



ASHRA Newsletter

AGENCIES SUPPORTING HOUSING REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Volume 1 Issue 4

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ASHRA Logo Design Winner

As many of our readers would be aware, ASHRA has been holding a logo design competition over the past few months. As we approach our first birthday, the competition has helped to develop a shared identity, of who and what we as a group hope to represent and achieve. The competition was also a great way to introduce to others the housing needs of refugees and asylum seekers and in turn counter many of the misconceptions that surround this highly politicised group. As you will see on pages 2 and 3, the quality of the entries was outstanding! Special thanks go to Fred Littlejohn at UniSA for taking our competition on as a project with his students— they are obviously an incredibly talented group!



The Winner Daniel Bennet, being congratulated by Shelter SA Executive Director Gary Wilson.

“Simplicity and functionality were the two primary goals of this design. I wanted a clean, corporate yet friendly symbol that could be easily recognised. The outcome was a graphic that forms the shape of a person embracing the shape of a house which intends to convey supporting and nurturing the home”.

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Get a roof over your head! (by Tricia O’Donovan)

In January this year, the Refugee Housing Program in conjunction with Northern Family Accommodation began running ‘How to find a house’ workshops at the Magdalene Centre in the city. The workshops are helping to meet the needs of people who are proposing (sponsoring) family members and friends to come to Australia under the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Scheme. Anglicare is funded to support the proposers who have chosen to do this. The workshop is also open to refugees who may want to move on from their

current housing. Because of the inner city location, the workshop is also open to anyone else who may be experiencing difficulty in getting a roof over their head. Up to three translators have been in attendance at any one workshop, and signing, miming (and laughing) are other techniques being used—which makes for an interesting, if somewhat challenging format! The workshops are intended to be very hands-on, with participants provided with leads (known vacancies that are affordable) as well as tips on approaching landlords,

attending inspections (leave the six children at home if possible . . .) and completing applications. Viewed in its broader context, the workshops also contribute to Anglicare’s focus on literacy and client empowerment through education. It has been very successful with clients coming back the next day, having found a place to live, and now requiring assistance with bonds and rent in advance. We are exploring ways in which the workshop can be expanded. For more information, please contact Dominic on 8209 5415.

ASHRA Logo Entries and Rationale



Astrid Varga

The logo is based on the idea of making a wish and in turn conveys hope and opportunity to those seeking housing. Two seeds have been blown away to anticipate replanting and regrowth which relates to the networking aspect of ASHRA.



Elisa Mazzone

The definition of a branch is considered to be a 'shoot or secondary stem growing from the main stem'. This supports the concept of ASHRA as it visually represents the main core of a collection of organisations that collectively help refugees and asylum seekers.



Carol Nicholls

The shell represents the homes that the agencies within ashra provide. A home means shelter, security and comfort. Like the shell it is invaluable and personal. The rounded lower case type and hand drawn illustration give this logo a personal, hands-on and friendly feel; reflecting the services of ashra.



Alicia Nistico

The rainbow represents hope and is arching over the word in order to show that the hope comes from ASHRA. The rainbow leading onto the house represents how ASHRA gives hope and shelter to refugees and asylum seekers. I have used a bright watermelon pink for the colour to represent multiculturalism and hope. The logo does not rely on colour in order to be effective and can easily be used in black and white if need be.



Caroline Schrader

The tree symbolises a grounded and stable shelter. Its strong network of branches provide support for the homes of many different creatures who share the tree to live in. This is intended as a reflection upon the many different cultures who come to live here in Australia.



Caitlin Milne

ASHRA networks with many organisations together providing a strong structured support base for those that most need it. These services enable refugees and asylum seekers the opportunities and support to achieve, giving them a new start on life. This ASHRA logo represents the networking of these organisations as well as the pieces of support they each bring. The structure symbolises strength as well as stability, it is also a reflection of developing skills and leadership. The logo works well in black and white and is strong enough to be used for photocopying as well as black and white printing. However, if the opportunity arises the logo can be used in colour, where the green represents life and new beginnings.



Jonathon Menz

The person holding out the umbrella represents ASHRA, the second person a refugee. The act of sharing the umbrella suggests that the holder is compassionate, helpful and willing to welcome the second person into their space. This alludes to ASHRA's role in welcoming refugees into Australia and finding shelter for them. The act of sharing an umbrella implies a personal relationship between the two people and this alludes to an ongoing relationship and access to support from ASHRA for the refugee.

