



Happy endings don't just happen

Seeing refugees regain their health and rebuild their lives in Australia can help us all stand taller.



Foundation House

The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture

Specialised services for refugees

Foundation House

Foundation House is the home of the Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture, a leading agency for supporting refugees who have experienced torture, imprisonment and extreme trauma. It's not only about recovery and rebuilding; refugees are a valuable resource for Australia. Foundation House provides an interface between the community, the services and refugees. We reach beyond our shores to work with others who care about human rights.

Positive growth

We started with one worker in 1987. Now we have a team of 160 people and a 12-person Board of Management. Last year we had 3800 clients on our books. We were asked by UNHCR to produce an international handbook to help governments settle and integrate refugees into their new communities. Our work has extended to innovations in work with schools, research, professional development, education, engagement with the community and raising public awareness.

'I love being part of making things better'

When some of the children arrive they are so traumatised they can't speak, can't make eye contact. And often, a few months later they're bouncing around a school playground kicking a footy like any other kid. To be part of that journey is the greatest privilege in the world.

'Most vulnerable, most valuable'

The best pictures are the small ones. You wonder why Foundation House has a budget for dental programs, until you learn about survivors of torture who arrive here with teeth in such bad shape they can't eat. It is a privilege to contribute and to learn about the extraordinary human capacity for rebuilding.

'We've changed the way the sector looks at services'

Our clients are people, not patients. Foundation House care is holistic and specialised—we work with the whole person. Our staff work in partnership with clients on a one-to-one level. We do counselling, we work with kids in schools, we advocate for clients around issues like housing and employment, and we put them in touch with other agencies.

'I am humbled by the clients'

You meet a woman who has seen her 13-year-old daughter and her husband killed in front of her, and wonder how she can ever love or laugh again. You can learn a lot from people who've been to hell and back. They give you hope and inspiration.

'The wider the ripples, the richer the result'

The work of Foundation House is like pebbles in a pond. Every interaction has an effect that reaches beyond the individuals and families involved. It allows people to fulfil their potential with dignity.



Foundation House

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Offices also in Dandenong, Sunshine and Ringwood.



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The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture

Membership form

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____

Mobile _____

Email _____

Organisation _____

Yes, I wish to become a member of the Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture Inc. ABN 52 783 974 656

Membership term 1 year (Tick one) GST inclusive

Family \$100 Individual \$50 Concession \$16.50

I have also enclosed a single donation of \$ _____ to support Foundation House.

and/or

I would like to make a regular monthly payment of

\$ _____ to support Foundation House.

I will pay by

Visa Mastercard Cheque (attached)

EFT (BSB: 313-140 Account number: 23190761)

My card details are

Card number

Expiry date

Name on card _____

Signature _____

Foundation House respects and is committed to protecting your privacy. The personal information you provide will remain private and will only be used for the purposes of administering your membership. For further information on our privacy policy please contact us on (03) 9388 0022 or visit www.foundationhouse.org.au

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible

Not so much 'do good' as feel good

Achieving happy endings to terrible stories involves hard work and heartbreak for clients and workers alike. But—as Foundation House people explain— being able to contribute is its own reward.

Patrons

Prof Hilary Charlesworth AM
Ms Dur-é Dara OAM
Prof David de Kretser, AC, and Mrs Jan de Kretser
Mr Andrew Demetriou
Mr Petro Georgiou
Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG

PS: Sometimes we celebrate

The Foundation House end-of-year celebration is legendary and Foundation House members are welcome. We share wonderful food and dance to live music from around the globe. You meet remarkable people and you know you're part of something special.

Join Foundation House and hold your head high

Foundation House receives financial support from the Victorian and Australian Governments but we continue to rely upon voluntary contributions and membership subscriptions to support our local and international work.

Please fill in the membership form and mail it today.

From small things, big things grow