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# We're Coming 'Home'...

**Permanent residency Visa - Approved!**

24 March 2022

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## Permanent Residency Visa - Approved!

I think I could pretty much just send this email out without any explanation - but truly there is always something to say right!

Six and a half years of advocating for this girl - jumping through every hurdle presented to me - meeting every need that was asked of me - continuing on until we heard a 'No' - and guess what - we never heard the 'No' - and here we are today, against all odds, with a Rwandan passport in hand and now an Australian permanent Residency Visa in the other hand.

Australia does NOT have a relationship with Rwanda for adopting children - Flora was the first Rwandan child adopted in NSW under the Hague Convention - this was never supposed to happen - but we never heard the 'No' - so we kept believing and kept on going.

I wrote to Politicians and Prime Ministers and truly our story is so unique that honestly there isn't anyone who knows how to help us or point us in the right direction - we just kept going until we heard the 'No' - we never heard the 'No'.

Many of you have prayed with us since day one, many of you have believed in our story since day one, many of you have supported us in so many ways, many of you love us and look forward to seeing 'little' (she isn't little anymore) Flora. We can't wait to see you either!

Today was full of emotion as we shared our news with people we love in our community in Kigali - there were tears and hugs and disbelief as some friends have walked this journey for the whole 6 years with us and there were many days when we thought today was never going to happen.

Of course it is bitter sweet as we start to process and pack up our lives from the last seven years. If you're a praying friend, please pray for my little girl as she processes this biggest transition of her life so far. Pray that I can support her through this transition as the best Mumma I can be. Pray that I can help her make some special memories to keep for ever as she finishes up her school year and we look at leaving Kigali in early June. She asked her Nanna this morning to bake her a chocolate pudding when she gets to Australia, already putting her orders in and getting Nanna wrapped around her little finger! She told Pa that he is going to have to hug her tight to keep her warm because she's never had a winter and June (for her) will be cold!

We have so much to give thanks for and today we are full of praise for God's faithfulness and goodness to us, knowing the desires of our hearts and meeting our needs just where we are at.

Thanks for partnering with us,

*Michele and Flora.*