



# Asylum Seekers Centre

Annual Report • 2011-2012

ABN: 47 164 509 475

CENTRE ASYLUM  
SEEKERS



Asylum seekers and refugees, by definition, are risk takers and highly motivated. They have **abandoned almost everything** for an opportunity to live in **safety** and **freedom**.

Their early days may be difficult because they come with little or **no financial resources**, their skills are probably not recognised and they often have **language** difficulties. But they quietly go about building a **new life**, acquiring skills, **getting a job** and **educating** their children.

They **pay back many-fold** the generosity they initially receive and **contribute** to Australia out of all proportion to their number.

It is a great **success story** for all Australians.”

---

John Menadue AO  
Patron  
Asylum Seekers Centre





# Table of contents



04

About the Asylum Seekers Centre

05

Our Clients

06

Our Patrons and Board

08

Chair's Report

09

CEO's Report

## Our Programs:

10

Casework

12

Health

14

Employment

16

Volunteers

18

Fundraising

21

Financials

23

Acknowledgements

24

Contact




## Asylum Seekers Centre

THE ASYLUM SEEKERS CENTRE IS A PLACE WHERE people are made to feel welcome, safe and supported. We believe that all those seeking asylum in Australia should have their human rights upheld whilst they receive the support and opportunities they need to live independently.

We service the full spectrum of community-based asylum seekers' needs. We provide assistance for a wide range of critical needs, including:

- Homelessness
- Financial and material support
- Food insecurities
- Health care
- Mental health needs

 We service the full spectrum of community-based asylum seekers' needs.

We aim to provide asylum seekers with services that promote self sufficiency and independence to assist them to build the foundations for life in Australia. We provide:

- Language classes
- Skills development
- Employment assistance

The Centre also advocates for a fair and equal opportunity for asylum seekers to partake and contribute to the community.

We are an independent, not-for-profit organisation and rely totally on grants, donations and volunteer support. ...



### Our Vision

Asylum seekers are welcomed to Australia and afforded a dignified, meaningful and safe existence pending the fair, transparent and expeditious resolution of their claims.



### Our Mission

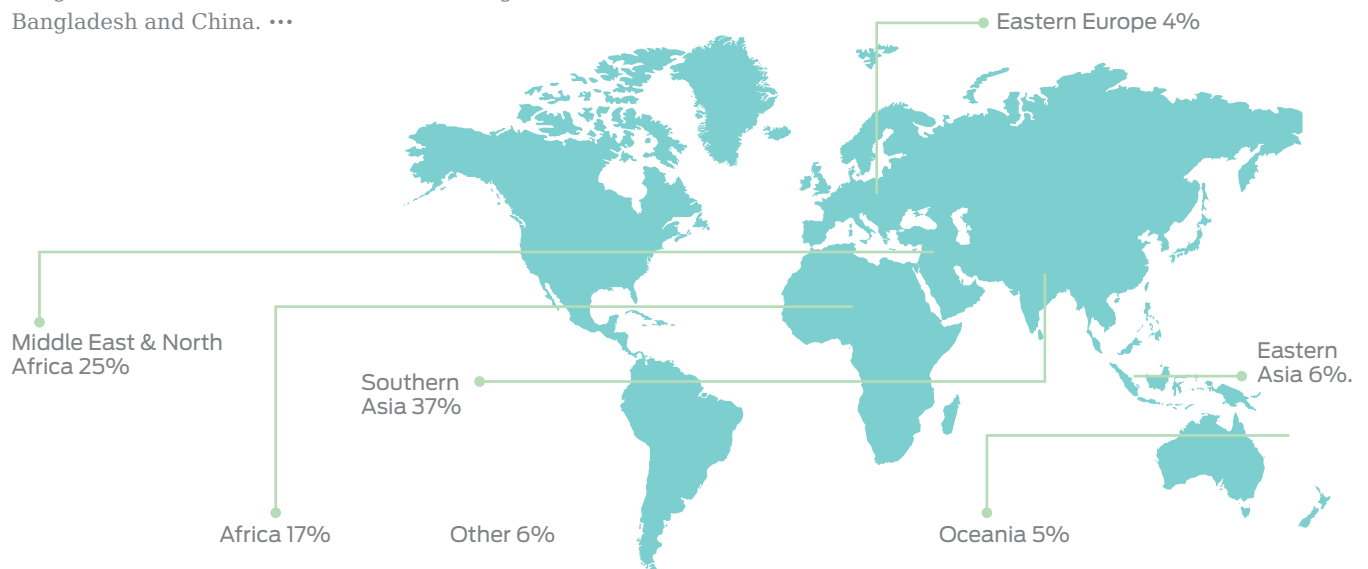
To provide a welcoming environment and practical support for community-based asylum seekers residing in NSW, while building community support and pursuing social justice outcomes for them.



