

## **WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?**

**There are currently approximately 8.4 million refugees worldwide.** (UCA)

**Poorest countries support the most refugees. Australian refugee intake ranks 32<sup>nd</sup> in the world.**

(Amnesty/ TEAR)

**Australia accepts 13,000 refugees each year (inc. 6000 overseas applicants), compared with a proposed 2007-08 migration intake of 152,800.** (DIAC)

**As of 5 October there were 457 people in Immigration Detention in Australia, including 67 in community detention.** (DIAC)

**Since 2001 offshore detention has cost Australia more than \$500,000 per person to process fewer than 1,700 asylum seekers in Nauru, Manus & Christmas Island.** (AJA)

**Government policies currently ensure that welfare, health services and basic subsistence are available only to a limited subset of asylum seekers.**

**Many asylum seekers in our community are destitute, relying for their survival on charitable organizations and individuals.**

**Often a family seeking to flee a country where they are in danger will pool their resources to send one person to seek asylum, in the hope they will then be able to reunite the family. Anyone requesting asylum once in Australia, even if they are found to be a genuine refugee, is given a temporary visa that does not allow family reunion.**

Most material in this information sheet is drawn from the websites of CARAD and A Just Australia, and the Uniting Church in Australia's Federal Election 2007 resource kit.