



Annual **Review** 2019/20

Weaving networks of support

2019/20 A year in perspective

Our core focus is to help asylum seekers and refugees understand the asylum system and their rights, secure legal assistance, and access practical and emotional support. We provided support with housing, health, education and employment; we strove to alleviate hardship and destitution. We welcomed, we listened, we responded – and we supported more clients than ever.

Our services expanded and flourished. We developed a pilot prison-visiting project at HMP Huntercombe and built up 'Europa Welcome' – a service helping vulnerable EU citizens to apply for settlement in the run-up to Brexit.



The year ended with the departure of our wonderful Director, Kate Smart. Kate was pivotal in developing the high-quality services for which Asylum Welcome is renowned. Her legacy will endure.



We were very sad to see Kate go, but we were delighted to welcome Mark Goldring as Asylum Welcome's new Director. Mark brings extensive charity experience to the role.

Over the
past year we
supported
1,482 people
from **54**
countries

After four years as Chair, I decided it was time to step down at the end of the year, handing over to two other very capable trustees, Val Johnson and Tony Samuel, as Co-chairs.

The year ended with lockdown in response to COVID-19. This brought unprecedented challenges but highlighted the strength and resilience of our community, the dedication of staff and volunteers in maintaining some basic services, and the exceptional generosity of our supporters in response to our appeals.

Thank you, all!

Marcus

Marcus Thompson MBE
Chair (2016-2020)



A year of change and innovation

HMP Huntercombe – prison visiting service

We put our immigration detainee expertise to excellent use, responding to a request from Huntercombe Prison to establish a pilot visiting project. This South Oxfordshire prison houses around 480 foreign nationals. Our Prisoner and Detainee

Project Coordinator and **14 volunteers** provided companionship to the prisoners and crucial support around health and wellbeing, in their own language, and, on occasions, act as a link between prisoners and immigration advisors as immigration advice within the prison is rather limited.

Prior to
lockdown,
we saw **50**
prisoners
at HMP
Huntercombe

Europa Welcome

Our Europa Welcome service helped **800 EU citizens** to understand their rights and apply for settled/pre-settled status in the lead-up to Brexit. This service supports those who would find it difficult to submit an application – for example, due to language difficulties, limited computer access or health problems.

We reached out to the local East Timorese community (Portuguese passport holders) – numbering around **2,500 people**. We ran outreach seminars with a Tetum



interpreter; these highlighted vulnerabilities among the group, including overcrowded living conditions and insecure employment. We aim to continue supporting this community. We also gave four presentations at hospital sites, reaching **1,500+ EU NHS workers**.

COVID-19

The year ended in lockdown. We suspended face-to-face services in March and altered our delivery model, but continued to open two days a week to provide crucial hardship payments and immigration advice to our most vulnerable clients who would otherwise be destitute and homeless. We significantly upped our emergency support – food deliveries and hardship grants – and maintained a telephone advice service.



Everyday assistance

We believe that everyone should be made to feel truly welcome. Our bright and bustling Welcome Centre is at the heart of Asylum Welcome. We offer advice, support and companionship, provide food and hardship funds, and distribute recycled bicycles.



Welcome Centre

Our centre welcomed over **900 people** during 2019/20 – a safe and friendly space in which to relax, socialise and access support, providing:



We help our clients to feel welcome and supported, understand their rights, develop confidence and talents, contribute to and integrate in society, and live with dignity and respect.

◀ Our Office Manager, Saeed, sets up our new recycled laptops, donated by Lloyds Bank Foundation.



Our Advice Services continue to provide guidance on a wide range of issues, including:

- asylum and immigration
- health
- housing
- benefits
- education and employment

We also provided:

- hot meals
- hardship payments
- recycled bicycles
- access to computers
- day trips
- English lessons
- support to foreign national prisoners
- a youth club
- volunteering opportunities
- support for refugee groups and community organisations
- support for vulnerable EU nationals to apply for Settled Status in the run-up to Brexit



Food provision

We distributed **611 bags** to clients, containing food and essential toiletries – including nappies and sanitary products.*

Our popular lunch club ran until August 2019, providing around **22 meals/ takeaway boxes** weekly. The closure of the venue, Magdalen Road Church, sadly forced the closure of this service; we are now seeking an alternative.

The pandemic led to increased demand for food – our dedicated volunteers made deliveries of provisions from the start of lockdown.

