

## Chapter 18

# Social work practice with refugees and asylum seekers

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*Disclaimer: the authors have made every attempt to capture the current law and policy. However, readers should note that this is an area subject to rapid and ongoing changes, and social workers working in this area need to ensure they are aware of the current laws when working with clients. This chapter gives an important framework for the manner in which refugees and asylum seekers are dealt with in the law and the impacts that can have on them.*

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## SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

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### Websites

*No claim is made as to the accuracy or authenticity of the content of the sites suggested in this chapter. Site addresses change – if the address is no longer accurate, search using keywords or the title of the organisation concerned.*

Department of Immigration and Citizenship <[www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au)>, in particular there is a website developed specifically for 'irregular maritime arrivals' <[www.immi.gov.au/ima](http://www.immi.gov.au/ima)>

Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma <[www.fasstt.org.au](http://www.fasstt.org.au)>

Refugee Council of Australia <[www.refugeecouncil.org.au](http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au)>

### Refugee legal centres in Australia

NSW: Refugee Advice and Casework Service (RACS), Level 12, 173-175 Phillip Street, Sydney NSW 2000. Ph: (02) 9114 1600 <[www.racs.org.au](http://www.racs.org.au)>.

Qld: Refugee and Immigration Legal Service (RAILS), 170 Boundary Street, West End Brisbane QLD 4101. Ph: (07) 3846 3189 <[www.rails.org.au](http://www.rails.org.au)>.

Vic: Refugee and Immigration Legal Centre (RILC), Level 1, 121-123 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy VIC 3065. Advice Line: (03) 9483 1140. Reception: (03) 9483 1144 <[www.rilc.org.au](http://www.rilc.org.au)>.

WA: CASE for Refugees, 16B Sunbury Road, Victoria Park WA 6100. Ph: (08) 9227 7311 <[www.caseforrefugees.org.au](http://www.caseforrefugees.org.au)>.

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## Notes

- 1 Registered migration agents can be located via the Office of the Migration Agents Registration Authority website <[www.mara.gov.au](http://www.mara.gov.au)>.
- 2 The UNHCR is the international organisation charged with the responsibility to work with countries in providing international protection to refugees under the auspices of the United Nations.
- 3 See <[www.immi.gov.au/refugee/ministerial\\_intervention.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/refugee/ministerial_intervention.htm)>.