



Quaker Service Australia



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The Aubrey Bequest

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS FUNDING GUIDELINES

The Aubrey Bequest was established through the generosity of Brian Kenneth Aubrey, who left funds to QSA in 2016 to support refugees and asylum seekers. The Bequest enables QSA to fund projects that promote well-being, resilience, skills development, and protection for people in need of safety and support, in keeping with QSA's commitment to dignity, non-discrimination, and the principle of "do no harm."

How to Apply

Applications close on Friday 10th October 2025 for FY26 round.

Please submit a short document (2 – 4 pages) with the following information. If you have difficulty completing this application, please contact QSA at administration@qsa.org.au

- The name of submitting organisation, its purpose/mission, full contact details and a named contact person. If an individual applies, please include a brief CV with full contact details
- A clear statement of the objectives and location of the project and if the project is new or a continuation of previous work
- An indication of any similar work previously undertaken by the applicant, with details of who funded this work
- A list of the activities the project will include, and an indication of who will perform these activities, including how often and at what intervals
- An explanation of how the project will have a reasonable chance of succeeding in supporting or providing refugees and asylum seekers with enhanced well-being, skills or long-term resilience
- An indication of how progress and success of the project will be measured.
- Information regarding any risks of the project have been considered and mitigated, so that the project will do no additional harm to vulnerable people
- A timeline for project implementation
- An itemised budget for the project
- A list of any other funding body currently or previously providing funds for this project and the contact details of the relevant person for that body
- For applications from Quakers, confirmation that the Local Meeting and Regional Meeting support this application

Applications can be emailed to administration@qsa.org.au



ACFID
MEMBER

QSA is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), and is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct

Further Information

Projects could provide:

- Support for specific needs within populations of refugees and asylum seekers, such as needs associated with gender, age, disability, and cultural needs.
- Benefits such as enhanced well-being and long-term resilience; potential income-generating skills for resettlement including language skills; reduction in the sense of isolation; improved mental health; improved children's development and protection from abuse and exploitation; the enhancement of family cohesion, among other benefits.
- Short-term or immediate financial relief (utilities, rent, etc.) and social relief (excursions, phone cards, festivals, etc.) administered through a supporting group.
- Advocacy or better protection of the rights of refugees and asylum seekers

Projects should:

- Protect the privacy and safety of participants.
- For overseas projects, preferably adhere to QSA's overseas project selection criteria.
- Preferably be sustainable after the project ends, e.g. by passing on skills and expertise to others to continue after the funding period has ended.

QSA will **NOT SUPPORT** the use of the bequest for any of the following:

- Projects that would benefit an individual exclusively (self-benefit).
- Projects that directly support any political party or candidate.
- Projects that may be used to support any terrorist organisation, terrorist individual or any terrorism activity.
- Projects that support any religious organisation taking part in proselytization or that may be seen as proselytization.
- Projects that may physically endanger either refugee and asylum seeker participants or project partners/leaders.
- Projects that include future debt or maintenance costs, such as the purchase of vehicles or significant construction of any type of building.
- Completed activities to be funded retrospectively.

About the Aubrey Bequest

Brian Kenneth Aubrey died on November 12th 2016 leaving funds to QSA 'to be used and applied by [QSA] for the assistance, resettlement, maintenance, accommodation, provision of medical and hospital services and health care, education, training, advancement or otherwise for the benefit generally of and for refugees in any part of the world'.

In accepting this Bequest, QSA commits to upholding the rights of people in need of protection as far as possible, and to ensuring that its project activities adhere to the principles of 'do no harm', are non-discriminatory and impartial in their approach, and treat everyone involved in the projects with respect and dignity. All projects funded through QSA are transparent and accountable in their decision-making and reporting. All projects must comply with the terms of the Bequest. The QSA Board has agreed that the term 'refugees' in the bequest includes asylum seekers.

As part of its responsibilities, QSA undertakes due diligence on all projects funded through the Aubrey Bequest. This includes conducting Counter-Terrorism (CT) and other compliance checks

to ensure that funds are used appropriately, that partners and participants meet QSA's accountability standards, and that projects do not expose vulnerable people or QSA to unnecessary risk.

Successful applicants are expected to operate in accordance with QSA's Code of Conduct, adhere to our Child Safeguarding, PSEAH, and Complaints/Whistleblower policies, and uphold the ACFID Code of Conduct, of which QSA is a signatory.

QSA will ensure that all funded projects comply with its processes and reporting requirements, as well as with the standards of the ACFID Code of Conduct. Applicants must provide adequate documentation and acquittals for each project, at intervals determined by QSA in line with its regular procedures. Projects are typically supported or managed by QSA staff.

Disclaimer

Support by QSA does not imply it is able to grant any citizenship rights or provide letters of support for applications, nor will QSA provide legal advice, migration fees, direct sponsorship for family reunification processes via government departments, or similar provisions.