10,000+
items of food and toiletries
were distributed to clients
struggling to feed themselves
and their families

* Items generously donated by Oxford Food Bank, supermarkets, groups and individuals.

Bike project

68 clients received reconditioned bicycles (with helmet, lights and lock), providing free and healthy, eco-friendly transport.

- A woman in East Oxford works at the John Radcliffe Hospital. Her bike now allows her to juggle a busy working life and bringing up her family.
- One young man can now easily follow his passion – playing rugby at Horspath Sports Ground. This has helped him integrate more fully into Oxford life.
- An unemployed and intermittently homeless man has found it much easier to access support now that he has a bike.

The value of a bike is immense. It saves money, time and energy for people who previously relied on buses or walking in order to get to work, access education, attend appointments or pursue leisure opportunities.



600 appointments
concerned hardship
125 individuals were
supported with essential
living needs, including
food

Hardship payments

We assisted clients through small hardship payments, mostly for essential needs. We paid out **£21,666** in total, helped by the Red Cross, supporters and funders. Payments also covered legal fees and essential travel costs to Home Office interviews.

COVID-19 increased hardship; we ended the year with a decision to increase hardship payments from April 2020.

“You helped us when we had nothing. Thank you... we love everyone at Asylum Welcome”

A mother and son

Expert support and advice



AFS held **520** appointments relating to immigration and legal issues

Adult and Family Advice

Our Adult and Family Advice Service (AFS) helps clients navigate their way through the UK's complex systems of asylum, immigration, rights and benefits – and provides practical and emotional support. The AFS team, including **26 volunteers**, provided specialist advice and casework across a range of integrated areas. The key issue for most clients is to be granted 'leave to remain' and have the chance to work, settle, and get on with their lives.

AFS supported **350** people through over **1,900** appointments

Immigration and asylum

We provided advice covering support with asylum claims and immigration, access to solicitors, asylum applications, family tracing/reunion, and applications for travel documents.

We established a separate 'Asylum and Immigration Group' of volunteers to help clients navigate the complexities related to status and residence and family reunification.

We remain the only organisation in the county providing immigration advice at OISC (Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner) Level 2.



Health, benefits and housing

AFS supported **29 adults** with problems relating to physical and mental health. We helped **65 people** to access the benefits they were entitled to, including Asylum Support and Universal Credit. We assisted **93 people** with housing, including issues of homelessness. During the year, Asylum Welcome became part of the Oxford Homeless Movement.

16 people were awarded 'leave to remain'

Our Youth Service supported **145** unaccompanied asylum seekers aged 13-25

Youth Service

Our youth club 'Venda' supported **12-15 young people weekly** until its closure for lockdown in March 2020. We continued to offer remote support and **60 young people** attended our holiday activities, including a trip to the seaside. Our Coordinator, Helena, met Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASCs) newly arrived in Oxford and taking part in the Council's orientation programme.



One-to-one support

131 young people were given one-to-one support. 65 of them, including four homeless people, were supported with accommodation; 77 received help with financial advice/benefits. Support was given to 36 young people with medical problems, including 18 with mental health needs who required intensive support. We helped young people with **149 immigration/legal problems**.

Helena chairs the local inter-agency group for UASCs. It was strengthened this year with many new members. The project set up links with Banbury projects to make sure UASCs based there could access advice and guidance.

A successful year

A number of young clients with whom we have worked over a number of years were Appeal Rights Exhausted (ARE) and a small group who arrived as 12-13 year olds had been refused asylum, but their cases never appealed. Most were homeless due to lack of status. We worked extensively with them to help them put in fresh claims with new evidence. Over the last year, **seven former UASCs who had been ARE for 4-6 years were finally given refugee status or humanitarian protection*** – a huge relief for them, and finally a chance to get on with their lives.

“After my brother was killed in Syria in 2015, his wife and five children ended up in a refugee camp in Lebanon. Asylum Welcome helped me apply for Family Links, to bring them to the UK. Now they live in Reading – they're settled, happy, doing fine and starting to live their new lives.”

Alaa, Syrian chef and Asylum Welcome client

Fostering confidence, skills and talent



Shared Talents

Employment and education service

We successfully merged our education and employment services into one integrated service, 'Shared Talents.' The service supports refugees and asylum seekers to gain skills, knowledge and experience, and to boost their employability. We also provided English lessons and support with IT – helping clients to integrate into their local community and build skills for employment.

