



We know you are there and we care

MEDIA RELEASE

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Calls for calls event.

Gifts for Manus and Nauru will sell sim cards at Australian airports in March, to earn phone credit for refugees stationed in Manus and Nauru detention center.

The sim cards will be sold for 28 AUD for the international travel sim card from *Post Australia*, and 25 AUD for the local Australian sim with international calls from *LycaMobile*. The proceeds will support Gifts for Manus and Nauru's Chuffed project to help 1500 refugees with phone credit while living at Australia's offshore processing sites; Manus and Nauru. The organisation will reach out to Australian travelers, workers, and students, but also foreigners coming to Australia for either work or pleasure during the airports busy month of March.

Annie Molenaar, the vice president of Gifts for Manus and Nauru said this all began through a letter writing campaign, where the detained men revealed their lack of necessities in the camp and the ban against devices that could capture sounds or images.

"I began sending things over, like e-readers without recording abilities, with language learning books, art supplies and sporting equipment"

"After the court case in PNG found the detention centers to be unconstitutional, the men were then allowed to have mobile phones, so our direction changed significantly from sending over parcels to getting money together to buy phones and getting those sent across" Annie Molenaar said.

Gifts for Manus and Nauru's Calls for calls event will promote the message that we all can find ourselves alone in a foreign place with the need to contact family and friends, and to give people an easy way of helping others who need the same as them. Phone credit allows the refugees to call their loved ones and provides with legal help, counseling, education, language training, news and entertainment.

"Once we got the phones to them we realised we had to keep them in credit, the men didn't have any means to save money to buy it, so we need 37,000 AUD every month for them", Annie Molenaar said.

Gifts to Manus and Nauru will hold booths at all the major airports entrances from 9 am to 4 pm every day in the month of March.

-End-

For further information contact:

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