



# RAILS

Refugee and Immigration  
Legal Service

(07) 3846 9300 | (07) 3844 3073  
admin@rails.org.au | www.rails.org.au

Level 1, 170 Boundary Street, West End Q 4101  
PO Box 5143, West End Q 4101

ABN 69 697 546 949

1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

Dear Carolyn,

This letter is to thank the Ubuntu Foundation for their generous support to RAILS' work to reunite Afghan minors with their parents, in safety.

On 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021, Afghanistan fell to the control of the Taliban. For the harrowing weeks that followed, the Australian Government airlifted people out of Kabul's airport and brought them to safety in Australia. In the chaos and panic of the airport, many of the people being evacuated from Afghanistan were separated from their closest relatives.

Some of these people were children under 18 years old who were brought into Queensland without their parents. Nine months on, their parents are still in Afghanistan. The best chance for these families to be reunited in safety, is that these children currently in Queensland apply for humanitarian visas for their parents to settle in Australia as refugees.

The positive outcomes of reuniting these Queensland based children with their parents after over 9 months of separation are immeasurable. Family separation has a severe negative impact on the health and wellbeing of young people of refugee background. They face worry about their family's safety and wellbeing, as well as having to face the impact of their own traumatic refugee experiences without their parent's emotional support. This takes place while having to navigate a new country and culture without their parents care, support and protection.

Once the humanitarian visas are granted, the parents of these refugee children will be allowed to enter Australia and remain in the country permanently. These children will be reunited with their parents and, under their care and protection, will start healing from the trauma they have survived.

With the generous donation received from Ubuntu Foundation, RAILS will provide legal representation to these children as they apply for visas for their parents and siblings under 18 years old.

In addition to this generous financial contribution, the Ubuntu Foundation has allowed RAILS to use their donation as a matching donation to our online June cash appeal. Their matching donation has encouraged others to give, further supporting RAILS' work.

It is always encouraging to feel supported by likeminded organisations, such as Ubuntu Foundation, in helping some of the most vulnerable people in our community. RAILS is immensely grateful for your kindness and generosity.

Yours sincerely,

Kylie McGrath

Executive Director and Principal Solicitor

Refugee and Immigration Legal Service