

6 March 2016 Refugee Action Coalition Media Alert
Let Them Stay Bring Them Here: Candlelight Vigil - Hyde Park

7.00PM, SUNDAY 6 MARCH

Up to 200 people are expected at a Let Them Stay vigil, organised for healthcare professionals taking place at the Archibald Fountain , starting 7pm, tonight , Sunday 6 March. The vigil has drawn wide support from beyond the healthcare profession.

The Let Them Stay vigil is part of the country-wide mobilisation calling on the Turnbull government not to return 267 asylum seekers presently in Australia for medical treatment, to Nauru and Manus Island.

More than a month after the High Court decision that cleared the way for the return of the 267 to be returned to Nauru and Manus, not one of the asylum seekers has been returned.

The movement has also gained an undertaking that lawyers will be give 72 hours notice of any intention to remove baby Asha and her parents to Nauru, following action by staff, backed by hundreds of refugee supporters, at the Lady Cilento hospital in Brisbane, refusing to release baby Asha to be returned to Nauru. Asha and her parents are now in community detention.

Speakers at the vigil include: Dr Barri Phataford, Doctors for Refugees, Danielle Austin Mums for Refugees, Refugee Action Coalition, Teachers for Refugees.

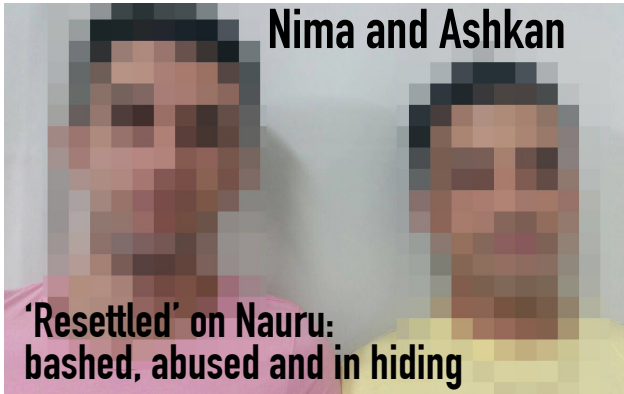
Nationwide non-violent direct action training is being organised next Sunday, 13 March , as part of the Sanctuary move by church congregations to defy any attempt by the government to remove any of the 267 to Nauru or Manus Island.

Today's vigil follows the very successful “No Pride in Detention” contingent in the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardis Gras which highlighted the plight of two gay refugees on Nauru – Nima and Ashkan. (photo attached).

The penalty for homosexuality on Nauru is up to 14 years jail, with hard labour.

Nima and Ashkan have been house-bound on Nauru since they were beaten on Nauru in July 2015.

For more information contact Ian Rintoul 0417 2175 713



Nima and Ashkan

**'Resettled' on Nauru:
bashed, abused and in hiding**

**NO pride
in detention**

#LetThemStay #BringThemHere