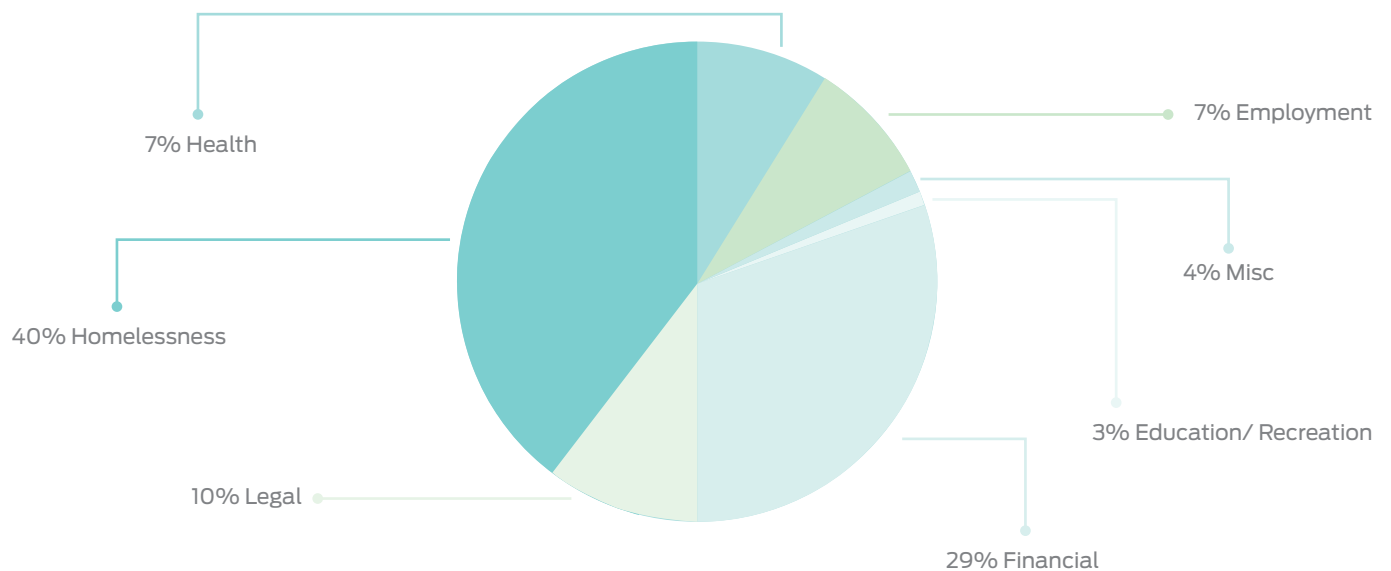
# Our Clients in 2011-12

## Country of Origin

Our new clients came from over 45 countries with the greatest numbers from Iran, Pakistan, Nigeria, Bangladesh and China. ...



## Primary Reasons for Referral



## Patrons

---



### **Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO**

Governor of New South Wales

### **John Menadue AO**

John Menadue has had a distinguished career in the public sector, including service as Head of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet under two Prime Ministers, Ambassador to Japan and, over a period of time, Secretary of the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Department of Special Minister of State and Department of Trade. Private sector appointments have included CEO of Qantas, Director of Telstra, Director of NSW State Rail and Chair of the Australia-Japan Foundation. John is currently a Board Director of the Centre for Policy Development. ...

---

## Board Members

---



### **Stephen Bradley: Chair**

Steve has extensive commercial experience in business strategy and the effective use of information technology. He has been responsible for some of the largest change programs in Australia. Since finishing full time work, he has been involved in a number of not-for-profit enterprises.



### **Frances Rush: Deputy Chair**

Assistant Director, Office of the Public Guardian. Frances has extensive experience in complex case management and crisis intervention and has been associated with ASC since its inception.



# Board Members



## Lachlan Murdoch: Treasurer

Deputy Director, NSW Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors (STARTTS). Lachlan was a founding member of ASC and brings extensive expertise in refugee trauma and mental health matters.



## Christopher Fogarty: Secretary

Christopher is a retired lawyer and consultant with extensive experience in governance, management and international development. Christopher served for nine years as Chair of Australian Volunteers International.



## Steven Glass

Partner in the law firm Gilbert + Tobin. Steven has practised for 25 years, specialising in commercial litigation. For 10 years he has led the firm's pro bono refugee practice. Steven has been a regular visitor to Christmas Island and other detention centres to represent asylum seekers.



## Tom Gregory

Tom has more than 35 years of international finance and management experience, including 28 years as chief executive of a company of which he is currently non executive chairman. For over a decade, he was non executive director of a not-for-profit publisher, and is head of a Private Ancillary Fund he established in 2002. Tom and his parents arrived in Australia as refugees.



## Graham Thom

Refugee Coordinator, Amnesty International Australia. Graham has visited detention centres and refugee camps both in Australia and throughout the region. He has chaired the NSW Asylum Seeker Interagency since 2000.



## Jack Thomas

Jack has a broad background in marketing and international operations management. Immediately before retirement, he was President, Asia Pacific for Cognos, a leading supplier of business intelligence. Jack brings with him a passion for human rights.



## Wendy Watson

Wendy holds a Ministerial Appointment as an Official Visitor Mental Health and an Attorney General's Appointment as Guardian ad Litem. She has held senior positions in education as a school principal and in welfare as a senior manager.

