

## DESTITUTION HAS MULTIPLE IMPACTS

The result of destitution can include homelessness, poor physical and mental health, as well as social isolation.

At a crucial time when a person faces the uncertainty of a safe future, the compounding impact of destitution can be devastating.

The Department of Immigration knew this when they developed the forerunner of the SRSS program (the Community Care Pilot) in 2009.

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*"When their health and welfare issues are stabilised, people are better able to think clearly, exercise choice and participate in resolution of their immigration status."*  
—Department of Immigration

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Act now to prevent growing levels of destitution for already vulnerable people!

#dignitynotdestitution

**We believe that no person lawfully residing in Australia should be forced into destitution through the removal of access to financial and housing supports.**

**ACRT**

AUSTRALIAN CHURCHES  
REFUGEE TASKFORCE

#dignitynotdestitution

**DIGNITY**

**NOT DESTITUTION**

**If you had no income or family in Australia, how would you live? Who would you turn to?**

Up to 12,000 people seeking asylum in Australia are at risk of losing core services and financial support.

We believe that no person lawfully residing in Australia should be forced into destitution through the removal of access to financial and housing supports.

**You can take action NOW!**

#dignitynotdestitution

**ACRT**

AUSTRALIAN CHURCHES  
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Around 12,000 people seeking asylum in Australia may be at risk of losing core services and financial support due to Government changes in the Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS).

A number of people seeking asylum are already surviving on emergency handouts from a range of charities, and living with friends or community members, often in vulnerable or unstable conditions. With these changes, the level of destitution is going to increase to unprecedented levels.

Thankfully most people seeking asylum have the right to work. But we know finding employment can take time. Whilst people are seeking employment, we believe they should not be forced into destitution.

**Make a difference by taking action today!**



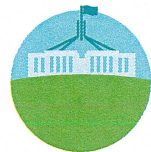
**HOW CAN I HELP?**



**Advocate**

Use the tear off section of this pamphlet to send a message to the Prime Minister. Write a short note in your own words in the space provided and send in an envelope to:

The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, Prime Minister  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600



**Write or visit your MP personally**

Write personally or visit your local MP expressing your deep concern in relation to the impending increase in destitution. More information can be accessed from the Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce (ACRT) website. [www.acrt.com.au](http://www.acrt.com.au)



**Become a HomeHost or a HomeHost supporter**

HomeHost is an idea to support people living in destitution. A number of churches and individuals across Australia have already provided a safe place for people facing destitution. View the HomeHost Guide for further information on the ACRT website. [www.acrt.com.au](http://www.acrt.com.au)



**Donate**

Donate through the ACRT to support people facing destitution. Alternatively, you can find an agency in your State or Territory to donate through the Refugee Council listing. [www.refugeecouncil.org.au/takeaction/let-them-stay-donate/](http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/takeaction/let-them-stay-donate/)

Dear Prime Minister,

I am deeply concerned that people seeking asylum are being removed from crucial financial supports through the SRSS that could result in the loss of stable accommodation and access to basic subsistence needs.

I agree that finding employment is an empowering way to live in the Australian community and to participate in Australian life. However, I urge you to continue essential financial support through the SRSS until a person is able to secure employment.

I further believe that;

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Yours sincerely,

Name: .....

Signed: .....

Address: .....

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