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It is tragic that Australia does not resettle refugees who arrived in Indonesia after the 30 June 2014 and that parents and close relatives in Australia are unable to reunite with their family members.  Their lives are hell in Indonesia with lack of rights to work and limited access to education.  They are living in sub-standard conditions and suffer from chronic mental and physical health issues, such that suicides are not uncommon.  We sighted the names of 20 refugees who have committed suicide.**  **The media recently reported on the impact of the UNHCR cutting support for these desperate refugees stuck in Indonesia, including people with chronic illnesses and children without parents, because it is running out of money and prioritising other global crises.  The Australian government is currently 17th on the list of foreign donors to the UNHCR as a whole and has not earmarked any of that money for Indonesia. This needs to change.**  **A detailed report of the conditions in Indonesia submitted by Muzafar, can be found at**[*IndonesiaRefugeeReportMuzafarAliAug24*](https://mcusercontent.com/09c48b6cba9909c3558998ce0/files/9fd76ad0-5302-c064-b748-8f3def9becb1/Refugees_in_Indonesia_Report_by_Muzafar_Ali_Co_CEO_Cisuara_Learning_Centre_Aug_24.pdf)  **You may like to read the report prior to attending our meeting and are welcome to ask questions of our guests.**   |  | | --- | | **People with Disability in Immigration Detention** |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **L4R member Andy Shim, has drafted a motion that he proposes L4R circulates to ALP Branches.  He would like to seek support for this motion.  Andy will briefly speak to his motion at our September meeting.  Andy is happy to answer questions.**    **The motion with a detailed background follows**[*RefugeesWithDisabilityMotionSep24*](https://mcusercontent.com/09c48b6cba9909c3558998ce0/files/13a93fe5-df82-4758-4526-592cf4649f0c/PEOPLE_WITH_DISABILITY_IN_IMMIGRATION_DETENTION.01.pdf)  **The protests continue**  **A 24/7 protest vigil has been held outside Tony Burke’s electoral office for five weeks.  A rally took to the streets of Punchbowl on 31 August and protestors marched to Tony Burke’s office demanding an end to the limbo for the 10,000 fast track victims.  Like Mano, the Tamil asylum seeker who tragically died in Melbourne on the 28 August after self-immolating, fast track victims have been in Australia for at least 12 years, but have been left to subsist on six-month bridging visas, many with no work rights or Medicare (or left on expired visas).      The protest vigil is part of national protests for permanent visas that began in Melbourne about two months ago, spread to Tony Burke's office in Sydney and then to Jim Chalmers electorate office in Logan, Brisbane.    *“We are requesting a meeting with Tony Burke to discuss a solution that will provide the fast track victims with a pathway to permanent residency,”* said Ian Rintoul, spokesperson for the Refugee Action Coalition,*"They were front-line workers during the pandemic, but they have been left as underclass that has been cruelly ignored."***  **Up to 700 fast track victims have been protesting at Burke's office, with 25-35 sleeping overnight. Some of them have quit their jobs to join the protest.  They are desperate and feel that this may be their last chance to get the Minister to respond to them.**    **Labor for Refugees is still waiting for Tony Burke to get back to us after requesting an urgent meeting with the Minister**  **on 11 August 2024.**    **Regards**  **Nizza Siano Secretary L4R NSW email:**[*contact@labor4refugees.com*](mailto:contact@labor4refugees.com) | |  | | |  |      |  | | --- | |  | |  | |  | |  | |  | |  | |  | |  | |  | | | |
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