## Chair's Report



This is my first annual report as Chair of the Asylum Seekers Centre (ASC) and I would like to start by thanking all the wonderful staff, volunteers and supporters without whom the Centre could not exist. The commitment, dedication and generosity of all involved never ceases to inspire and motivate me.

DURING THE YEAR, THE ASC HAS REMAINED FOCUSED on the needs of our clients and has made a real difference to the 347 new clients who arrived at our door.

We are seeing an increase in the number of clients partly due to legislative, policy and program changes to the processing system and pathways to protection for asylum seekers who arrive by boat. There has also been an expansion of community detention, the shift to one refugee status determination process and the release of asylum seekers from closed immigration detention into the community on bridging visas.

It seems clear that regardless of the political party in power, the number of asylum seekers in the community requiring our support will continue to grow during the next few years.

As in previous years, the treatment of asylum seekers has been a very political issue, with the focus on border protection and 'boat people' and little attention paid to the caring and humane treatment of people arriving in our society in need of support. It seems clear that regardless of the political party in power, the number of asylum seekers in the community requiring our support will continue to grow during the next few years.

The Board is determined to increase the range, effectiveness and efficiency of our services while retaining a warm and caring environment that welcomes those who need our support. It is clear that our current premises are a major constraint on our ability to expand and we are working through the options to significantly expand our space in a financially prudent manner.

There have been some changes in key people through the year. Gary Rothwell resigned as Chair in October 2011 having lead the Board for seven years. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank him for his leadership and commitment during that time. Margaret Piper resigned as a Director in October 2011 having been associated with the ASC since its inception in 1993 and we thank her for her invaluable long term support and contribution. Tom Gregory joined the Board in December 2011 and brings with him a wide array of commercial and strategic skills.

Prabha Gulati resigned as Director of the Centre in June 2012 after nearly three years in the role and we thank her for guiding the ASC through some challenging times. The Board was delighted to appoint Melanie Noden as CEO in June 2012. Melanie brings a broad range of professional skills to the role and I am very confident that under her leadership the Centre will continue to improve and expand the services it provides.

I am very confident that the ASC is well positioned to adapt to the changing needs of asylum seekers and make an even bigger contribution in the future. I would particularly like to thank my colleagues on the Board for their support and commitment as we embark on a program of significant growth in the year ahead.



Steve Bradley

**Chair**

**Asylum Seekers Centre ...**



In December 2012, the Centre purchased its own premises, debt-free, due to the generous support of the Becher Foundation. We would like to also acknowledge those who donated to our new home, especially the Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand who have provided us with rent-free accommodation since 1993, and a number of our Board Directors who have a strong commitment to the Centre.




## CEO's Report



2011-12 was a tremendously busy, productive, and at times challenging year for the Centre. We experienced an upturn in client intake – with 347 new clients from 45 countries, in addition to our ongoing caseload of 100 clients.

THESE ASYLUM SEEKERS HAVE SURVIVED TORTURE and trauma, persecution and horrific circumstances in their countries of origin and are seeking safety and protection in Australia. They teach us about courage, determination, humility and survival.

The ASC continues to be a place of hospitality and welcome. It is an oasis for many people, a welcoming and safe place for those who have fled situations of great danger. Some refer to the Centre as their home – they often have no family and home left.

 The ASC continues to be a place of hospitality and welcome. It is an oasis for many people, a safe place for those who have fled situations of great danger.

Our focus is to meet the full spectrum of community based asylum seekers' critical needs as well as provide them with services that promote self-sufficiency and independence to assist them to fully integrate into the community. Details of the work undertaken by the ASC during 2011-12 are contained in this report. Particular highlights include:

- The launch of a microfinance program
- The introduction of an emergency accommodation fund
- Additional capacity to fund transport
- Additional funding to provide pharmaceutical and emergency health assistance

The limited support provided to asylum seekers living in the community, and the higher incidence of mental health symptoms of those released from detention, means that a greater number of our clients are increasingly reliant upon services provided by the ASC and other agencies to meet their basic subsistence needs. We continue to lobby, in collaboration with other sector agencies, for the granting of full work rights and health care entitlements to all asylum seekers and for adequate welfare provisions for those who are unable to self-support.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to all of the following people.

- Funders, partners and supporters who, through their donation of funds, expertise and material goods, both enable and encourage us in the delivery of our services.
- Our dedicated team of salaried and volunteer staff who continue to work so effectively to alleviate the suffering of our clients, while also accompanying them through periods of despair, grief, relief, disbelief, gratitude, hope and joy.
- The ASC Board Members whose good governance and leadership enable the ASC to meet the increasing demands on the Centre whilst continuing to demonstrate compassion and sensitivity towards the asylum seekers we serve.
- Our hard-working sector colleagues, whose efforts strengthen and complement our own.

Last but not least, I would like to thank the asylum seekers with whom we are so very privileged to work, and whose courage, resilience and dignity continue to inspire us daily in our efforts.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melanie Noden". The script is fluid and cursive.

Melanie Noden  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Asylum Seekers Centre ...**



## Casework Program

The Casework Program is the first point of contact for all new clients who arrive at the Centre. It allows their needs to be assessed and prioritised so that we can link them to the services and support they need.

