

# MEDIA RELEASE

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461 – 463 Oxford St  
PO Box 39  
Paddington NSW 2021  
PH: 02 9331 2691  
ABN: 67 064 978 347

## **NSW Government provides welcomed emergency relief for multicultural communities, migrants and people seeking asylum.**

St Francis Social Services and the House of Welcome would like to acknowledge and thank the NSW Berejiklian Government for their emergency response package in assisting multicultural communities, migrants, asylum seekers, and people on a temporary visa living in our state.

This outcome brings overwhelming relief and joy to another group of marginalised people who have been overlooked in the Federal Government support schemes. It also means that NSW will join the governments of Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and the ACT who announced their own emergency relief packages.

The Acting Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans and Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education, Mr Geoff Lee, announced a \$6 million relief package that will lift the spirits of multicultural communities, migrants, people seeking asylum and temporary visa holders.

In a media release on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2020, Mr Lee said “strong communities support each other through challenges. This funding will enable dedicated and committed individuals to continue to help the most vulnerable”.

St Francis Social Services and the House of Welcome, sincerely thank the NSW Berejiklian Government for their leadership and compassion. This emergency relief will have a significant effect and it will improve the lives of the children, adults and families that have been struggling and have been overlooked as a result of COVID-19. With close to 100,000 people seeking asylum, this assistance is graciously appreciated and necessary.

It is also important to acknowledge the collaboration of social services, religious organisations, church groups, business and public advocacy groups, members of the public and the NSW Berejiklian Government for this outcome.

While we are in this together, we as individuals, all have our own uniquely different experience of this storm.

Maurizio Vespa  
CEO | St Francis Social Services and House of Welcome

Media Contact: Maurizio Vespa 02 9331 2691