



# Presentation Sisters - Lismore

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*Emmaus*  
100 High Street,  
Lismore NSW 2480

Committee Secretary  
Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee  
Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100 Parliament House  
Australia Canberra ACT

Dear Committee Secretary.  
Re: Inquiry into the Migration Amendment (Evacuation to Safety) Bill 2023

We, the Lismore Presentation Sisters, welcome the opportunity to support the Bill, which compels the Government to offer transfer to Australia to all persons subject to offshore processing still in PNG or Nauru within one month of the commencement of the Bill.

We believe that the Bill must pass because after a decade of inhumane treatment, many of these people held offshore are in a critical condition and in need of immediate medical help. It is the responsibility of the Australian government to uphold the rights of these people who came to our shore seeking asylum.

We seem to have forgotten that Australia is a signatory to the universal declaration of human rights which states that:-

***Everyone has a right to life, liberty and security of person.(Art.3)***

***No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.(Art. 5)***

***Everyone has a right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution. (Art. 14)***

For the past 10 years, the human rights of these people have been ignored. They have been subjected to cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment. Their mental, emotional and physical health has deteriorated. It is past time to bring them to Australia where they can begin to rebuild their shattered lives.

Sr. Anne Shay pbvm  
for the Lismore Presentation Sisters.  
**20-02-23 UN World Day of Social Justice.**