ASHRA Logo Entries and Rationale (continued)



Claire Louise Priestley
 The logo incorporates all aspects of the vision statement in one identity. Leadership and growth are represented in the fact that people in teams can create houses. The information sharing can be represented in the fact that people are together creating a shape of a house, building networks between organisations and for support. The logo is pretty self explanatory as you can see two people holding their arms up, creating a negative shape of a house.



Gary Seaman
 Hands represent an outlet, and hope. The hands are reaching out to offer some light, to attract people to it for help. To some people the hands can also depict wings, representing life and freedom, which ASHRA can offer by helping to support refugees. I have picked the colour green, as it represents hope and friendship, which tie in with ASHRA's message. The logo can be shrunk down quite small, while still being legible.



Elly Potter
 The concept behind my proposal draws on the saying 'to take someone under your wing'. The image of the bird, with its soft curves, evokes a sense of comfort and shelter. Birds also have links to migration, a common thread between refugees arriving in a new country.



Emily Woods
 I have incorporated a helping hand into the letter A that symbolises ASHRA's commitment in supporting housing for refugees and asylum seekers. The letter A can also be seen as a symbol for shelter and a roof over one's head. I have made the logo quite simple so it can be reproduced in many sizes and still be recognisable.



Beth Sporne
 Leadership and skill development are represented by the growth of the tree from a single seed. The strong informal networks between organisations are symbolised by the roots growing out from the tree. In order for the tree to grow stronger it must reach out to other sources for water and nutrients just as ASHRA must do with its partner organisations. The information sharing can be represented by the leaves growing from the tree. As time goes by more leaves grow and drop from the tree, signifying the sharing and cycle of information.

Steven Daughtry



Tristan Binney



Kaylene Stapenell

“How to rent a home” workshops are held at the **Magdalene Centre, 26 Moore St Adelaide** on

September 21st

October 19th

November 16th

Rent Club is operated every **Saturday morning at 11-2** for individual help.

Contact Dominic on 8209 5415 for more information



Free Legal Help

Lawyers at the Free Legal Clinic can help you sort out legal issues such as fines and infringement notices, debts, tenancy and housing issues, mental

health law, personal injury, discrimination, social security, guardianship and administration.

The clinic operates at The Magdalene Centre

every Tuesday afternoon from 1pm. You can make an appointment or call in on any Tuesday between 1-3pm
Tel: 8305 9389

Migrant Resource Centre of SA—Sports Subsidy Program

This Sport Subsidy Grant will assist young people from new and emerging communities who are keen to participate in any team / individual sport in 2006/2007 season.

This subsidy is being offered to those who are unable to afford some of the costs associated with participating in sport, including the cost of club membership fees.

The subsidy is for those who are wishing to participate on an ongoing basis, with a local club or their school during the 2006/2007 season.

There is a limited budget available and applicants will receive a subsidy on a first come, first served basis or until the fund is expended. Applications must be received by 30 June 2007 or until the fund is expended.

Available to refugee youth, aged 10 -25.

The applicant must have arrived in Australia within the past 36 months.

Amount of subsidy is dependant upon individual circumstances. Priority for subsidy will be given to

first-time applicants. This is a once-off offer, as further applications will not be accepted.

Eligible applicants may be assisted in paying their Club Membership Fee and/or costs associated with participating in a sport. The MRC will arrange direct payment to the nominated sports club/company/school. Completed application forms must include details of the nominated sport club / company/school with an authorised signature.

Return completed application form to: Sport Subsidy Grant Migrant Resource Centre of SA
59 King William St
Adelaide SA 5000

What's on at the Magdalene Centre?

In addition to the 'How to rent a home' workshop, as featured on page 1, the Magdalene Centre is abuzz with lots of other activities that may be of interest to new arrivals. Every Saturday at 11am to 2pm there is a Sudanese cooking class and on Fridays from 9am to midday there is a 'cooking for one' class. August is focusing on

Italian food and September has a Mexican theme. The Magdalene Centre also offers a range of creative activities such as mosaic making, a sewing circle and they are just about to start a knitting group. Call the Magdalene Centre on 8305 6906 or email Jill at jrivers@anglicare-sa.org.au / magdalene_centre for

more information.