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE PRACTICAL SUPPORT AND referrals in relation to accommodation, financial and material support, mental health, legal advice, advocacy and liaison with government and other sector agencies.

Our clients have lodged protection visa (refugee) applications. While they await the outcome, they lack access to casework support services and almost all require assistance with the basic needs to live as they are not eligible for income or health care entitlements.

They present with a broad and complex range of issues including poor physical or mental health, often related to torture and trauma.

They present with a broad and complex range of issues including poor physical or mental health, often related to torture and trauma. Many are suffering from extreme social isolation while others are at a critical legal junction, lack appropriate legal advice or face the imminent prospect of detention or deportation.

During the last year, 40% of asylum seekers who came to the ASC were homeless or at risk of imminent homelessness. With the creation of our Emergency Accommodation Fund, established with the generous support of the Freehills Foundation and Mercy Foundation, we were able to secure emergency accommodation for every single asylum seeker who arrived at our door. This meant no asylum seeker had to sleep on the street after coming to the ASC for assistance.

With the assistance of the Sisters of Charity, we were able to establish a transport fund to enable asylum seekers to access the vital services they need.

Our casework team assists clients to live a dignified life whilst awaiting the outcome of their application for refugee protection. We help them to meet their welfare needs, gain



secure accommodation and ensure they have adequate food supplies. We encourage them to make well informed decisions, to advocate for themselves and to understand their rights and responsibilities in relation to immigration and living in Australia.

The casework team is comprised of 2.25 FTE staff and four dedicated volunteers. ...

!

**Fact**

No asylum seeker had to sleep on the street after coming to the ASC for assistance.



## Priorities for 2012-13

- Continue to expand our comprehensive services in order to intervene before our clients are in crisis.
- Develop and expand innovative and sustainable solutions to meet the housing needs of homeless asylum seekers.
- Increase collaboration with our sector partners and other agencies.
- Further increase the number of casework volunteers and develop our volunteer training program.

### We are extremely grateful for the support we received from our funding partners, private donors and supporters.

In particular we would like to thank: Bridge for Asylum Seekers Foundation, Freehills Foundation, Mercy Foundation, Scully Fund, Sisters of Charity, Sydney Community Foundation, Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation. ...

### Key Statistics



# 447

clients received casework support.  
34% female, 66% male



# 350

clients received counselling sessions through our pro bono mental health providers.



# 50%

of new referrals were responded to in less than 24 hours.



# 100%

increase in the number of casework volunteers.

I want to say thank you to Asylum Seekers Centre. It has been close to six months now when they are giving me accommodation and food and water, this is incredible. A person like me from where I come from with such a humble background I feel extremely grateful to ASC and to all people that work with them to enable them do this phenomenal work. To be honest, for the past few months I have been in this country, Asylum has given me hope that I never had before and I even don't know how to express my sincere gratitude to them.

**Aorone**





## Health Care Program

The Health Care Program provides a broad range of services to asylum seekers who are ineligible for Medicare and do not have any financial income.

THEIR NEEDS INCLUDE MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS, psychiatry, dental care, optometry, pharmaceuticals and mental health counselling.

All of these services are supplied pro bono by our broad network of health care providers.

The health care needs of asylum seekers are complex. In addition to general medical conditions, they have often experienced torture and other trauma associated with organised violence or exile. Without our support, many would experience deterioration in their physical and mental health as their bridging visa status often renders them ineligible for Medicare or Centrelink benefits.

There were many positive changes to our Health Care Program during the year.

The valuable addition of a nursing presence 4 days a week has enabled us to increase our capacity to conduct baseline health checks and schedule more clients for consultations both onsite and in the community.

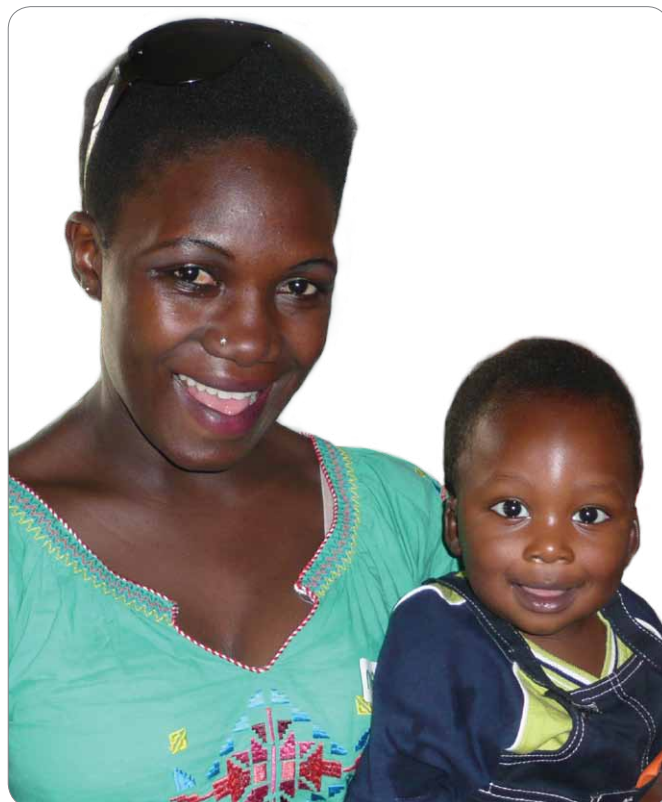


There were many positive changes to our Health Care Program during the year.

