

A photograph of an older man and woman embracing warmly. The man is wearing a red Australian Red Cross shirt with a white band across the chest featuring the organization's logo and text. The woman is also wearing a red shirt. They are in an indoor setting, possibly a community center or a shelter, with a white wall and a doorway visible in the background.

# The future waits for no one

With your help, we will be ready



**Ukraine:** Evgen Varava, who is in charge of the Red Cross emergency response team in the city of Vyshgorod, stands in front of a bombed building. As the conflict continued, Ukrainian Red Cross lead a humanitarian response providing support to over 13 million people within the country and in neighbouring ones.

Photo: Italian Red Cross



# Together for humanity

Today, humankind faces unprecedented challenges. At home and across the world, communities are coping with the impacts of the climate crisis, back-to-back disasters, escalating conflicts, hardships and the lingering tail of a global pandemic.

Through it all, we've witnessed the resilience of our communities. And we've seen what is possible when people come together to help each other in extreme circumstances.

The generosity of supporters like you has been pivotal in enabling Australian Red Cross teams to help people struggling most, no matter who they are or where they are.

## **Now, will you go one step further?**

Will you join the Red Cross 1000? Will you join a special group of supporters committed to helping our teams respond to the challenges that will come next?

Looking to what that future might hold, we know we must act now to get ready in these unprecedented times, we must make a strong statement about the world we want to live in. And we have to do everything we can to make the world we want a reality.

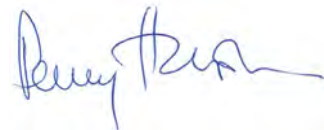
When you join the Red Cross 1000, your humanitarian impact will reach further through sustained giving. Your pledge of \$1,000 each year for the next three years will give us confidence we can meet the community's needs today and tomorrow, no matter what they might be.

You can play a special role in shaping how we help communities, from here in Australia to the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

None of us can predict what the future will bring next. But one thing I'm sure of – beyond any doubt – is that when communities need support, Australian Red Cross teams will be there to help.

**We will be there because people like you choose to act for humanity now. The future waits for no one, but we can be ready for it thanks to the Red Cross 1000 members. Will you join them?**

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Penny Harrison'.

**Penny Harrison**  
Interim CEO  
Australian Red Cross





Photo: Tsjette O'Halloran

Mark has been working hard to rebuild his life after a major flood hit his Northern Rivers home in New South Wales. Our volunteer Kerrie Gray has been at his side throughout his recovery.

## Your kindness in action

Disasters are becoming more frequent and intense than ever before in Australia. The climate crisis is well and truly here. That's why the work we do is so crucial.

Across the country, our Emergency Services teams help people anticipate, respond to and recover from disasters of all kinds. We have thousands of specially trained volunteers on standby 365 days a year; they are ready to drop everything and rush to help when the next disaster strikes.

Thanks to our generous supporters, we've responded to 33 emergencies over the last financial year, including bushfires, floods and large-scale community trauma events. Together, we have supported over 45,800 people, from the city fringes to country towns, to remote regions.

Most recently, our teams have been on the ground in multiple states helping communities affected by bushfires, cyclones and floods.

At the same time as responding, we're also there to help people cope and get back on their feet after past emergencies, including the many major floods that have hit communities in every state in the last few years.

We know recovery will take a long time, and communities will need support for years to come as they clean up, rebuild from nothing, and deal with the ongoing trauma. And it's even harder for those communities who have faced multiple overlapping disasters.

"People have different rates of recovery and different states of mental health. For people who have lost everything, it is going to take a very long time for them to be back on track," says Trevor from our recovery team.



# Displaced peoples

Recently the number of people forcibly displaced topped 100 million globally for the first time on record. This comes amid escalating conflicts, continuing long-term humanitarian crises, and the compounding impacts of climate change which have led to worsening and more frequent disasters.

Your support provides both urgent and long-term assistance for people seeking asylum, in immigration detention, or displaced overseas. Over the last 12 months, we have been working with Red Cross and Red Crescent colleagues in countries such as Ukraine, Bangladesh,

Myanmar and more, providing vital healthcare and humanitarian assistance through partnerships on the ground.

Your help makes this lifesaving work possible. With your support, we can reconnect separated families, provide food and essentials, and coordinate much-needed protection and assistance.

Our position as a leading humanitarian organisation allows your generosity to go further than ever to support and protect migrants facing vulnerability.

More than one in 73 people worldwide have been forcibly displaced, with the majority living in low-income and middle-income countries, according to UNHCR statistics.







Photo: Jade Ferguson

Our Night Café in Brisbane supports young people aged 12 to 25 who are homeless or experiencing vulnerability.

## When people in Australia face tough times

The past 12 months have been hard for many in Australia. Cost-of-living pressures mean more people are struggling to put food on the table and a roof over their heads. At the same time, others are coping with loneliness and isolation. Studies have found one in three people feel lonely at some time in their life.

In towns and cities, big and small, our teams are on the ground, helping people overcome challenges unique to their community.

