

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Ageing

Minister for Multicultural Affairs



Friday, 17 May 2024

FUNDING TO SUPPORT NEWLY ARRIVED PALESTINIANS

The Allan Labor Government is helping Palestinians who have fled the Gaza conflict and recently arrived in Victoria with targeted support.

Minister for Multicultural Affairs Ingrid Stitt today announced that funding of \$125,000 will be provided to Palestine Australia Relief and Action (PARA) to support people who have arrived in Victoria since October 2023.

Many community and religious organisations have been supporting newly arrived Palestinians and their communities since the conflict began.

This funding will allow PARA to provide tailored supports and enable access to culturally appropriate legal, accommodation support, finance and education programs that assist newly arrived Palestinians to successfully live in Victoria.

It will also allow PARA to hold community engagement events to enhance connection, improve mental health, build social cohesion and empower newly arrived Palestinians to feel safe and supported within the Victorian community.

PARA is a registered charity founded by Australian Palestinians to advocate, support and connect Palestinians in Australia.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Multicultural Affairs Ingrid Stitt

"The conflict in Israel-Gaza continues to have a devastating humanitarian impact and Palestinians fleeing the conflict are arriving in Victoria to be supported by their families."

"Many of these people have experienced the trauma of war – it's only right that we provide them with culturally appropriate support and services to help them feel welcomed, safe and connected in Victoria."