

Why hire refugees – Transcript

[Music plays and a blurred image appears of a person seated and text appears: Why hire refugees? Career Pathways for Refugees]

[Image sharpens and the image shows a male getting up from a seat and walking towards a desk]

Rahaf Alrifai: Lots of refugees come to Australia with real skills and qualification.

[Image changes to show Rahaf Alrifai talking to the camera and text appears: Rahaf Alrifai, Career Pathways Pilot, Employment Facilitator]

My name is Rahaf. I came to Australia 11 months ago. I was a refugee.

[Image changes to show Rahaf Alrifai and Safwan Aldod shaking hands as Samantha Palmer looks on and then the image changes to show Rahaf Arifai talking to the camera]

Currently I'm a Facilitator with the Career Pathways Pilot Programme.

[Image changes to show Samantha Palmer shaking hands with Safwan Aldod and then the image changes to show Samantha Palmer talking to the camera and text appears: Samantha Palmer, Career Pathways Pilot, Employment Facilitator]

Samantha Palmer: They come to Australia with professional qualifications, professional experience, even a trade.

[Image changes to show a rear view of Safwan Aldod, Rahaf Alrifai and Samantha Palmer walking down a corridor]

So, we try to utilise those skills.

[Image changes to show Samantha Palmer talking to the camera and then the image changes to show Samantha Palmer, Rahaf Alrifai and Safwan Aldod sitting down at a table]

My name's Samantha and I work here at S.S.I. My role is as Employment Facilitator.

[Image changes to show Safwan Aldod talking to the camera and text appears: Safwan Aldod, Humanitarian Entrant]

Safwan Aldod: I arrived as a refugee here in Australia with my family, my wife and two son.

[Image changes to show Samantha Palmer, Rahaf Alrifai and Safwan Aldod sitting at a table and talking and then the camera zooms in on Samantha Palmer talking to the camera]

Samantha Palmer: Safwan comes to Australia, being very highly skilled in the engineering industry.

[Image changes to show a side view of Samantha Palmer talking and then the image changes to show Safwan Aldod talking]

What came from that meeting with him is that I learnt that Safwan has years of experience.

[Images move through of Samantha Palmer writing notes, Samantha Palmer listening, Samantha Palmer talking to the camera and Samantha Palmer and Safwan Aldod shaking hands]

The main goal is to ensure that the clients that I work with go into a job or a career that's closely aligned to the career that they had prior to coming to Australia.

[Image changes to show Safwan Aldod talking to the camera]

Safwan Aldod: My job in Iraq was Petroleum Engineer.

[Image changes to show Samantha Palmer listening and then the image changes to show Safwan Aldod talking to the camera]

I worked for the Ministry of Oil and I travelled all over the world for the meeting with international companies.

[Image changes to show Safwan Aldod seated by a table with three cups of coffee and then the camera zooms out to show Safwan Aldod, his wife and another male in a coffee shop]

I did well in my job but the conditions forced us to leave.

[Images move through of Safwan Aldod and his wife talking, Samantha Palmer talking to the camera and Safwan Aldod, his wife and another male in a coffee shop]

Samantha Palmer: What's really amazing about Safwan is he comes with great enthusiasm and my next steps that I have been taking with Safwan is to look at his transferrable skills and breaking those down and looking at other roles he could go into.

[Image changes to show Samantha Palmer talking to the camera and then the image changes to show Safwan Aldod smiling]

But what's also great about Safwan is that he has been offered an internship with a major company here in Australia.

[Image changes to show the other male smiling and then the image changes to show Safwan Aldod and his wife looking up while the other male is taking a photograph on a Smartphone]

Safwan Aldod: There are lots of people paying taxes to pay for the refugees so we have to pay back by working and depend on ourselves.

[Image changes to show Safwan Aldod talking to the camera and then the image changes to show Safwan Aldod and his wife smiling and looking to the right]

I have internship with Telstra. I will give them my efforts and my hard work to prove that was the right decision for them to choose me to do this job.

[Image changes to show Rafah Alrifai talking to the camera and then the image changes to show Safwan Aldod and his wife and the other male walking along and smiling]

Rahaf Alrifai: By hiring a refugee I think there are many benefits.

[Camera zooms in on Safwan's wife and the other male and then the image changes to show Safwan Aldod smiling and the camera pans to the left to show his wife smiling too]

They have fresh ideas, international experience and they add some of their culture to the workplace and this I think is very critical.

[Image changes to show Samantha Palmer talking to the camera and then the image changes to show Safwan Aldod smiling at the camera]

Samantha Palmer: Not only am I supporting my client but I'm also there to provide that support to the employer. So, if the employer has any concerns or any questions, I'm there to support them through that process.

[Music plays and image changes to show an animation image of children, two footballers, a female and child and a family of refugees and the camera zooms in on the refugee family]

[Australian Government Department of Social Services logo and text appears: Find out more at www.dss.gov.au/careerpathways]