Julie Nield Ormond Primary School Wheatley Rd Ormond VIC 3204

Dear Julie

Thank you!

ASRC Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Foodbank

On behalf of the ASRC Foodbank and Material Aid, I want to say a huge thank you to you and your school community for your **incredible** donation of groceries and winter coats. It was quite extraordinary! Much of the delivery has been given out and is in the homes of people seeking asylum already.

Our Food & Goods program operates as a free grocery store for people seeking asylum where they can choose their own items providing dignity and access to food they can't afford to buy. Approximately 600 people seeking asylum shop at the Foodbank each week and half of those rely on us as their sole source of food. Many of these people are denied the right to seek work and earn an income, while others may receive small amounts. Sadly, this is increasingly the case and the call on our service is growing.

The groceries you donated were significant, and are helping our Foodbank to provide items that so many of our members cannot afford to buy, and we take for granted. Without an income to support them, ASRC wants to ensure that those seeking asylum in our community are not left without healthy food in constant supply and basic household items.

If I didn't have access to this food I would be in a big crisis.

66

Addisu, ASRC Member

With the community's support, the ASRC currently provides:

- groceries to 600 people every week, many of whom are children
- support to families who have no income at all and more than 90% of all our ASRC members are food in secure
- food in a fair and dignified way that is healthy and culturally appropriate
- essential items to make transition to a new life more comfortable

We couldn't do it without you!. We find it inspiring when donations such as yours arrive at ASRC. We know our Dandenong office is very grateful for your support of local families.

For more information about the work of ASRC, please visit our website at www.asrc.org.au

Once again, please pass on our thanks to your team for their support; it is greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Williams – Food and Goods Coordinator 214-218 Nicholson St Footscray VIC 3011 p. 03 9326 6066 e. foodandgoods@asrc.org.au