



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **inTouch welcomes CEO Rasha Abbas**

**Friday, 18 August 2023**

inTouch, Australia's leading specialist family violence provider dedicated to supporting migrant and refugee women and their communities is delighted to announce the appointment of Rasha Abbas as its new Chief Executive Officer from 25 September 2023.

Ms Abbas joins the team with extensive experience in the financial services sector, along with community service experience as a member of the Digital Strategy Board Committee at the Children Medical Research Institute (CMRI). Ms Abbas is also strongly connected to refugee and orphan education and wellbeing, both here and overseas, through organisations such as Olive Kids.

inTouch Board Chair, Miriam Silva AM shared her enthusiasm for Rasha's appointment: "Rasha Abbas brings an exceptional blend of strategic insight and operational acumen to inTouch. Her distinguished career in financial services, coupled with her extensive leadership experience overseeing large teams of up to 1,400 staff and demonstrated commitment to community betterment, makes her an ideal leader for our organisation.

"We have full confidence in Ms Abbas's expertise to lead the team as we press forward with the urgent and vital work of supporting women on temporary visas facing family violence.

"Over 40% of women we support who experience family violence are on temporary visas. Our focus includes providing immediate in-language, in-culture services and essential necessities such as food, safety, legal support, and tackling challenges related to housing crisis, cost of living, and migration laws," said Ms. Silva.

Rasha Abbas, shared her excitement about joining inTouch: "I am honored to take on the role of CEO at inTouch. The organisation's commitment to supporting migrant and refugee women and their communities is deeply inspiring. I look forward to working closely with the team to drive positive change and make a meaningful impact on the lives of those we serve."

Before joining inTouch, Ms Abbas had an extensive career in the financial services sector, holding senior executive roles with CBA, NAB and ANZ.

Ms Silva extended the Board's gratitude to Maryum Chaudhry, Executive Manager, Sector and Community, who served as Acting CEO during the transition: "We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to Maryum Chaudhry for her exceptional leadership during this interim period. Her dedication and contributions have been invaluable in ensuring the continued success of our organisation."

With Rasha Abbas at the helm, inTouch is poised to enhance its role as a pivotal player in the family violence response system. The organisation remains devoted to its vital mission of providing specialised expertise to individuals from migrant and refugee backgrounds, contributing to the overall wellbeing and resilience of these communities.

"inTouch is growing in significance, scope, and capacity and Rasha's leadership will further elevate our ability to create lasting impact," added Ms Silva.



Multicultural Centre  
Against Family Violence



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### **About inTouch**

inTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence (inTouch) provides person-centered, integrated and culturally responsive family violence services to migrant and refugee communities. We have assisted nearly 30,000 women and children experiencing family violence since 1984, providing a holistic service that centers the experiences of victim-survivors in everything we do. inTouch provides many services including court and community outreach, legal assistance, sector training and capacity building, prevention work and perpetrator intervention programs. For more information, visit [www.intouch.org.au](http://www.intouch.org.au)