Every Tuesday evening, up to 25 young people meet at the Venda Club and enjoy an evening of fun-filled activities, with a slice of pizza! This may not sound particularly special – but for the young people we support it is a real lifeline.

Through activities like pool, table football, board games and video games, Venda provides a welcoming and safe space for our young clients to be themselves, building a community of friendship, trust and respect.

Jamal*, one of our amazing youth club attendees, has thrived through the support of Venda. Ahmed is now volunteering with our food bank where he loves to help out. He attends college and has a passion for fitness, taking part in our summer cricket programme and using his gym membership, which we support him with, up to six times a week.

“In Venda Club every Tuesday I meet with my friends and I play some games and eat food like pizza and some drink – it makes me very happy.”

Jamal
Another 16-year-old client, Azeem* loved our summer activities and came to every single one, including paddleboarding, our sports day, Go Ape and a trip to Bournemouth beach. He has been one of our most enthusiastic members of Venda.

Venda isn’t the only youth-centred initiative at Asylum Welcome. We are also developing a girls group to help reduce social isolation, build confidence and provide a safe space to meet.

And we have a hugely successful weekly football group in partnership with Refugee Resource and Oxford United in the Community, which around 20-25 young people attend each week.

Providing a home away from home, Venda is a light in the dark for these young people. It’s a true lifeline for everyone who comes. Your donation today will help us continue to expand this much-needed service into the New Year and beyond. Thank you for your support.

“I don’t know how to express my thanks that you are supporting me. Thank you for everything you have done.” Azeem

*Not their real names – changed to protect their identity