Like in Brisbane, where we run the Night Café, it's a safe after-hours space for young people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The cafe offers meals, showers, clothing, and a listening ear. It is one of the city's last safety nets for young people slipping through the gaps.

Meanwhile, in Bridgewater, Tasmania, we were there when the community asked for help

to set up a food hub. The Hobart suburb has one of the state's highest urban First Nations populations, and many people here struggle financially. Our collaboration with the community led to a food hub, which they now run independently. It supports up to 700 people a fortnight. After all, who knows better than locals what is needed?

As other people in our communities cope with loneliness, we are there, too. Our buddy scheme links regular volunteer visitors with older people who are isolated. The visits help people feel valued and create friendships and a sense of belonging.

Nobody should have to go through the hard times alone. Thanks to supporters like you, Australian Red Cross teams can be there where they are needed most, supporting people facing the hardest days of their lives.



# Crises and emergencies

We're known for being one of the first on the ground after an emergency. With your help, we can keep it that way.

As part of the world's largest humanitarian network, Red Cross teams are trained to respond effectively to emergencies. Through locally-led humanitarian action, we reduce inefficiencies – getting the right people to the right place at the right time.

Thanks to our generous supporters, we raised \$6.9 million to help our colleagues on the ground delivering essential aid to their communities after the Türkiye and Syria earthquakes. Our supporters also generously gave \$2.6 million to support the immediate relief and long-term recovery efforts in response to the ongoing conflict in Ukraine.

Red Cross and Red Crescent teams were on the ground on day one after massive earthquakes hit Türkiye and Syria in February last year.

In our region, we supported local Red Cross teams in Fiji, Indonesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Vanuatu. Our support included help with disaster preparedness, climate resilience and preventive action before a disaster strikes. We also supported our colleagues tackling disease outbreaks, including dengue in Timor-Leste and measles and polio in Aceh, Indonesia.

An effective response considers all forms of aid. Meeting immediate needs and offering psychosocial support are just some of what we do. Red Cross teams also help people build their resilience and support them on the long road to recovery.



Photo: IFRC/Turkish Red Crescent

# Your support for our neighbours

**Working with our neighbours in the Asia-Pacific region to plan for disasters and the humanitarian impacts of climate change.**

The Asia-Pacific is home to two-thirds of the world's population and some of the most disaster-prone countries.

With your support, we work directly with local Red Cross teams to increase their ability to help their communities anticipate, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters and other crises.

Our regional partnerships provide incredible opportunities to manage risks that can all too often cross borders – from climate-induced disasters to epidemics.

In a crisis, international aid takes time to arrive. It's vital to have local emergency response teams trained, equipped and ready to help as soon as possible.

Taking pre-emptive action through community training, stocking warehouses and branches with vital relief supplies ahead of time, and coordinating with authorities, local Red Cross teams are a critical part of early detection and response to a crisis.

When a disaster strikes, like it did in Vanuatu last year when back-to-back cyclones hit, all that hard work and preparation come to the fore.

As a Red Cross 1000 member, you will contribute to meaningful work like this. You will be helping provide the right sort of aid, led by local people and based on what works in their communities.

It's faster, smarter and more effective. It means people recover more quickly and are better equipped for the future.



Photo: International Federation of Red Cross/Philippe Carillo

After cyclones Judy and Kevin hit in March last year Vanuatu Red Cross volunteers were there to help their communities.



Extreme winters – known as dzud – threaten the health and livelihoods of thousands of Mongolian herders in the country's remote central and southern provinces. Mongolia is one of nine Red Cross national societies we directly support in the Asia Pacific region.

Photo: Mongolian Red Cross





# A search for answers

**Every day, all over the world, families are separated by conflict, disaster or migration.**

We're part of the global Red Cross Red Crescent Restoring Family Links network, searching for loved ones who have disappeared. For many families, we are their last hope.

The cases we work on today are far more complex than a few decades ago. Among them are people who've disappeared in highly sensitive and political contexts, and a search through regular channels could put them at risk.

Our network is investing in technology that provides new and faster ways to find answers without endangering the people we help – such as Red Cross online photo galleries for people missing in Europe and parts of Africa. We're also exploring facial recognition software and digital data matching while balancing privacy and protection challenges.

Searching for missing people is intricate, painstaking work, and we spend hours scouring databases and archives for clues, knocking on doors and calling on community

groups and government departments. For Red Cross teams overseas, a search can mean travelling to isolated villages, refugee camps, and detention centres.

No other organisation in the world does this work on this scale. Because we are neutral and impartial, we can access war zones, prisons and places off-limits to most. That means we can get answers when others cannot.

We do everything we can to find a resolution for the families left behind. The times our teams can deliver good news are precious because that is not always the case. Families are reconnected, and hearts are made whole again.

Last year, in Australia, we helped families search for 1,913 loved ones missing because of conflict, disaster or migration. This vital service is only possible through the generosity of people like you. For families left in limbo, your support is the crucial link that can start a search for answers.



