{Add your organisation name:} {Full address} {Phone number} {General email} {Website}

{Name of your local MP} {Address where local MP is located}

{Add the date when the letter have been send}

Dear {Add name},

Re: Critical funding needed to support more women to be safe and confident online

{Name of your organisation} is one of **55 community organisations** supporting refugee and migrant women to feel confident and safer online through the Digital Sisters program.

Digital Sisters is a <u>Good Things Australia program</u> funded by the Department of Social Services as a pilot since 2023. The program has built digital literacy in refugee and newly arrived migrant women and empowered support services to deliver digital literacy support.

The pilot has supported over **1000 refugee and migrant women** across Australia with incredible impact. As a result of participating in this program:

- 95% of women increased their confidence in using technology
- 75% of women felt safer online
- 89% of women increased their social connections
- 97% of women would recommend the program to other people in their community.

It has also been recognised as a finalist in the <u>Women in Digital awards under the</u> <u>Workforce Skills for the Future category</u> and been highlighted as best practice in the <u>United Nations Development Program's Digital Inclusion Playbook 2.0</u>.

The sessions we have run in [add your program location] have really helped the women participating in the program connect with other women in their communities, creating valuable social relationships.

One of our participants said about their experience in the program, "[Insert a quote from a participant about the positive outcome of the program - it can be anonymous if they prefer]"

However, funding for this program ends in June 2025. There are many more women who could benefit from the support it provides.

Continuing this program would not only support greater social connection and gives skills to individuals but is also good for the economy. A recent report by Good Things on the <u>Economic Benefits of Overcoming Digital Exclusion</u>, shows that the annual economic benefit of closing the digital divide is at least \$467M.

As our local Member for [Add your electorate name], we would like your help in advocating for the extension of this program by talking with your counterparts about its impact and how its funding could be continued for three more years.

Invitation: Experience the Digital Sisters program with us

You are invited to join us in one of our upcoming sessions to experience the impact of this program. We will be hosting a Digital Sisters session:

{Add details of the next session].

[Add Date, time and address].

If you need any further information, please contact me at any time.

Warm Regards,

{Add your signature}

{Name}

{Role and organisation name}

{Phone number}

{Email contact}

{Organisation website or main information platform}