

Thank you for your meaningful support to those seeking asylum

Dear St. Pius X Community,

Jesuit Refugee Service Australia would like to thank you for your generous and thoughtful donation to our foodbank drive. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic brought immense hardship to all members of Australian society. For refugees, people seeking asylum, and migrants in vulnerable situations, this hardship was amplified to a significantly greater degree.

It is a testament to your generosity and spirit that after an extremely challenging year, your school, St. Pius X, has come together again in 2021 to support these communities.

Whilst we are a year and a half on from the start of the pandemic, most of the people whom we serve who lost their jobs have been unable to regain employment. Throughout the last year and a half they have also been denied access to Federal Government support, including JobKeeper and JobSeeker, leaving many many families and individuals confronting destitution. We have heard from many that the support which they receive from charities like JRS has been their only hope.

Since the onset of the pandemic, heightened food insecurity has been an overwhelming feature of the immense disadvantages which we have witnessed. Currently, the JRS food bank feeds around 950 people a week, and in 2020, we faced an unprecedented 263% increase in demand for our services.

It is in the context of this crisis that help from the community is vitally important. With the support and generosity of schools like yours, the suffering of these marginalised communities is being eased; thank you for answering the call and walking in solidarity with those doing it so tough.

Thank you again for your wonderful contribution and accompaniment. Please be assured that we at JRS, along with the refugees, people seeking asylum, and migrants in vulnerable situations with whom we work are immensely grateful for your kindness, which makes a tremendous difference to people's lives.

With gratitude and best wishes,



Tamara Domicelj
Country Director
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