The service provided advice on educational opportunities/qualifications to **65 adults** and **17 young people**. Our ESOL-trained volunteers provided English lessons to **55 people**. We advised **64 people** – all with permission to work – on improving their employability; one third were women.

We partnered with Oxford Business College, which offered free courses to eight of our clients. We also helped a number of clients to find funding for college courses.

Ghazala came to Asylum Welcome two years ago, speaking no English at all:

“Whatever I am today it's because of Asylum Welcome. They helped me to find voluntary work at a primary school and found assistant head teacher courses. They developed my language skills, prepared my CV, updating it each time, and encouraged me to keep going. They developed my confidence and awareness about society.”

Supporting each other

We offer a wealth of volunteering opportunities at Asylum Welcome, and also support clients who want to volunteer externally.

Amira has refugee status and has been supporting our Finance Manager, gaining essential book-keeping experience whilst training to be an accountant.

Zahra and family arrived in the UK and applied for asylum. Their application was refused, leaving them with no right to work and no recourse to public funds. The family was given support from our hardship fund and help with their immigration case. We helped them to regularise their status and access public funds. We also provided English lessons, helped the children to access education, and gave moral support and links to social networks.

Abdul decided to volunteer for Asylum Welcome in 2016 and has been volunteering for us ever since – first at our Welcome Centre and now as a translator. Abdul's confidence has grown immeasurably and he now enjoys supporting other refugees and asylum seekers.

External volunteering opportunities include the Multaka Oxford volunteering scheme. This museum volunteering programme is run by the Pitt Rivers Museum and the History of Science Museum, in partnership with Asylum Welcome, Refugee Resource and others.

In 2007, 16 year-old Peyman arrived in Oxford frightened and alone after his father was killed in Iran.



He was refused asylum, so when he turned 18 he lost social care support and moved into a house provided by nuns. After this closed down, Peyman slept on the floor there for a while before becoming homeless, sleeping on the streets.

Concerned for his welfare, we found a remarkable local family who provided a room in their home for him. Asylum Welcome worked tirelessly with lawyers to continue to present his case to the Home Office. We also helped him with food and hardship money, found him free college courses, provided English lessons and kept him busy volunteering in our Welcome Centre.

He found it hard to fit in with local youth culture, so he stuck close to Asylum Welcome and we stuck by him. It took 12 long years from the day of his arrival before he was finally granted Leave to Remain in 2019. Now Peyman's goal is to become an engineer.

Enabling voices to be heard

Client voices

We strive to be as client-led as possible.

We seek the participation of clients in our planning processes, including through feedback, annual surveys and focus group discussions.

We encourage refugees to become volunteers, staff and trustees, to play a role in service design and delivery and to represent Asylum Welcome externally. More than 20 of our current volunteers have a refugee background.

Our clients represented us at events including our Charity Gala at The North Wall and the One World Festival at the Ashmolean Museum – illuminating their experiences through music, poetry and storytelling.



◀ Muradi Bakir sharing her raw and confronting prose on the subject of displacement, home and what it means to be a refugee, with a packed audience at the One World Festival, November 2019.

Refugee groups and community organisations

We supported **seven refugee community groups** with advice/encouragement and use of our premises – including groups representing the Somalian, Syrian, East Timorese and Sudanese communities (a performance by Sudanese musician Ibrahim Elgediah is pictured on page 11).

An outstanding initiative in 2019/20 has been the formation of a social group by three Eritrean care leavers. These young men, all in their 20s and all former clients, wanted to do something for their community – to bring people together and reduce isolation. We supported them to find and rent premises, contributing towards the cost, helped them to formulate their aims, and provided support with safeguarding, first aid and insurance.



Feras Alhusni heard Navid from Asylum Welcome speak at the 'Towards Independent' conference at the Asian Cultural Centre in Oxford in July 2019. He subsequently visited us to tell us the impact it had on him:

“Navid’s story was inspiring and made me feel stronger. It opened a window for me – showing me that the future is going to be brighter.”

“If someone I loved was seeking refuge in a foreign land I’d hope and pray its people were kind and compassionate. You would, wouldn’t you?” **Will Gompertz**, BBC Arts Editor and Compère of our Gala Evening

Advocacy

We continue to advocate for better conditions for asylum seekers and refugees. National organisations such as the British Red Cross and Refugee Action recognise Asylum Welcome as a key regional partner in service delivery, training and advocacy initiatives.

