



PRESS RELEASE: 21 September 2021

SUPPORTING WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AUSTRALIA AND AFGHANISTAN IS OUR MISSION

AWOTM volunteers are working hard to help secure the safety of women in Afghanistan and to support newly arrived women in Australia.

In the last week, **Afghan Women On The Move** (AWOTM) has been putting substantial effort into grant submissions and letters of support for women in Afghanistan. Thanks to the assistance of increased numbers of volunteers we have also been able to focus our activities to help women in Australia. The AWOTM website and Facebook site have had record traffic levels in response.

We are proud of the effort put into taking the story of threatened and **at-risk women in Afghanistan** to federal politicians in support of their need to be evacuated. Because of the sensitive situation and the risk to the women involved, much of this work happens almost entirely behind the scenes and out of the public view. Thankfully, we are getting support from all sides of politics, and we are hopeful we will see results soon.

New arrival Afghan women and girls are also reaching out to us as they leave quarantine. We are marshalling support through our volunteer network to help these women start their new life here in Australia – but we seek more help. A team of volunteers is setting up information directories and referral points to help these women navigate Australian government and business services. There will be more on our website soon. Some wonderful organisations are offering computer technology support. We are so grateful for the community support.

CAN YOU HELP?

If you want to help, please fill in the [contact form](#) on our homepage to tell us what skills or resources you can offer and we will respond quickly. If you are able to **donate** you can do so here: <https://www.givenow.com.au/awotm>

Maryam Zahid, Founder of AWOTM, is available for interviews

MEDIA CONTACT: Anthea Green

Volunteer Operations Director

Phone: 0438 616 440