Photo: International Committee of the Red Cross

Rosalía's mother disappeared in Peru more than 35 years ago. Red Cross supported her during the search for, identification, and burial of her mother. This is the cemetery where she now rests.



## Australian Red Cross has helped separated families in the past year by:



**82 people** either located or learned of the fate of missing family members



searching for **1,913 missing** loved ones



sending or delivering **38 Red Cross Messages** to loved ones

### How we help

- search for a family member missing as a result of war, disaster or migration
- check the welfare of a relative overseas who can't be reached because of illness or other circumstances
- provide a confirmation of detention

“Whether we’re searching for a person here or overseas, there are always complexities ... The best part of my job though is when a missing person is located, and we can tell their families. It’s a beautiful feeling to see people happy and enjoying life again knowing their loved ones are safe and alive.”

– Restoring Family Links team member  
Mandy Kamel



## Red Cross Messages

In disaster, conflict and situations of violence, phones, mail and the internet can be disrupted. Our hand-delivered messages help people in an affected area to stay in touch with their loved ones in other parts of the world. People in detention or custody can also use this service to keep in contact with family in other places.

# Your investment goes further

**Global partnerships made possible with local support.**

When you make your first \$1,000 pledge as a member of the Red Cross 1000, you become a crucial part of an international humanitarian community.

Australian Red Cross belongs to the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, and that means you do too. With 80 million people worldwide, we are the largest humanitarian network on earth.

Together, we support people facing vulnerability and work to build stronger and more resilient communities. When crises hit in times of conflict and peace, we are the first responders. We're neutral and impartial, and we're there for people – no matter who, no matter where.

Every day, the vital support we provide is made possible thanks to the ongoing generosity of people like you. Together, we act for humanity.

Photos (left to right):

Since the conflict in Ukraine escalated two years ago, Red Cross teams within Ukraine and surrounding countries have provided humanitarian assistance to millions of people.

Photo: Italian Red Cross

Indonesian Red Cross teams helped with evacuations, first aid, clean water, emergency kitchens and more after a disaster in West Java.

Photo: International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC)/Garry Lotulung

Every year, our emergency response teams support hundreds of thousands of people before, during and after disasters.

Photo: Australian Red Cross/Dilini Perera



Photo: Italian Red Cross

## Countries facing big challenges

**Bangladesh, Horn of Africa, Myanmar, Ukraine, Türkiye and Syria**

Humanitarian challenges are constantly evolving and changing. We provide targeted support to countries facing crises where the needs are great, and we know we can make a difference. We support Red Cross teams providing life-saving aid, from food, clean water and shelter to healthcare, sanitation facilities and more.





Mongolia

Bangladesh  
Myanmar

Photo: Indonesian Red Cross



## Our Asia-Pacific neighbours

**Fiji, Indonesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Vanuatu**

We help local Red Cross teams with targeted and effective aid. We provide financial and technical assistance, as well as training. This helps to cover core operating costs, strengthen and develop their skills, and train their emergency first responder teams. Our goal is stronger and more resilient communities that can better prepare for, anticipate, respond to and recover from disasters and crises. It's all about locally-led humanitarian action.

Indonesia

Timor-Leste

Papua New Guinea

Solomon Islands

Vanuatu

Fiji

Tonga

Australia



Photo: Australian Red Cross/Dilini Perera

## Communities at home

**Australia**

When disasters strike, our teams help people find shelter, support and their loved ones. They walk respectfully with First Nations peoples towards a brighter and more equitable future. And they support people facing isolation and loneliness. When refugees, people seeking asylum and migrants come to Australia in search of safety, we can help them make ends meet and start over in a new country. Every day of the year, we are people helping people. Because we believe no one should go through the tough times alone.



Many areas hardest hit by last September's earthquake in Morocco were remote and mountainous. Hundreds of Red Cross volunteers rushed to help their communities, providing people with shelter, food, medicine, psychosocial support and more.

Photo: IFRC/Benoit Carpentier





# Investing in a safer future

**When you join the Red Cross 1000, you will help ensure we can continue to support the people who need us most, now and in the years to come.**

When you make your first \$1,000 pledge to the Red Cross 1000, you will be at the forefront of shaping how we support the community.

Let's start today.

**As a member of the Red Cross 1000, you will:**

- help shape the future of Australian Red Cross
- belong to a unique community of activists passionate about tackling big humanitarian challenges
- hear the stories behind the stories at exclusive events and briefings with Australian Red Cross leaders
- receive individual recognition of your generosity and membership
- know your pledge links you to a humanitarian history we will all be proud of in the years to come



Photo: Myanmar Red Cross

Cyclone Mocha caused widespread devastation last year, affecting families already internally displaced in Myanmar, as well as others living in refugee camps in Bangladesh. Red Cross teams helped rescue people, provided emergency hygiene kits and reunited separated families.

**“Alone, we can do  
so little. Together,  
we can do so much.”**

– Helen Keller, author, educator and disability rights advocate

**Join the Australian Red Cross  
1000 today.**

