

“Operation #Not Forgotten”

“Operation #NotForgotten” is a project developed by two Canadian non-profit organizations, Canada Caring Society and MOSAIC. The goal is to offer hope and a permanent solution to refugees who have been held for the past seven years on Manus Island in Papua New Guinea and Nauru and have no viable options available to them.

The organizations plan to sponsor up to 200 refugees currently held on Manus Island and Nauru to resettle in Canada under Immigration Canada’s Private Refugee Sponsorship Program. These are refugees who have no opportunity for safe, permanent re-settlement available to them because they are ineligible for the arrangement Australia has negotiated with the United States.

Volunteers in Canada are being trained to form 5-person settlement teams to provide the necessary support for the refugees when they arrive in Canada. The Australian community needs to be the major contributor to funding this effort.

“Operation #NotForgotten” is endorsed by the Refugee Council of Australia and Amnesty International. Partners in Canada, Australia and around the world will be raising funds to cover the cost to settle in Canada.

For each person \$16,500 (Canadian) is needed. This is approximately \$ 18,000 (Australian). While the total of about \$3.6 million (Australian) for 200 people is daunting, donations have already commenced and enough for about 15 people has already been raised without this public campaign. One man from Manus has settled in Vancouver and another will be travelling to Canada very soon.

Applications for the first group of people are currently being submitted and as additional funds come in we will put in more applications. Donations by individuals, community groups, churches and companies of any amount will make a difference.

How can you give?

The Refugee Council of Australia is receiving Australian donations for Operation Not Forgotten. Australian donations to this appeal over \$2 are tax deductible.

Please donate through this link, or, direct to RCOA's bank account: BSB 062033 account number 10432319 giving reference 'CAN, your initial, plus surname' (eg. CAN A Smith) and then send an email to admin@refugeecouncil.org.au so we can identify your payment.

<https://action.refugeecouncil.org.au/notforgotten>