Refugees and people seeking asylum

Our Diverse Communities

Since 2000, Banyule has welcomed over 600 people, from 77 different ethnicities who have arrived on Humanitarian visas



People on temporary visas can experience the mental health impacts of:

- prolonged uncertainty
- indefinite separation from family in precarious circumstances
- barriers to accessing services due to their visa, Medicare, or income status

Apprioximately 4,000 – 6,000 refugees settle in Victoria each year. An estimated 11,000 – 20,000 people seeking asylum live in the Victorian community on bridging visas, whilst awaiting determination of their refugee status

Asylum seekers are among the most disadvantaged people living in Victoria, with limited Commonwealth Government support. Access to a Medicare card depends on visa type and visa conditions

Banyule City Council

On average, 9 in 10 asylum seekers who arrive in Australia by boat are found to be refugees and granted protection visas

The data from this report has been sourced from Your health: Report of the Chief Health Officer, Victoria 2019 , Recent arrivals, asylum seeks and family support services, Better Health Channel and Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's Refugee Status Report 2011, Australian Human Rights Commission, Face the Facts, 2014