

## Call your local MP or senator and tell them you want change!

We have the right to tell our politicians that we want change – it's their job to take our calls and hear what we have to say. We have the power to change our politics and to create a fair process for people seeking asylum. It's time to *#CloseTheCamps*, *#BringThemHere*, and get our community on the *#RightTrack*.

### Stage 1

Introduce yourself and why you are calling.

"My name is [name] and I live in [suburb]. I would like to leave a message for [name of MP/senator]."

You could mention:

- why you have decided to call your MP/senator
- what values guide you in the way you think we should treat people seeking asylum
- an experience, or a moment, that stands out to you in shaping the way you feel about this issue?

Eg. "...I want to see all people, seeking asylum or otherwise, treated with dignity and respect"

### Stage 4

Connect **us** – you, our community, your MP/senator and our Government – to **your values** and **your vision**.

**What will you ask your MP/senator/their staff to do?**  
**How will that influence the belief that community attitudes are shifting?**

You could ask that:

- your MP/senator commits to raising your concerns with their colleagues.
- your MP/senator commits to upholding the rights of people seeking asylum by ensuring we have a fair process, and that we bring people in offshore detention here to live safely in our community.
- your MP/senator contacts you in response to your request – you could ask them to outline their position or what action they will take in an email or in person.

### Stage 2

Define what you consider to be the **problem**.

**What is it about the current situation that contradicts your values?**  
**Who or what is responsible for this?**

You could mention:

- Our Government is choosing to detain people indefinitely, both in our suburbs and offshore on Nauru and Manus Island
- Our Government has introduced an unfair protection visa process that discriminates against people who came by sea, which only allows people to obtain temporary, not permanent protection.
- Our Government has chosen to significantly cut community legal funding, which means some people may have to go through this complex process unassisted.

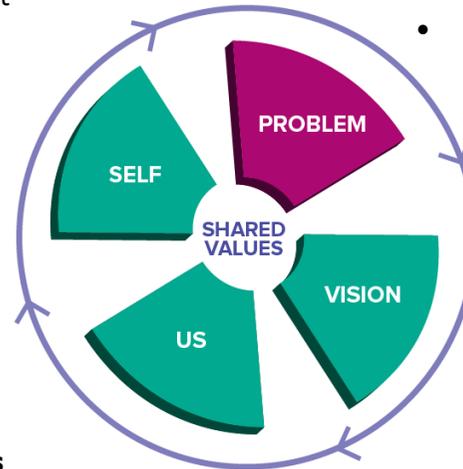
### Stage 3

Outline **your vision** for the way people seeking asylum can be treated in line with **your values**.

**What change do you want to see in the way we treat people seeking asylum?**  
**How does this vision reflect our shared values?**

You could mention:

- We can create a fair and efficient process for assessing people's claims – here in safety in our community. We can bring everyone on Nauru and Manus Island here.
- We can offer people permanent, not temporary protection, so they can get on with rebuilding their lives and plan for their futures with their families.



## Stage 1

Introduce yourself and why you are calling.

**What are the values that make you care about the rights of people seeking asylum?**

**What is an experience, or a moment, that stands out to you in shaping the way you feel about this issue?**

*Eg. "My name is [name] and I live in [suburb]. I would like to leave a message for [name of MP/senator]."*

*"I'm calling to express my desire to see a change in our refugee policy. I have noticed many people in our community speaking up to see us treat people seeking asylum with dignity and respect, and today I want to pass on my message to my elected representative."*

## Stage 4

Connect **us** – you, our community, your MP/senator and our Government – to **your values** and **your vision**.

**What will you ask your MP/senator/their staff to do?**  
**How will that influence the belief that community attitudes are shifting?**

*Eg. "I want [name of MP/senator] to do the right thing and demand the Government bring people in offshore detention here, and ensure a fair and efficient process for all people seeking asylum. I would like [name of MP/senator] to follow up with their stance on this situation – they can contact me by [your email or phone number]."*  
*"I believe that once our leaders start leading with compassion and dignity for people seeking asylum, our community can be united and proud in the way we treat each other, not divided by fear and ignorance."*

## Stage 2

Define what you consider to be the **problem**.

**What is it about the current situation that contradicts your values?**  
**Who or what is responsible for this?**

*Eg. "I believe that we are a compassionate community, but the way our Government is choosing to treat people seeking asylum at the moment flies in the face of compassion or fairness. I cannot accept our Government choosing to imprison people indefinitely in horrible conditions in detention, or subject people to an unfair and drawn-out application process that discriminates against people who came by sea by only offering temporary protection visas."*

## Stage 3

Outline **your vision** for the way people seeking asylum can be treated in line with **your values**.

**What change do you want to see in the way we treat people seeking asylum?**  
**How does this vision reflect our shared values?**

*Eg. "I know our Government can choose to end people's suffering in detention – here in the centres in our suburbs and offshore on Nauru and Manus Island – by allowing people to live safely here in our community while their applications are processed. We can also assess people's cases for asylum fairly and in a timely manner, so people can get on with rebuilding their lives quickly. To do this, people need permanency – temporary protection visas just prolong a state of limbo and by ensuring people can plan for their futures with stability we can have a stronger and richer community."*

