



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency
Australia for UNHCR

Protect the world's
refugees with a gift
in your Will

“I have experienced first-hand what it is like to be saved by UNHCR, to be given food and shelter when you are driven from your home and family. No one wants to be a refugee: they just want to live a normal life like everyone else but they are powerless to change the situation in their country, to change their circumstances.”

Adut Dau Atem

Adut was just eight years old when she fled the civil war in the south of Sudan. Separated from her parents in the chaos of attack, she joined a group of children heading for the border and finally made it to the safety of UNHCR’s refugee camp in Kakuma, Kenya, where she remained for seven years.



UNHCR



Your Will and Australia for UNHCR

When we think about making a Will, it's only natural to consider loved ones first and foremost. Many people also find a place in their Will to reflect other important aspects of their lives – the issues that concern them most and the causes they believe in.

By remembering Australia for UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, in your Will, you are helping to ensure that people affected by conflict and natural disaster receive vital support in their time of need. Beyond your lifetime, you will be providing protection, food, water, shelter and healthcare to some of the world's most vulnerable people.

Thank you for considering leaving a gift to Australia for UNHCR in your Will.



Naomi Steer

Naomi Steer

National Director

“As soon as we receive resources, we use them. These people are just so desperate – the women and children crossing the border, they’ve often brought nothing with them. They’ve had to walk for kilometres, being shot at while they try to cross. They’re just trying to survive and we have to provide basically everything for them when they get here.”

Andrew Harper, UNHCR’s Regional Representative in Jordan, speaking from the Syrian border.

UNHCR helps refugees at every stage of their ordeal. As well as providing emergency shelter, food, water and medical care, UNHCR strives to improve refugees’ quality of life and future opportunities, providing infrastructure, schools and income generating projects in established refugee camps and communities.





What does UNHCR do?

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was originally founded in 1950 to resettle refugees from World War II.

It is now one of the largest humanitarian agencies in the world, aiding and protecting people forced to flee their homes due to conflict, violence, persecution or the devastation of a natural disaster.

UNHCR has helped tens of millions of people and is often the first in and last out of an emergency, providing crucial relief such as shelter, food, water and medical care.

For its global humanitarian work, UNHCR has twice been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

“To see a mother dying during childbirth is something you can never get used to. These are healthy women and pregnancy is not a disease. Most of the time they shouldn’t have died, that’s the thing. If the woman is followed during her pregnancy – if she gives birth with a person who can recognise that something is wrong... We get so many babies dying in refugee situations simply because the women don’t have access to the absolute minimum healthcare.”

Nadine Cornier, UNHCR Reproductive Health Officer, on the high rates of childbirth-related deaths among refugees and internally displaced people in Myanmar and Chad.

UNHCR has distributed thousands of birthing kits containing a clean blade, a plastic sheet, soap, string for the baby’s umbilical cord, a swaddling cloth and information using pictures. These simple kits have dramatically reduced birth-related deaths and infections, saving countless lives.





How your gift can help refugees

Refugees can spend months, years or even decades waiting to return home in safety or be resettled in another country. During this time, many have to depend on aid for their survival, living in isolated camps and settlements miles from the nearest shop, hospital, school or water reservoir.

A gift to Australia for UNHCR in your Will can help meet the basic needs of these communities, ensuring refugee families receive the essentials of survival, no matter how remote, impoverished or hostile their environment:

- ✓ **Water:** Provide vital water infrastructure ranging from a community well to a large-scale water pumping and purification system, helping to prevent disease.
- ✓ **Food:** Support emergency feeding and nutrition programs, providing vital micronutrient supplements to stave off a range of serious health disorders.
- ✓ **Shelter:** Provide tents or interim housing for refugees, giving dozens of families a place to call home and the basic items they need to keep warm and dry.
- ✓ **Health:** Enable the construction of a refugee clinic or hospital, finance a project for malaria prevention or fund a maternity health program for refugee mothers and babies.
- ✓ **Education:** Build a school or provide computer equipment – giving thousands of refugee children the opportunity to learn.

You can request that your gift is used in any one of these crucial areas. If you have no preference, Australia for UNHCR will use your gift where the need is greatest.



“First we were under a tree and then UNHCR started constructing buildings – not really permanent buildings but they used local wood and mud and a grass roof. And then two years later, they replaced these buildings with ones made out of brick and the roof was corrugated iron sheet and that was really nice! And UNHCR got carpenters around the camp to build moveable benches. For us, there was only one thing in that camp – school. There was often not enough food, and sometimes no security but there was one thing – education – and it meant everything.”

John Dau, a former ‘lost boy’ from South Sudan who learnt to read at the age of 16 in a Kenyan refugee camp. He is now a university graduate.

How to leave a gift in your Will

Whether you are writing a new Will or updating an existing Will, we strongly advise you to consult a solicitor. There are legal requirements that must be fulfilled when making or changing a Will. Your solicitor can further explain the different kinds of gifts in your Will and ensure that all your instructions are clearly expressed and valid.

If you already have a Will:

Ask your solicitor about adding a codicil. A codicil is an extra clause which is added to your existing Will. You can include a charitable gift in a codicil without having to rewrite your Will from scratch. The codicil itself is a legal document which must be signed and witnessed by two independent parties.