Rent club is held at 11-2 every Saturday for anyone that has been a part of the IHSS program. Staff can offer individual assistance; help fill in forms, viewing properties, signing tenancy agreements and utility connections and concessions.

Equal Opportunity Commission Workshop

As part of the 2006 Refugee Week program the South Australian Equal Opportunity Commission presents an interactive workshop on your equal opportunity rights.

Refreshments will be provided

Please let us know by 6th October 2006 if you need an interpreter

Tel: (08) 8207 1977

Email: eoc@agd.sa.gov.au

Where:

Saint Francis Xavier Cathedral
Hall

39 Wakefield Street Adelaide

When:

Monday, 16th October 2006

Time:

2:00pm—4:00pm



Homework Clubs

Homework Clubs is a new initiative by Australian Refugee Association, in partnership with local councils and community services and is funded by Innovative Community Action Networks (ICAN). It is a community program aimed at assisting high school students from refugee backgrounds with their studies and overall schooling experience. During the week, after school, volunteers come to Homework Clubs to support school students on a one-on-one basis. Volunteers act as mentors and tutors, assisting with English language learning, school homework and just generally adjusting to the Australian education system and school culture.

Many young people who have recently arrived in Australia have spent a large part of their lives in refugee camps and as such, may never have participated in formal education previously. Although many enter the New Arrivals Program, these students soon enter mainstream education at their appropriate age level meaning that the level of education is often extremely challenging. For example, a 14 year old boy may be placed in a Year 9 class at a mainstream school, although his literacy level may be a Year 3 equivalent. These students need extra support—hence the Homework Clubs program. ARA will work with schools to identify students who are most in need of support and

through a referral system, will encourage and assist these students to access the nearest Homework Club. Homework Clubs will utilize the generosity and goodwill of volunteers throughout the community who will donate one afternoon per week to make a difference to these young people's lives. ARA believes that through homework and English language support, the Homework Clubs program can assist these young people to have a positive schooling experience and assist them to achieve their full potential.

Contact Natalie Matulick at ARA for more information 8354 2951 or email:

natalie.matulick@ausref.net

Special thanks

Juliet Parkes

Bill Peterson

Christina Gamble

Kerry Grey

Mabok Marial

Lucy Lovelock

Amy Lees

Christine Loveday

Margo Johnson

Inese Petersons

Michael Dummin

Bol Machar

Gary Wilson

**ASHRA
IS A BRANCH OF
SHELTER SA**

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Housing: a basic human right

ASHRA's Vision statement

ASHRA is committed to developing our network of interested groups and individuals working with refugees and asylum seekers. We wish to provide greater opportunity for leadership and skill development, create strong, informal networks between organisations, provide greater transparency in information sharing, potentially reduce the duplication of services and more readily identify the gaps in services.

2006 Meeting dates

19th January	25th May	21 September
22nd February	21st June	18th October
23rd March	20th July	23rd November
19th April	23rd August	

Meetings are held in the Torrens Building between 3-5pm, 220 Victoria Square Adelaide. If you are interested in attending, please contact Cheryl or Margo on 8221 6488 or email margo.johnson@sheltersa.asn.au

***“the most
important
work you or I
will ever do will
be within the
walls of our
own homes”
HAROLD LEE***

Funding Alert

**Premier's Community Initiatives
Fund Round 5**

The priority is to provide one off funding for:

- Projects that assist the development of excluded, disabled and socially isolated members of the community
- Projects that meet locally identified needs in the community
- Projects that encourage growth and connection within and across communities
- Projects that are in line with some the Government's key priority areas as outlined in the State Strategic Plan;
- ~ Reduce social and economic inequality
- ~ Enhance quality of life

- ~ Address the challenge of an ageing population
- ~ Foster and harness the benefits of social networks
- ~ Enrich the community through volunteer groups and activities
- ~ Strengthen regional communities
- ~ Improve Aboriginal wellbeing
- ~ Rebuild confidence and self esteem in disadvantaged people.

Application forms are available on the Premiers Cabinet Website www.premcab.sa.gov.au or for further assistance call Mandy Zavaglia on 8226 7673

Closes: 5pm Friday, 6th October