



Presbyterian Church
of Aotearoa New Zealand



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Greetings

Thank you so much for your response to the appeal for support of Refugees.

I am delighted with the high level of support expressed throughout the country.

Thank you also to Very Rev Ray Coster who took a lead while I was out of the country.

Your voice has made a difference!

I'm so encouraged that the voice of New Zealanders is being listened to by our politicians. The voice of the people and the churches has softened the heart of our government to allowing more refugees in our country.

At this stage it looks likely that Syrian refugees will be placed in the Wellington region. Our response needs to be directed towards supporting a number of churches in Wellington who are willing to help. At this stage we do not know the details of what assistance will be required. I will be working with the Wellington region of the Central Presbytery and will keep you up dated as more information becomes available.

In the mean time there is still a lot you can do.

1. The current Government policy on refugees requires ongoing public voice. If you would like to take this further contact [Amnesty International](#), they will provide you with information that will inform your advocacy.
2. There is strong support from the regions of NZ to take a leading role in settlement of refugees. If you are from the regional NZ, I encourage you to make contact with you local council and join their voice with yours.
3. If you want to roll up your sleeves and do something the [Red Cross](#) is your best point of contact
4. If you want to help Syrian refugees in Syria, [World Vision \(NZ\)](#) is doing some excellent work.
5. For those who want to stand in solidarity the persecuted and suffering Christian community see [Open Doors](#), [Voice of the Martyrs](#) or [Barnabas Fund](#).
6. If this issue has opened you eyes and heart to the injustice in your community and you want to do something, I encourage you to get a copy of "[Justice and Action](#)". This is a joint resource of the PCANZ and Presbyterian Support packed with information on how you can make a difference.

Thank you again for your heart felt response.

Blessings

Andrew Norton
Moderator PCANZ