

Ms NELSON-CARR (Mundingburra—ALP) (11.46 am): Today I would like to make special mention of a community organisation in my electorate which, in today's world of unrest and uncertainty, leads the way firstly in its refugee resettlement programs but also as a multicultural community organisation with a passionate but fair commitment to social justice, harmony, acceptance and community spirit. I speak, of course, of the Townsville Multicultural Support Group which, under the long-term leadership of Meg Davis, continues to lead a team of dedicated workers and volunteers to create a better place for newly arrived migrants and refugees. I am so pleased that TMSG was recognised this year with the minister's multicultural award for community organisation—a community organisation that strives for active multiculturalism and world peace.

Ms Palaszczuk: Very well deserved.

Ms NELSON-CARR: I take that interjection from the minister because I absolutely agree. I have had the privilege of knowing Meg and the president of the management committee, Sheila Hawthorn, for many years. The work they do with some of our most traumatised families who have had to resettle, make enormous changes as well as possess immense courage is simply exceptional. When we witness daily atrocities occurring throughout the world we know that family trauma and pain will be a massive byproduct. When some of these global families make their way to Townsville they can be assured that they will be greeted with love and acceptance as well as the kind of support that will make resettlement easier and more manageable.

TMSG has a sensational team and they have the admirable ability to work closely with the Townsville and Queensland network of service providers to overcome prejudice while at the same time encouraging individuals to confront self-doubt and anxiety and to face incredible change with courage. I applaud you, Meg Davis and Sheila Hawthorn, as well as your team of miracle workers. Thank you. Our community is a much better place for its growing multicultural culture and all that it brings.