We recommenced a regular physio clinic at the Centre and also established a relationship with a community physio clinic which has agreed to see clients on a pro bono basis.

We were fortunate to receive the continued support of St Vincent's Private Hospital. Their nursing team provided two onsite flu-vax clinics, substantially reducing the incidence of clients with chest infections and flu during the winter season, and they are now presenting monthly health talks to clients on topics such as nutrition, heart health and dental care.

The support and commitment of Dr Mark Harris for over 12 years has enabled us to continue to meet the complex needs of our clients. He has a comprehensive



understanding of the health care requirements of refugees and asylum seekers and advocates tirelessly for their right to access primary health care.

To promote closer collaboration within the sector, the ASC successfully hosted the first Interagency Asylum Seeker Health Services Forum in March and also participated in the Refugee Nurses Forum.

Our major challenges have been to broaden our network of pro bono providers, supply increased pathology and radiology services and ease referral pathways to mainstream medical services. We continued to increase awareness within the health care sector of the difficulties faced by asylum seekers in accessing the public health system.

The program is provided by 0.6 FTE staff supported by five volunteers who provide direct care and health education. ...



## Priorities for 2012-13



- Increase the number of pro bono GPs in Sydney's western suburbs to service clients without Medicare.
- Increase the number of onsite primary health clinics in order to service a growing number of clients.
- Maintain a committed and dedicated volunteer team to manage and implement our wide range of health care services on a long term basis.

**We are extremely grateful for the support we received from our funding partners, private donors and supporters.**

In particular we would like to thank: NSW Health Department and the Mary McKillop Foundation. ...



I could not afford medicines or to go to the doctor as I did not have Medicare. But whenever my daughter or I were sick, we went to the Centre and they took care of us. They provided us with medicines, organised for us to have flu vaccinations or would write a letter for us to go to Emergency. They were very kind to me and helped me maintain my health while I was waiting for residency.

**Seble**

### Key Statistics



**195** clinic appointments



**57** GP and specialist referrals



**31** hospital referrals



**230** pharmaceutical prescriptions



**26** dental referrals



**62** physiotherapy appointments



**19** pregnancy referrals



**16** eye clinic referrals



**89** advocacy for waiving of fees



## Employment Assistance Program

Our Employment Assistance Program (EAP) provides a planned approach to helping asylum seekers find employment.



OUR AIM IS TO work with each person on an individual basis to assist the transfer of their professional skills, expertise and experience into Australian workplaces.

Finding work is of utmost importance to our clients. It restores their self esteem and provides them with the financial independence they so desperately need in order to start a new life.

The EAP team offers a range of employment assistance services: resume preparation, researching job opportunities and interview practice. Once employment is found, our team provides transitional support for 3 months to increase job retention as well as provide cultural training to help job seekers understand the expectations of Australian employers. They are also referred to relevant services such as Dress for Success, Dress for Work and The Centre for Volunteering.

During the year we launched a microloans program for our clients, offering interest free loans up to \$1,200 to meet the costs of vocational training or equipment. With the support of the Sisters of Charity, we were also able to provide transport assistance to enable clients to attend training courses and job interviews.

The EAP provides a free recruitment service for employers, matching suitably qualified job seekers with

job vacancies. We work closely with our employer partners to answer any questions they may have about recruiting asylum seekers on Bridging Visas.

During the year, we assisted 130 asylum seekers on a one-to-one basis in their quest to find a job or access professional training. We are extremely pleased that the program has not only succeeded in achieving a high rate of job retention, but has also helped to change public perceptions of asylum seekers. By taking part in our program, our employer partners are willingly demonstrating their commitment to social responsibility.



Only when I am employed will I feel confident and happy again.

**Hikmat**

A landmark development was the opening of a new EAP office in Waterloo Town Hall, courtesy of a City of Sydney accommodation grant. This enabled us to double the number of job seekers in the program to 80, significantly increasing our ability to match suitable asylum seekers with employers.

The EAP experience corresponds with the findings of the Hugo Report\* that asylum seekers make "...a distinct contribution as entrepreneurs by drawing on their risk taking nature and willingness to take up opportunities." Professor Hugo also found that children of refugee families are more likely to be highly educated and experience lower unemployment rates than the broader Australian community.

The EAP is managed by two part time staff and 23 volunteers. Each volunteer brings with them a wealth of business, managerial, trade and human resources experience. It is a sign of the strength and success of the program that our volunteers stay for a significant length of time, some since the program commenced in early 2010. ...

\*Government report by Professor Graeme Hugo OA into the Economic, Social and Civic Contributions of First and Second Generation Humanitarian Entrants, 2011.





## Priorities for 2012-13

- Link more employers with suitably qualified asylum seekers.
- Establish a social enterprise business to provide clients with work based training.
- Find employment pathways for asylum seekers with specialist skills in industries which are experiencing skills shortages.
- Maintain the current high standard of professional service provided to both employers and asylum seekers.