We launched ‘**Oxford’s Commitment to Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Migrants**’ during Refugee Week in June 2019. This united individuals and organisations in a shared commitment to respect and welcome refugees – attracting an impressive list of signatories. We welcomed the Council’s decision in July to make Oxford a ‘City of Sanctuary’.

We briefed our local MPs, advocated with and on behalf of clients, and added our voice to campaigns to end immigration detention, facilitate family reunion and welcome unaccompanied children stranded in Europe (Lord Dubs’ campaign).

Our Youth Coordinator chaired the **inter-agency forum on unaccompanied minors**, including promoting better support of young people through the age assessment process.

Asylum Welcome and Refugee Resource joined Oxford University and Oxford Brookes University in a **refugee initiative** – promoting greater engagement at all levels between the universities, refugee charities and refugee communities.

As lockdown began, we successfully pressed the Home Office to suspend the requirement for asylum seekers to attend reporting centres. We campaigned for adequate health and safety measures to be in place in asylum support accommodation. We advocated for refugees’ rights, including access to housing for the homeless and changes to the ‘no recourse to public funds’ (NRPF) policy.



Clients tell us...

- ✓ They are overwhelmingly appreciative of Asylum Welcome’s services and would like to see them expanded.
- ✓ They would also like provision of more legal immigration advice – we are responding by strengthening our legal immigration advice team.



A well-loved organisation

Volunteers and staff – a creative synergy

Our magnificent volunteers are Asylum Welcome's greatest asset!

We worked with **120 active volunteers** over the year, supporting a small staff team. We recruited **65 new volunteers** this year, 45 of whom speak more than one language. The number of staff fell over the year from 12 (7fte) to 10 (6.5fte); income uncertainty early in the year delayed the recruitment of two part-time posts.

Our dedicated volunteers work across all areas of Asylum Welcome – from the food bank to immigration advice, from youth work to fundraising.

The volunteer and staff response to COVID-19 has been truly exceptional; individuals were compassionate, responsive and adaptive – and went above and beyond.

We are grateful for 12,500 hours of volunteer support each year

◀ In April 2019, our Education Room was re-named 'The Wiggans Room' in honour of Rachel, who led the Education and Employment teams before her retirement that month.

“I recently met one of the lovely mums who came in for English lessons and for food bank supplies. Back then, she only had two words – yes and no. Now the family is happily settled in Oxford – she is doing a college course at Ruskin, and her children are doing well in school. Thank you AW for giving me the opportunity to meet these delightful people, and great happiness to find out how well they have done.”

Food Bank volunteer



An exceptional local community

Asylum Welcome benefited from extraordinary support from the local community.

The Lord Mayor of Oxford selected Asylum Welcome as one of his **'good causes'** for his year in office and ran some fantastic fundraising events, including a **Charity Banquet** at the Tree Hotel in Iffley.

Asylum Welcome joined the organising committee of the annual **One World Festival** in November, celebrating Oxfordshire's diverse communities. It was attended by 10,000+ people; a number of our clients delighted the crowds with music, poetry and storytelling.

In January, Shena Guild, one of our most energetic and creative supporters, co-organised our sell-out **Gala Evening** at the North Wall Arts Centre, with the virtuoso critic and journalist Will Gompertz as compère. The evening featured music, comedy, refugee poetry and authentic Syrian cuisine made by a client – a Syrian chef, Alaa.

Meanwhile, **Mansfield College** put on an inspiring performance of Handel's Messiah to raise funds for Asylum Welcome. Many more creative fundraising initiatives took place in Witney, East Hendred, Charlbury, Kennington and Brightwell, to name a few.

Asylum Welcome is delighted to have the support of the Bishop of Oxford, **Rt. Rev. Steven Croft**, as its Patron. We greatly appreciate the ongoing interest and commitment of **Uwe Kitzinger CBE**, our longstanding Patron and supporter.



