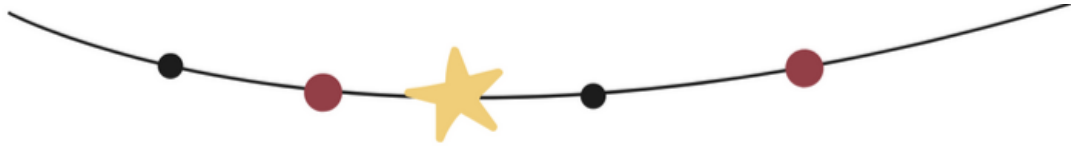




CAN Community Support



# Create a place to belong this Christmas

Donate today!

## Nadir's\* Story: Finding Home After Leaving Tibet

When Nadir and her family arrived in Australia from Tibet, everything felt new and uncertain — the language, the streets, even the way people greeted one another. They had found permanent housing in the Carlton public housing estate, but settling into this new life was daunting. There was so much to navigate for Nadir, her husband, and their three children.

We first met Nadir at CAN Community Support's morning drop-in. She would come quietly with her preschooler — sometimes with a friend or relative — sharing a cuppa and practising English with our volunteers. Week by week, shy smiles grew into warm conversations.



When we invited her to the Multicultural Women's Group, something shifted. There, Nadir found connection and confidence. She made friends, practised English, and delighted others by sharing Tibetan cooking and language. She even began inviting other newly arrived women, extending the same welcome she had received.

Nadir's family joined our Family Learning Program, where volunteer tutors support her children with homework and school success. While they study, Nadir meets with a volunteer for one-to-one English lessons. This year we celebrated a huge milestone: her eldest daughter completed Year 12 at a local school. With steady encouragement from the CAN community, Nadir's confidence has blossomed, and her family is building a stable new life in Carlton.

They are now regulars at our Community Lunch, often bringing friends or relatives. Together we

share meals from many cultures, conversations that help solve practical challenges — even questions like “Where do I go to vote?” They visit our Community Pantry and Fresh Food Market, and they bring warmth, gratitude, and the richness of Tibetan culture in return. Their gentle, smiling presence has become a blessing to our whole community.

**“CAN has helped us so much. We found friends here. It feels like home.” — Nadir**

*Artwork by Rozilah Kamarudin; Art Therapy student on placement at CAN Community Support*

## A Christmas Story We Share



This Christmas, we remember the story at the heart of Christmas: the humble birth of Christ, Mary and Joseph seeking shelter in a foreign place, the simple welcome of the innkeeper, the gifts of the Wise Men, the watchful presence of shepherds, and the angels’ great announcement of joy and hope.

Jesus Himself began life as a refugee child. His story reminds us that welcome, hospitality, and shared humanity lie at the centre of Christmas — and at the centre of CAN Community Support.

Nadir’s journey is a living echo of that first Christmas: a family far from home, met with kindness, offered a place to belong, and becoming a gift to the community around them.

## Your Gift Makes “Home” Possible

This Christmas, your generosity can help more families like Nadir’s find friendship, stability, and hope through English classes, community meals, tutoring, and practical support. Even the simplest offering — a meal, a conversation, a safe space — can help someone find their footing, their future, and a community that feels like home.

Will you help create “A Place to Belong” this Christmas?



Your gift will bless others, just as this community has been blessed by Nadir and her family.

*\*All names have been changed for confidentiality.*

**Make a donation this Christmas!**

**Give Now**

**Become a CAN Community Support partner through regular giving!**

An illustration of a brown cardboard box filled with various groceries, including a green apple, a bunch of blueberries, a head of green lettuce, a bunch of green beans, a carton of orange juice, a carton of milk, and a box of cereal. Two dark-skinned hands are shown at the bottom, holding the box from underneath. The background is a solid yellow color with small white stars.

Click below for to sign up for regular monthly donations.

Sign me up!