre or successor organisation, shall form a valid discharge to my Executor.

## **Pecuniary or Percentage**

I bequeath to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Incorporated (ABN 64114965815) the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ / or percentage of my estate (complete as appropriate) to be used for purposes that it shall determine, and this bequest will be free from all duties. The receipt of this bequest by any authorised officer of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre or successor organisation, shall form a valid discharge to my Executor.

## **Asset**

I bequeath to the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Incorporated (ABN 64114965815) property or asset / freehold/leasehold property situated at and comprised in Certificate of Title No \_\_\_\_\_ (complete as appropriate). I direct my Trustee to sell said property and I bequeath the net proceeds of the sale to Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Incorporated to be used for its work as decided by their management team. The receipt of this bequest by any authorised officer of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre or successor organisation, shall form a valid discharge to my Executor.



# Your choice

**You can use this form to let us know if you intend to remember the ASRC in your Will. Whatever you decide, we hope you feel comfortable to tell us. We respect that this is a deeply personal decision and will protect your privacy and confidentiality at all times, under our Privacy Policy.**

## Please tick the appropriate box:

- ☐ I have included a gift to ASRC in my Will, in the form of:
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residue of my estate     | <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative or conditional gift |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asset/s                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Percentage of my estate         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pecuniary (specific sum) |  |
- ☐ I am considering including ASRC in my Will.
- Please contact me on
- between the hours of  and  to discuss in confidence.
- ☐ I do not wish to be contacted again regarding a gift in my Will to ASRC.

## Your details

Title:  First name:

Surname:

Spouse's name (if applicable):

Street address:

Suburb:  State:  Postcode:

DOB:  Phone:

Email:

**Please return using the reply paid envelope included in this pack.**

Alternatively, we can be reached via email at [wills@asrc.org.au](mailto:wills@asrc.org.au) or call us on 1300 692 772.



**Thank you for considering giving a gift in  
your Will to the ASRC. You are a rare kind  
of generous. Together, we can fight for  
freedom and create a more compassionate  
and welcoming society for refugees and  
people seeking asylum in Australia.**

214-218 Nicholson Street, Footscray VIC 3011  
PO Box 2381, Footscray VIC 3011

**Fancy a chat?** Please get in touch  
Call: 1300 692 772 | Email: [wills@asrc.org.au](mailto:wills@asrc.org.au)  
**[asrc.org.au](http://asrc.org.au)**



Because we care, we only print on paper made from recycled material.  
\*ASRC Member names changed to protect privacy.