432
members of
Asylum Welcome



940
supporters receive
our regular e-newsletter



30%
of our income came
from generous support of
individuals and groups



6,850
Twitter followers

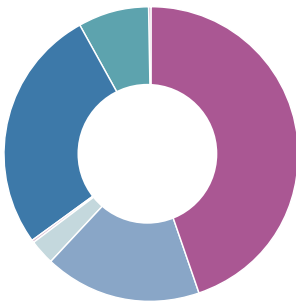


2,010+
Facebook followers

Financial information

Fundraising was as challenging as ever, but we were pleased to finish the year with a small surplus. This was due to a more proactive approach in terms of outreach, communications and high-profile community events, as well as a busy pipeline of funding requests to trusts and foundations. We have sought new funding avenues to sustain our work and have some exciting opportunities for 2020-21. These will help grow our team and strengthen our services in key areas such as legal immigration advice and work with young people, victims of trafficking and domestic abuse, and will also fortify our work with local refugee community organisations.

2019/20 INCOME: £417,980



Trusts & foundations:
£187,707

Statutory grants:
£71,813

Faith organisations:
£11,301

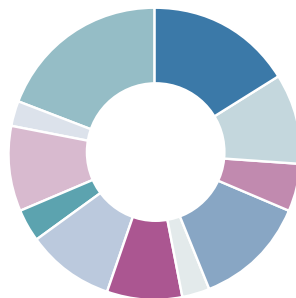
Colleges & schools:
£1,985

Individual donations:
£111,517

Partnerships & community organisations:
£33,537

Investment income:
£120

2019/20 EXPENDITURE: £403,575



Adult Advice Service: £65,292

Youth Service: £40,289

Detainee support: £21,923

Refugee rights: £50,254

Food services: £12,683

Shared Talents: £33,172

Volunteer recruitment and management: £39,192

Syrian Re-settlement: £15,158

Europa Welcome: £37,341

Advocacy: £11,648

Raising funds: £76,623

We raised **£57,000** more than budgeted, but expenditure increased by **£46,000**

Our year in numbers

Asylum Welcome has worked with refugees and asylum seekers in Oxfordshire for **27 years**



We have seen clients from **54** different countries

565

vulnerable people helped with their applications for settled or pre-settled status



307

of these received positive decisions from the Home Office

135

individuals and families facing destitution were provided with



1240

bags of food and toiletries

We recruited

65

new volunteers, of whom

45

are multi-lingual

More than

20

of our current volunteers have a refugee and lived-experience background



35%

of staff have a refugee background

22%

of trustees have a lived-experience background

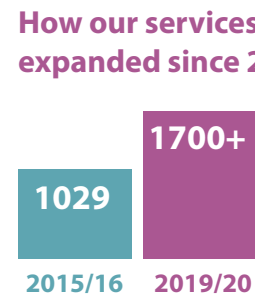
110+

volunteers, whose time added value in excess of

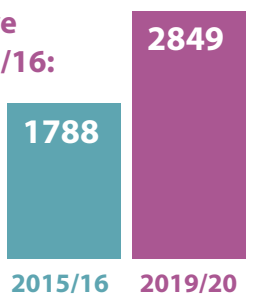


£160,000

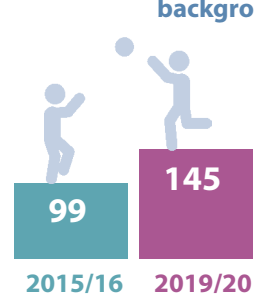
How our services have expanded since 2015/16:



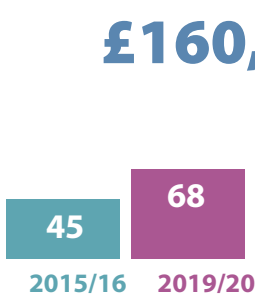
Total number of people helped



Number of individual advice and casework sessions



Number of young clients supported



Number of recycled and refurbished bicycles provided



Looking ahead

A proactive, community-led organisation

COVID-19 and beyond

We will continue to meet the challenges ahead with an approach that is safety-conscious, needs-led, thoughtful and responsive. Our clients are at the heart of everything we do. The Asylum Welcome community will stick together through the current crisis and become stronger than ever.

Development of our services

We will bolster our services in 2020/21. We are pleased to report that as this goes to print we have recruited new staff across AFS, Shared Talents, Youth Service and Fundraising – to strengthen services, meet clients' needs, respond to growing demand, and diversify our income. We will expand our immigration support and develop our work with refugee community organisations. We will increase our fundraising capacity to better meet the challenges ahead. We have set ourselves ambitious goals in what are strange and difficult times. Now we are fully resourced, we are looking forward to tackling the bigger challenges that lie ahead, both locally and nationally.

