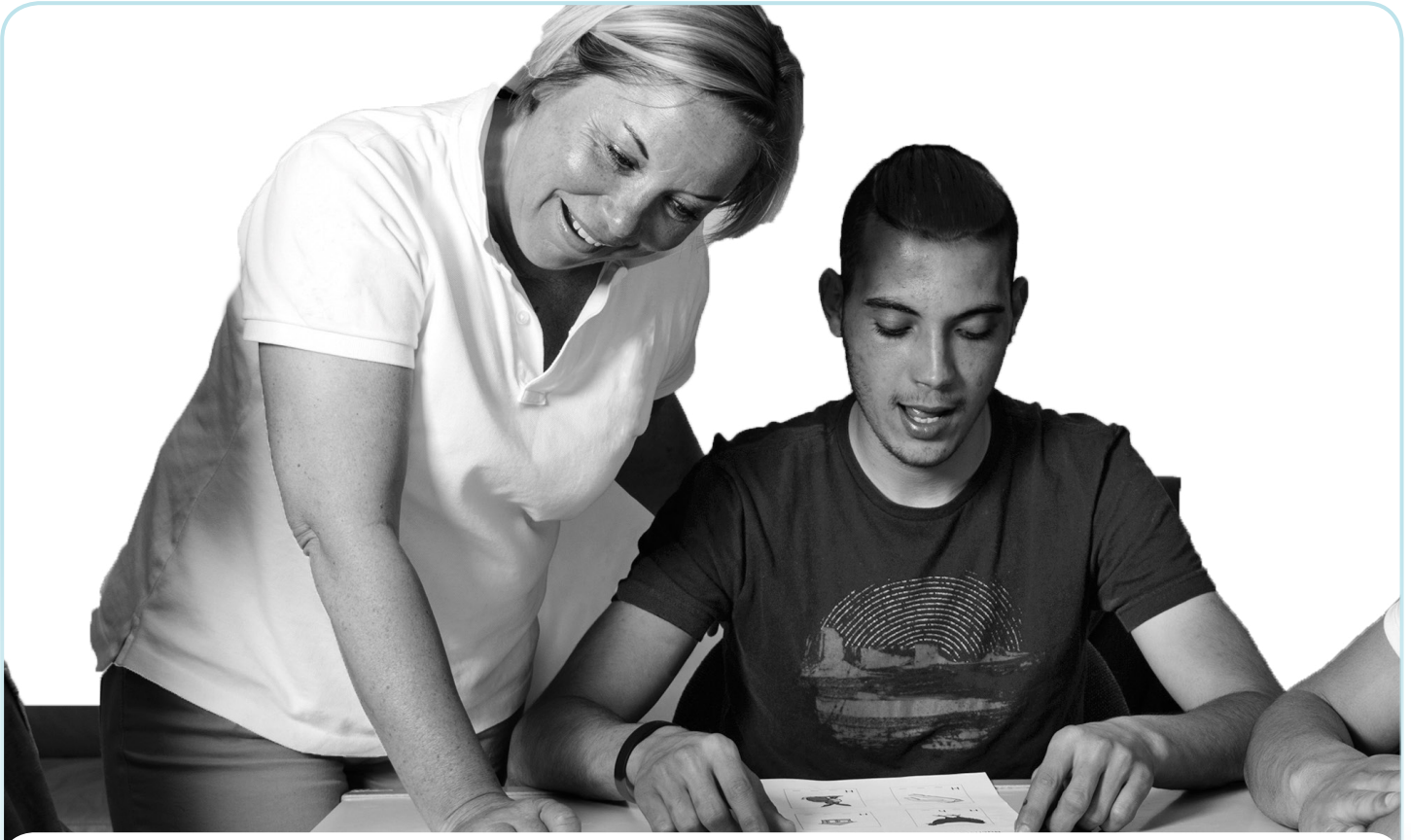


# Volunteer at Sanctuary



## Volunteers needed

Sanctuary provides transitional housing and support to people seeking asylum.

Many of them need assistance and support to access resources for daily living and to build up skills essential for independent living within the Australian community.

## Sanctuary's principles

### Empowerment.

Through education and employment.

### Independence.

By sharing skills and knowledge, and building confidence.

### Belonging.

To a caring, respectful community that values each person and their contribution.

## Who can help?

We are looking for people with:

- The ability to listen well and communicate in a friendly, open and empathetic manner.
- Skills and experience working with refugees, people of diverse cultural backgrounds or people seeking asylum.
- An understanding of and flexibility regarding the issues faced by people seeking asylum.
- Willingness to work as part of a team and to learn and share knowledge with others.
- Availability to commit to volunteering weekly (or as the role requires) for 6-12 months.

All volunteers will receive induction training and will be supervised and supported by a Baptistcare Sanctuary staff member. Periodic training opportunities are offered.



## Roles available

The following volunteering opportunities are currently available at our Preston and Brunswick sites and with our Houses of Hope residents.

- **Community meals** – Contribute food or cook on site and then sit, eat and engage in conversation with residents at monthly evening meals.
- **Independence support** – Motivate and support residents to move to independent community housing, once visa applications are approved, or steady employment is gained; and assist with housing searches and visits to services and real estate agents.
- **English and Employment Advisors** – Meet with individual residents weekly to tutor English and assist with job readiness preparation and searching and applying for jobs.
- **Foodbank** – Drive or assist with the weekly trip to Foodbank Victoria in Yarraville, on Thursday mornings from 9am to 12.30pm. This role requires some lifting, loading and unloading of boxes.
- **Gardening** – Engage residents in garden maintenance and development including vegetable gardens, mowing, weeding and pruning. Attendance is flexible and projects can be negotiated.

Baptcare works for safety, opportunity and a fair go for people seeking asylum. Our commitment is to see all people experiencing fullness of life, regardless of culture, belief, and circumstance. Our vision for communities where every person is cherished sees us working to uphold the dignity and rights of people seeking asylum, and the creation of environments where all people can thrive.

- **Casework support** – Support residents, in close collaboration with on-site caseworkers, through client engagement, case planning, limited problem solving and referral, and case administration. Please note more complex cases are handled by staff.
- **Furniture collect and deliver service** – Together with resident volunteers, use a van to collect and redistribute donated furniture in the community. Roles include; Lead Collections Volunteer and Furniture Coordinator.
- **Art program** - Conduct weekly art activities, facilitate resident participation and occasional exhibitions.
- **Social support to families** - Regular visits to a family at home participating in domestic activities to encourage and support parents, providing invitations and assistance to participate in local activities and accompanying families to appointments to mind young children.

## Support Sanctuary

- **Donate.**  
Money, household items, food vouchers.
- **Employ.**  
Sanctuary residents who are allowed to work are keen to find opportunities.
- **Educate.**  
Invite us to speak to your community group, show a film, talk to friends.
- **Volunteer.**  
Your time, skills and energy can make a difference.

To get involved contact us:  
[sanctuary@baptcare.org.au](mailto:sanctuary@baptcare.org.au)