The EAP piloted a World Café approach by inviting business representatives to discuss how the community could improve the lives of asylum seekers. The goal is to help them become self-sufficient by either starting their own business or being part of a social enterprise venture. Initial results have led to new partnerships being developed between the ASC and the local community and the commencement of a business mentoring program.

### **We are extremely grateful for the support we received from our funding partners, employer partners, private donors and supporters.**

In particular we would like to thank:

Funding Partners: City of Sydney, State Street Foundation Fund at Give2Asia, Pratt Foundation, Sisters of Charity Foundation

Employer Partners: Bourke Street Bakery, Classic Greetings Sales, Dial a Dump Industries, Food Distribution Network, Our Big Kitchen, Planet Furniture, Red Lantern, South Sydney Community Transport, St Vincents & Mater Health, Whole Food House. ...



The Employment Assistance Program helped me to find my job, and without this help I wouldn't get this job. I was so pleased to get a job that continues my career as an accountant.

**Ruzha**

### *Key Statistics*



# 25%

didn't have work rights at first contact



# 75%

had work rights (50% increase over 2010-11)



# 100%

increase in employer partners



# 50%

increase in staff/volunteers



# 130

clients assisted to find work or access professional training



# 100%

increase in job seekers available to start work immediately



## Volunteer Program

---

The Volunteer Program enables the ASC to deliver a comprehensive range of critical services and social support to asylum seekers by maximising both our financial and human resources.

MORE THAN 160 SKILLED AND PROFESSIONAL volunteers are instrumental in every aspect of ASC services, including casework, health care, mental health, employment, development classes, recreational programs and daily hot lunches.

Volunteers and volunteer led programs develop skills, address critical needs, provide opportunities for community engagement and help asylum seekers overcome social isolation.

Our volunteers not only provide hands-on services but are also our ambassadors. They are advocates for asylum seekers and help to inform the community through their own networks of the challenges facing our clients.

During the past year, we achieved a 40% increase in volunteer numbers. This growth has been driven to address the increased number of asylum seekers requiring a greater depth of support across all program areas without putting pressure on the ASC's financial resources.

We have created new partnerships to increase community engagement activities for both asylum seekers and for the broader community. In particular, we are most grateful for the support we received from Emanuel Synagogue's Social Justice Group who have developed a cadre of volunteers to assist us with regular hot lunches, client hospice and pregnancy care packages, as well as assistance in other program areas.

Valerio De Simoni Association and Kids Giving Back joined our lunch program and provided other support and volunteers. The Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre opened its doors and offered us space for joint community/ASC recreational classes on a regular basis.



We also expanded some of our skills development and recreation programs by offering pronunciation tutoring at the Bondi Pronunciation Clinic with Dr. Perczuk, home tutoring through the Literacy Network, and additional English volunteers through Mission Australia.

We introduced two new recreation programs to better address our clients' mental and physical health. A mindfulness/relaxation program is now offered monthly by Dr. Judy Lovas, and Jeanette Cudmore from St. Vincent's Health Education is teaching a gentle exercise class.

We celebrated International Human Rights Day with a very special project – 'Friends and Kindred Day'. Pauline Nguyen at Red Lantern initiated this client engagement project to encourage asylum seekers and the chefs at Red Lantern to interact through a common love of food. Our clients shared their favourite recipes from home, participated in cooking them at Red Lantern, and in return the entire restaurant team generously prepared and served these heart-warming dishes in a fantastic celebration of food, laughter, and friends that included more than 110 people. ...



## Priorities for 2012-13

- Improve training and support for volunteers across all programs.
- Develop leadership skills of volunteers so they can assume greater program responsibilities.
- Increase administrative support to the volunteer program to allow volunteer manager to focus on new program development.
- Expand community engagement activities to create more opportunities for asylum seekers, volunteers and new partners.
- Streamline on-line recruitment procedures.

**We are extremely grateful for the support we received from our funding partners, private donors and supporters.**

To our incredible volunteer team: Thank you for being the heart and soul of the ASC, for devoting your time and professional skills, for sharing your wisdom and your sense of humour, and most importantly, for extending that warm welcome to every single asylum seeker who walks through our door! We are grateful for the support of our donors and supporters.

Thank you for the excursion trips which have been very enjoyable and have enabled me meet with people, share experiences and learning plus mixing with beautiful nature! To me particularly, this has contributed so much to my steady trauma recovery process and faster community integration where I live! I am no longer feeling lonely and isolated and am very happy!

**Geoffrey**

### Key Statistics



**160**  
volunteers



**11,400**  
volunteer hours



**\$275,000**  
approx value



**2,860**  
lunches



**320**  
English classes





## Fundraising Campaign

MANAGED BY ONE PART TIME FUNDRAISING manager and supported by the ASC Board of Directors, CEO and Project Managers, the Fundraising Campaign ensures the long term sustainability of the ASC and our capacity to assist asylum seekers.

