*Groups find it very helpful to publish an article in their local paper / online publication to seek support. The below is just a suggestion - feel free to tailor it to your needs. When you call your local paper to offer this content, make sure you ask for their deadline and what word count they’d like and tailor it to that - local papers are short of resources these days, so making it super easy for them is a good idea. Also send them a photo of your group and/or some of the photos we’ve made available for your use, to accompany your article.*

**Help support a refugee family moving to our community**

Imagine your home being so unsafe that your family can no longer live there. Overnight, you, your spouse and your children become refugees, travelling thousands of kilometres until you reach safety - a refugee camp in a bordering country.

You remain displaced there for ten years. Your children remember no other life and schooling is sporadic.

One day, you receive the news you’ve been waiting for. Your family has been granted a visa and soon, you’ll be flying across the world and landing in Australia!

As well as excitement, joy and relief, you also feel apprehension. You are starting your life again in a new country with a foreign culture and language. You don’t know anyone, your children must restart school, you and your spouse need to find jobs and you all need to learn English to do this.

You nervously step in arrivals at Sydney airport and… welcoming you is a group of local people.

They’ve been preparing for your arrival for months and greet you and your family warmly. You’re driven from the airport to a temporary home they have set up for you. In the following week, the group help you buy food and new clothes, enrol in Government services, sign up to English lessons and show you around the local area.

This is the experience local volunteering group the [group name] are planning to give a refugee family from [location] this [month of arrival].

The [group name] are part of a new Federal Government scheme called the Community Refugee Integration and Settlement Pilot (CRISP). Under this pilot, groups of five or more ordinary Australians can sponsor a family who are referred by the UNHCR as refugees in urgent need of resettlement. The program is run by Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia, a registered charity with DGR status.

The [group name] are a mix of local [location] people with one thing in common: they are horrified by the plight of refugees and want to do something that makes a difference.

As you can imagine, preparing everything for the arrival of a refugee family takes a lot of planning! The group will support the family for their first 12 months in [location].

This includes organising temporary accommodation, furniture and household goods for three months, and helping to secure a long-term home after that. In the first few weeks, they will help them open bank accounts, buy new clothes, navigate public transport, shop at the supermarket and apply for government services.

Over the next year, the [group name] will help the family with whatever they need, whether it’s finding jobs, learning English, understanding the education system, getting driving licences or joining sports and activities.

They will support the daily practically, emotionally and financially over the course of the year and right now, are fundraising and looking for assistance from the local community.

*(Can the text below be in a coloured box to make it stand out?)*

**How you can help**

Include a strong call to action here - what do you want people to do: make a donation, come to an event, provide accommodation or something else? How will they contact you, do you have a website address or a facebook page?