

# Our Values and Behaviours

| Value      | What we expect to see  | How we will act  |
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| Respect    | Regardless of how they arrived in Australia, those seeking asylum should be treated with human dignity. For example, they should be identified by their own name not a number.   | We will remind community members that refugees and those seeking asylum are people like us. They are not able to return to their countries of origin. They are not migrants.<br>We value the stories of the refugees' efforts to seek safety and their resilience in face of the disrespect perpetrated by Australia.<br><b>We are willing to listen to those with opposing views without compromising our values.</b> |
| Compassion | The person seeking asylum should be the centre of concerned action rather than the object of political direction. For example, individualised future settlement plans rather than dogma like "No-one who comes by boat will ever settle in Australia".   | We talk about the negative impact of poor practice on individuals and families.<br>We highlight the impact on children and condemn abuse and deliberate neglect.<br>We call out political dogma.<br><b>We look after each other and acknowledge that we all do whatever we can.</b>  |
| Hope       | People thrive when there is a realistic chance that they can actively contribute to improving their future. Mental ill-health is an outcome when hope is blocked or not fostered.  | We support each other in carrying hope for refugees who might be losing hope.<br>We strive to continue to work for change and a better future.<br>We do our best to assure refugees that we have not given up.<br><b>We find ways to maintain our own collective hope. We are not deterred by political put downs.</b>   |
| Fairness   | Processes should be clear, timely and consistent, with adequate support and legal representation. For example, interpreters from the same ethnic or religious background should be accessible rather than someone who just happens to speak the language.  | We remind politicians and government officials of human rights, legal and moral obligations and support projects that challenge unjust practice.<br>We call out discrimination.<br><b>We act in just ways.</b>   |
| Care       | Basic physical, emotional and health needs should be provided for. For example, people should feel safe and able to ask for assistance and independent monitors should ensure they actually receive it.  | We call for appropriate resourcing.<br>We appeal to the humanity of politicians and community.<br><b>We remind ourselves about what we would want for our children and grandchildren.</b>  |
| Equality   | Refugees should be treated as equals not second-class non-citizens. For example, they should not be confined in detention, including hotel accommodation, where they cannot socially distance and are exposed to security staff coming and going when the government is constantly asking for social distancing. | We oppose mandatory detention of people seeking asylum.<br>We highlight discrepancies and discrimination and call out government rhetoric that disrespects the humanity of all people.<br><b>We value the contribution and input from all our members.</b>   |
| Courage    | Courage to seek a safe future against all odds should be recognized and acknowledged. For example, those refugees and whistle blowers who continue to speak up should be listened to rather than be silenced and punished.   | We remain confident to take calculated risks to assist the voice of the refugee to be heard and to support their courage.<br><b>We challenge our own comfort level when deciding our actions.</b>  |
| Honesty    | Truth telling opens the possibility for change and growth. Growth and change are blocked when politicians hide behind demonising language and popularism.  | We need to be sure of our facts and call out mistruths.<br>We use correct terms and reclaim correct language.<br><b>We back up what we are saying with substantiated facts.</b>  |