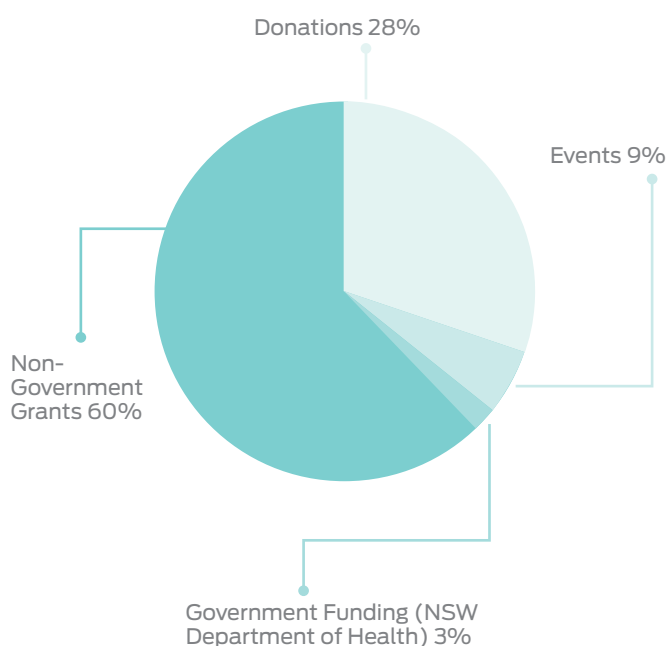
The ASC relies on the generosity of our supporters to fund our vital work, as we received only 3% of our income from government grants. It is through the commitment of our monthly donors, philanthropic organisations, individuals and community fundraisers that the ASC is able to maintain its support for asylum seekers.

The successful 2011-12 Fundraising Campaign provided a secure and sustainable funding base to support our activities by:

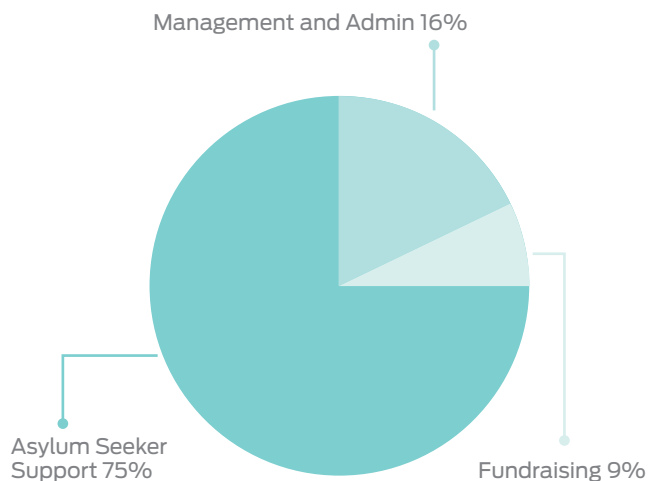
- Strengthening relationships with current grant making organisations and developing relationships with new organisations.
- Increasing the number of supporters on our database by 130%.
- Hosting three major fundraising events which raised a total of \$69,328.
- Increasing the diversity of in kind and pro bono support offered to the ASC ...



### ASC Income Streams



### How we use our funds





# Thank you

---

Thank you to every individual and organisation that has made a contribution to the ASC in the past year.

## Quiz Night: May 2012

More than 320 people attended the Centre's 10th Annual Quiz Night. Themed *Battle of the Bands*, guests dressed up as ABBA, the Beatles, the Wiggles and many other famous music personalities. Hosts James Valentine and Jean Kittson, sassy all-female group Lady Sings It Better and an air guitar competition were among highlights of the evening. Prize for best dressed group went to The Village People with George Harrison and John Lennon tying with ABBA for the best dressed double. The overall winner was the ASC with approx \$50,000 being raised on the evening.

## Seeking Justice: November 2011

An evening of informative discussion around asylum seeker issues, Seeking Justice was held in November in partnership with Gilbert +Tobin. Professor Ben Saul moderated the night and directed questions to the eminent panel, comprised of the Hon Catherine Branson QC, John Menadue AO and Professor Louise Newman AM.

## Year in the Rear: November 2011

An end of year fundraiser, hosted by HG Nelson, James Valentine, Mikey Robins and Amanda Keller, was a hilarious review of the weird and wonderful events of 2011. The Royal visitors from England and Denmark, the Kardashians, Warnie, President Obama and many others all received attention, along with a few Australian politicians and issues that made the front pages. The Pinks played the blues, and a Q&A session with the audience got everyone involved. ...



