



“Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God”  
(Romans 15:7)

## Introduction

Australia is a multicultural nation. People from diverse cultures live throughout metropolitan and regional areas across the country. They come to study, work or to make Australia their new home. International students, seasonal workers, humanitarian settlers, CALD backgrounds and other new arrivals, face many challenges in settling in Australia. Many are at risk of isolation, exploitation and have limited access to support.

The Welcome Project offers great opportunities to everyday Salvos to engage in mission by becoming a friend to new arrivals and their families. This friendship can go a long way in helping them form strong community connections and gain a sense of belonging as they create a life and a home in Australia. All you need is a love for God and His people to be involved.

## Process

- Mission Expressions/MEs (Social Services and Corps) identify a Community Member (CM) who is in need of social/community supports.
- MEs request CM's permission to refer them to the 'Welcome Project (TWP).
- MEs Staff then fill in TWP Referral Form and email it to TWP Coordinator at [audrey.takavarasha@salvationarmy.org.au](mailto:audrey.takavarasha@salvationarmy.org.au)
- MEs advise CM that they will be contacted by TWP within the next 1-2 weeks.
- TWP uses ME's referral information to match CM with suitable Welcomer.

## How It works

It really is simple...it's about making a phone call, introducing yourself, and seeing if the new migrant has been able to settle into their community. It may be a catch up over a coffee or over a meal. It's about spending time getting to know each other, building meaningful relationships, becoming friends, and creating the opportunity through different faith pathways, to introduce them to Jesus.

They all come with different needs, some of them may not be quite as established. The Welcome Project allows for connection, for someone to talk to, to listen, to be a friend, provide a place of belonging and creating faith pathways in the process.

You can find more information about TWP here: <https://my.salvos.org.au/diversity-and-inclusion-team/the-welcome-project/>