

# World Refugee Day 2023: 'Hope away from home'



**'Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution.'**

- Article 14, Universal Declaration of Human Rights

20 June is World Refugee Day when we celebrate the courage and resilience of people who have fled their countries to seek safety from persecution. Working with expert organisations such as the Refugee Advice and Casework Service (**RACS**) and Refugee Legal to help people who seek safety in Australia has been a key part of Hall & Wilcox's pro bono practice from its inception.

Over the past year we have assisted people seeking asylum with judicial review of decisions made by the Immigration Assessment Authority and obtained urgent injunctions to prevent removal until ministerial intervention applications were determined.

Today is also a day to recognise the tireless work of the lawyers at places like RACS and Refugee Legal who help so many people seeking asylum, and whose expertise and guidance we so rely on.

We continue to assist RACS and Refugee Legal with clinics responding to the crisis in Afghanistan, and helping people to apply for permanent visas.

*'Our partnership and collaboration with Hall & Wilcox have been invaluable in supporting our work to provide critical legal help – and hope – to many thousands of people each year. We could not achieve all that we do without partners like Hall & Wilcox. They remind us of the generosity of spirit and depth of goodwill that exists in the community for what we do. Their support has allowed us to provide increased legal assistance across a range of our services.'*

*In particular, Hall & Wilcox – under the training and supervision of our legal team – have assisted many people on temporary protection visas to apply for permanency and assisted many people lodge family reunion applications. Additionally, they were critical to our ability to rapidly expand our service delivery to respond to the crises in Afghanistan.'* – Refugee Legal

In 2022, we were connected with Maryam Zahid, Founder of Afghan Women on The Move (**AWOTM**), and have developed a pro bono relationship with the organisation. AWOTM is an organisation that is able to support the health, mental wellbeing, individual growth and development of Afghan and other women of diverse backgrounds in Australia. We are grateful to have the opportunity to use our skills to help this organisation thrive.

**108.4 million people**

worldwide have been forced to flee

**35.3 million** are refugees

**41%** are under 18 years of age

Worldwide, we are now witnessing the highest levels of displacement on record. According to the latest figures, at the end of 2022, [108.4 million people](#) around the world have been forced to flee from conflict, persecution, violence, human rights violations or events seriously disturbing public order. Among them are nearly 35.3 million refugees, 41% of whom are under the age of 18. To learn more and find out how to get involved in efforts to assist refugees and people seeking asylum, visit the UNHCR's [World Refugee Day](#) webpage, as well as [RACS](#), [Refugee Legal](#) and [AWOTM](#).

## Contact



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