Common types of gifts in a Will:

- ✓ **Residue of your estate:** The remainder of your estate after meeting all of your other commitments and specific gifts have been disbursed.
- ✓ **Percentage of your estate:** You could choose to leave a percentage of either the residue of your estate, or a percentage of your entire estate.
- ✓ **Adding Australia for UNHCR to your existing Will:** Should you wish to include a gift to Australia for UNHCR in your existing Will, you can simply add a codicil, signed and witnessed in the same way as your Will.

- ✓ **Pecuniary gift:** A specific sum of money.
- ✓ **Alternative or conditional gift:** Should your beneficiaries not survive you, you may wish to leave your estate to Australia for UNHCR.
- ✓ **Assets:** Real estate, shares, bonds, art or other articles of value.

When preparing or changing your Will, it is always recommended that you discuss your wishes with your family first, prior to meeting with your solicitor.

Private and confidential

Please tick the appropriate box:

- I have already included a gift to Australia for UNHCR in my Will, in the form of:
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residue of my estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative or conditional gift |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assets | <input type="checkbox"/> Percentage of my estate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pecuniary (specific sum) | |
- I am thinking about including Australia for UNHCR in my Will. Please call me in confidence to discuss.
- I would prefer not to be contacted again regarding Australia for UNHCR's gifts in Wills program.

Name: _____

Address: _____

DOB: ___/___/___ Donor ID (if known): _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please return to: Australia for UNHCR – Development Team, Reply Paid, PO Box 428, QVB, NSW 1229 (no stamp required). If you have further questions or need any assistance, please feel free to telephone the Development Team on 1300 361 288. Alternatively, we can be reached via email at info@unrefugees.org.au



How to express a gift in your Will

The following words can be used in your Will to describe the type of gift you wish to leave to Australia for UNHCR. We suggest you take this booklet with you when consulting your solicitor.

To leave the residue of your Estate:

I give to **Australia for UNHCR** ACN 35 092 843 322 of PO Box 428, QVB, NSW 1229 [the whole of]* or [specific proportion of][†] the residue of my Estate to be used for its general purposes. I direct that a written receipt from Australia for UNHCR shall be a complete and sufficient discharge for my Trustee.

To leave a percentage of your Estate:

I give to **Australia for UNHCR** ACN 35 092 843 322 of PO Box 428, QVB, NSW 1229 [the desired percentage] of my Estate to be used for its general purposes. I direct that a written receipt from Australia for UNHCR shall be a complete and sufficient discharge for my Trustee.

To leave a specific sum:

I give to **Australia for UNHCR** ACN 35 092 843 322 of PO Box 428, QVB, NSW 1229 the sum of \$..... of my Estate to be used for its general purposes. I direct that a written receipt from Australia for UNHCR shall be a complete and sufficient discharge for my Trustee.

Australia for UNHCR is a deductible gift recipient as defined in the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth). Australia for UNHCR does not provide advice to donors or their advisors as to whether a gift or bequest will be tax deductible by the donor, who is advised to rely on their own independent advice.

* Delete whichever is not applicable.

[†] If proportion is chosen, express as a percentage or fraction.

A man with short dark hair, wearing a bright green long-sleeved shirt, is kneeling on a light blue tarp. He is looking down at a young child who is also sitting on the tarp. The child is wearing a blue and white jacket with red stripes on the sleeves and a colorful patterned hood. The man is holding a small object in his hand, possibly a piece of food or a small gift, and looking at it with the child. In the background, a white banner with the UNHCR logo and the text 'UNHCR UN Refugee Agency' is visible. The scene is outdoors, with some dry grass and a black tarp visible in the background.

UNHCR
UN Refugee Agency

We would like to thank you...

for considering leaving a gift to Australia for UNHCR in your Will. If you have already done so, please return the tear-out response form on the opposite page.

The information you provide will be treated in the strictest confidence but we would like to have the opportunity to thank you and to answer any questions you may have about the work of Australia for UNHCR and our gifts in Wills program.

Hear from other like-minded supporters...

Leaving a gift was always something I was going to do. And when it came time to decide, Australia for UNHCR was the cause that resonated with me. UNHCR really does make it happen – quick off the mark to help people in times of disaster and ‘in it for the long term’ providing aid for people in refugee camps. Living in Australia, we are very lucky with our lot in life. I see this as my chance to help others who don’t have the same advantages.

Pamela Gilbert

We all suffer in some respect, whether it be aloneness or the ageing process, or the death of loved ones, or a lack of resources to achieve our aims. But compared to our refugee brothers and sisters, we are on Cloud Nine. I need – I think we all need – to open not only our ears but also our hearts; not only our purses but also our constant awareness, our prayers and above all, our desire to become part of the solution. That is why I am leaving a gift to Australia for UNHCR in my Will.

Reverend Jane Chapman

All of the suffering in the world is so unimaginable – especially with refugees, that I felt I must do something. When I saw your organisation and what you do, I just had to be a part of it. In addition to my regular giving, I have left a substantial gift to Australia for UNHCR in my Will.

Mr Robert Hare