



SUBMISSION: Migration Amendment (Evacuation to Safety) Bill 2023.

To who it might concern, Mums4refugees actively supports the Migration Amendment (Evacuation to Safety) Bill 2023

Mums4refugees is a grassroots organization that provides emergency aid to people seeking asylum and people from refugee backgrounds, we collaborate with refugee agencies, and human rights law firms with over 8000 active members from all different backgrounds, we believe in an Australia that is compassionate and complies with its International obligations of the 1967 Protocol Status of Refugees.

For the past 10 years Mums4refugees has provided emergency aid to people seeking asylum including people who were in offshore detention, we have witnessed the detrimental treatment of people seeking asylum and the long-term impact on the lives of hundreds including young children and pregnant women.

Through our volunteer support program, we have been birth partners of women who were Medivec after court battles just to be able to deliver their babies with out losing their lives.

We also supported families with kids who suffered from Resignation Syndrome, and we have seen first-hand the long-term consequences of the inadequacy of offshore detention system.

We believe that this bill will compel 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 all people transfer receive appropriate medical/psychiatric assessment or treatment and automatically be placed into community detention, and will not be held in immigration detention centres or Alternative Places of Detention.

Based on our experience supporting the community we support this bill as community detention has been proven to be a better arrangement for people transfer to Australia, based on the fact that it provides accommodation and basic income.

There are 150 people seeking asylum who are in critical condition and it is the responsibility of the Australian Government, not the PNG or Nauru Governments, to provide urgent medical care and uphold the rights of people seeking asylum.

For the last 10 years, governments have chosen to deny many refugees the ability to rebuild their lives in safety, by detaining them in PNG and Nauru.

The current Labor government stated in their 2022 ALP National Platform:

“Labor will ensure asylum seekers who arrive by irregular means will not be punished for their mode of arrival.”

“Labor Improve the medical transfer process, establish an Independent Health Advice Panel to provide medical advice and maintain ministerial discretion in all decision-making.”

Mums4refugees believes, the Migration Amendment (Evacuation to Safety) Bill 2023, is an opportunity to show leadership and vision from the current government and to set a true precedent, that the Albanese government is willing to provide steps for true reconciliation with the asylum-seeking community while sending a clear message to the rest of the world that Australia is back as nation that protect human rights.

In solidarity and friendship

Dulce Muñoz - National Convener Mums4Refugees

2018 Humanitarian Award City of Sydney

2019 Community Service Award WLS NSW

2020 Inner West Council Women of the Year

2021 Edna Ryan Award for Community Service

2021 Community Service Award by NSW Health