

Refugee Week 2021 with JRS Australia

June, 2021

It was great to see all the events and actions that were held around Sydney in solidarity with refugees and people seeking asylum.

Many thanks to the Social Justice Group at Holy Name of Mary Parish in Hunters Hill for organising a Refugee Week event, which included storytelling from a leader with lived experience, Magdalene, and discussions on the issues facing people seeking asylum in our communities.

The planning of this event came out of the Catholics Leader Meeting and it was wonderful to see it come to life! There are more parish events coming up this year that we will be excited to share with you.

Other refugee week events included a webinar by JRS Australia's 'Finding Safety' project to discuss the outcomes of our work with women seeking asylum and experiencing sexual and gender-based violence and schools from across Sydney running food drives, letter writing workshops and Circles of Silence.



As well as this, two JRS Australia staff members spoke at webinars. One was a Vinnies NSW Refugee Week webinar that Nishadh Rego spoke at and the other was the Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law and Amnesty International event that Zaki Haidari spoke at.

At the event on the 27th of March it was said that having detailed fact sheets of the key issues facing people seeking asylum would be helpful. We are happy to share that JRS Australia and Vinnies NSW have put together five policy briefs in response to this. Please click [here](#) to read them and to share with others.

Thank you for supporting refugees and people seeking asylum during the ongoing uncertainty of COVID-19.



"In 2013, I came to Australia as a refugee. I had to start all over again. In 2018, decades after first training as a lawyer and teacher, I completed my High School Certificate and, with my two children, started university in 2019."

Hava Rezaie

FIND OUT MORE

- Hava Rezaie shares her story of 'Campaigning for Afghan women's rights' in [Eureka Street](#).
- For policy briefs on key issues facing people seeking asylum, click [here](#).
- For readings and ongoing actions from Refugee Week, click [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Council assemblies across Sydney asking for more support for people seeking asylum. Get in touch to join the planning or to attend:

Cumberland Council Assembly - 10 August

Blacktown Council Assembly - Pencil in: 19 August