**We are extremely grateful for the support we received from our funding partners, employer partners, private donors and supporters. Your commitment and contributions have enabled the ASC to continue to serve asylum seekers and we extend to each of you our very sincere thanks.**

### **Major Funding Partners**

Becher Foundation  
Bridge for Asylum Seekers Foundation  
Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand  
NSW Health Department  
Pratt Foundation  
Scully Fund  
Sidney Myer Fund  
Vincent Fairfax Family

### **Funding Partners and Major Supporters**

Bourke Street Bakery  
Centre for Volunteering  
City of Sydney  
Classic Greetings Sales  
Dial a Dump Industries  
Doppio  
Dress for Success  
Dress for Work  
Emanuel Synagogue Social Justice Group  
Food Distribution Network  
Freehills Foundation  
Gilbert+Tobin  
State Street Foundation Fund at Give2Asia  
House of Welcome  
Kids Giving Back  
Konica Minolta  
Literacy Network

Mary MacKillop Foundation  
Mercy Foundation  
Milkwood Permaculture  
Mission Australia  
Newcastle Catholic Club  
North Shore Temple Emanuel Jews for Social Action  
Our Big Kitchen  
Oz Harvest  
Permaculture and community garden networks  
Planet Furniture  
Presentation Sisters Wagga Wagga  
Pronunciation Clinic  
Red Lantern  
Sisters of Charity Foundation  
South Sydney Community Aid  
South Sydney Community Transport  
St Vincents & Mater Health Sydney  
St Vincent de Paul Special Purposes Fund  
Street Smart  
Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre  
Sydney Community Foundation  
Sydney Institute of TAFE  
University of New South Wales  
University of Sydney-Engineers without Borders  
Valerio De Simoni Association  
Whole Food House



# Asylum Seekers Centre Incorporated

ABN: 47 164 509 475

For the Year Ended  
30 June 2012

## Profit and Loss Account

	2012	2011
	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Sale of goods	-	1,020
Interest income	11,147	6,853
Grants	512,037	290,745
Donations	216,901	248,690
Fundraising revenue	69,328	79,396
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>809,413</b>	<b>626,704</b>
<b>LESS: EXPENSES</b>		
Bank charges	1,206	1,908
Board expenses	3,408	-
Cleaning	3,338	3,560
Client assistance expenses	148,244	52,410
Depreciation	1,510	2,550
Electricity and water	4,929	3,652
Equipment < \$300	1,574	991
Fundraising expenses	14,998	13,289
Grant expenses	-	2,682
Health care expenses	9,335	9,707
Insurance	4,690	3,993
Lease rentals on operating lease	1,070	-
Leave pay	2,490	11,219
Meals and catering	1,323	2,097
Other employee costs	1,496	2,396
Postage	1,750	2,312
Printing and stationary	6,529	3,651
Repairs and maintenance (IT)	11,790	1,521
Repairs and maintenance	3,950	1,914
Salaries	511,513	332,661
Staff support	320	-
Staff training	367	600
Staff amenities	365	653
Subscriptions	815	1,573
Sundry expenses	789	-
Superannuation contributions	41,044	18,174
Telephone and fax	24,793	5,228
Translation	372	3,750
Travel - domestic	1,843	1,101
Utilities	423	373
Workers compensation insurance	15,095	8,201
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>821,369</b>	<b>492,166</b>
<b>(LOSS) / PROFIT BEFORE INCOME TAX</b>	<b>(11,956)</b>	<b>134,538</b>

# Asylum Seekers Centre Incorporated

ABN: 47 164 509 475

## Statement of Financial Position As At 30 June 2012

	2012 \$	2011 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	360,891	342,443
Trade and other receivables	12,693	26,144
Current tax receivable	-	2,019
Other assets	4,384	-
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>377,968</b>	<b>370,606</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	2,269	3,779
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>2,269</b>	<b>3,779</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>380,237</b>	<b>374,385</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Trade and other payables	33,999	6,886
Borrowings	13,703	-
Current tax liabilities	999	-
Short-term provisions	30,498	28,009
Other liabilities	129,714	156,211
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>208,913</b>	<b>191,106</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>208,913</b>	<b>191,106</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>171,324</b>	<b>183,279</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Retained Earnings	171,324	183,279
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>171,324</b>	<b>183,279</b>

# Funding Partners

---

**BECHER FOUNDATION**  
Supporting Social Innovation

 **Bridge for Asylum Seekers Foundation**  
Uniting Care NSW ACT

**CITY OF SYDNEY** 

**Freehills**

 **Give2Asia**

 **Good Shepherd**  
australia new zealand

 **Mary MacKillop Foundation**

**mercy foundation**<sup>®</sup>

NSW Health Department

**PRATT**  
FOUNDATION

Presentation Sisters Wagga Wagga

Scully Fund

  
SIDNEY MYER FUND

 **SISTERS OF CHARITY FOUNDATION**

 **STATE STREET**

  
**STREETSMART**  
HELPING THE HOMELESS

 **Sydney Community & You**

  
**Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation**

This Annual Report is printed on FSC certified stock and 100% of electricity used in its production is generated with Green-e<sup>®</sup> certified renewable energy.

Thanks to the services of the following people and organisations it was produced at no cost to the Centre.

**Images: Michael Amendolia, Stephen Oxenbury, Pacific Magazines, Wentworth Courier**

**Design: Bridie Quinn. Printer: Konica Minolta ...**



## **Asylum Seekers Centre**

Becher House

43 Bedford Street, Newtown NSW 2042 Australia.

**T** (02) 9078 1900 • **F** (02) 9078 1999

**E** [admin@asylumseekerscentre.org.au](mailto:admin@asylumseekerscentre.org.au)

[www.asylumseekerscentre.org.au](http://www.asylumseekerscentre.org.au) ...