We will sustain 'Europa Welcome' as the Brexit deadline draws ever closer, partnering with Oxford City Council, reaching out to some of the most deprived communities in the area. We hope to develop our Huntercombe project to provide post-release support to prisoners.

We also want to increase our remit to include vulnerable migrants in need of humanitarian assistance and support. This will involve applying to the Charity Commission for a slight change to our Objects and Powers. We need to make explicit our ability to work with other vulnerable migrants at risk, in addition to our core work with asylum seekers and refugees.

We urgently need to expand our premises to enable social distancing, reduce overcrowding, meet rising demand and develop our work. We managed to ease the pressure regarding space by temporarily renting the unit opposite our office. We are now able to meet more clients, offer consultations, advice and language classes in a safe manner, but we are seeking a more permanent solution to this problem.

*Our clients
are at the
heart of
everything
we do...*



◀ Thanks to a generous donation and the hard work of a Syrian refugee carpenter, Wael Dabkat, and our Office Manager, Saeed, we created two new much-needed confidential advice rooms in our Welcome Centre.

Co-design and co-production

Asylum Welcome will become even more of a refugee-led organisation: our watchword is working 'with' rather than 'for' refugees. We believe that people with lived experience should be represented at all levels of our organisation – including as trustees, staff and volunteers, and as spokespeople and advocates.

Advocacy and collaboration

We will continue our advocacy to improve the rights and living conditions of refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants. We will work more closely with Refugee Resource and with refugee community groups and organisations, locally and nationally. We will strive to make Oxfordshire more welcoming for refugees, and we will work to ensure a more just society.

Our partners 2019/20

Local organisations

Aspire
City of Oxford College
Connection Support
EMBS (Ethnic Minority Business School)
Key 2 Housing
OAF (Oxford Advice Forum)
OAAST (Oxford Advice Agencies Stronger Together)
Open Door
Oxford Business College
Oxford City Council
Oxfordshire Social Services
Pitt Rivers Museum
Refugee Resource
Sanctuary Hosting
Turpin and Miller Solicitors
WEA (Workers' Educational Association)

National organisations

Asylum Support Advice Network
Asylum Support Appeals Project
AVID (Association of Visitors of Immigration Detainees)
British Red Cross
City of Sanctuary
Coram Children's Legal Centre
Detention Forum
Detention Monitoring Group
Freedom from Torture
Migrant Help
Refugee Action
Refugee Council

Further thanks to

Refugee Community Organisations representing refugee groups from Sudan, Somalia, Syria, East Timor, Uganda, Eritrea and elsewhere.
Faith groups across Oxfordshire who, as always, are committed supporters.
Newly emerging refugee support groups/refugee welcome groups across Oxfordshire.
Refugee support and advice charities in neighbouring centres such as Coventry, Reading, Gloucester, Slough and Swindon.

A very big thank you!

Asylum Welcome could not function without our superb team of 120+ dedicated volunteers and the unwavering support of our local community, members, supporters and donors. We do not have space to list them all, but we are so grateful and all are equally appreciated. Thank you all for your support, dedication, creativity and collaboration.

Lord Mayor of Oxford,
Councillor Craig Simmons

Statutory funding

Home Office - UK Visas & Immigration for EUSS Europa Welcome grant
Oxford City Council
Oxfordshire County Council

Trusts & Foundations

AB Charitable Trust
ARM Trust
Beatrice Laing Trust
Hale Family Fund
Henry Smith Charity
Ian Mactaggart Fund
Leigh Trust
Lloyds Bank Foundation
Mactaggart Third Fund
North Street Trust
Odin Charitable Trust

Oxfordshire Community Foundation
Penningtons Manches Cooper Foundation
Persula Foundation
Society of The Holy Child Jesus
St Michaels & All Saints Charity
Swan Mountain Trust
The Bromley Trust
The City of Oxford Charity
The Old Stables Charitable Trust
The Roundton Trust
The Sisters Trust
The Tambour Foundation
The Tolkien Trust
The Westward Trust

Colleges & Museums

Ashmolean Museum
Balliol College
Brasenose College
Christ Church College

EMBS
John Ruskin College
Kebble College
Lady Margaret Hall
Lincoln College
Mansfield College
Oxford Business College
Pitt Rivers Museum
Somerville College
St Cross College
Trinity College
Wolfson College

Schools

Cherwell School
Magdalen College School
Oxford High School (with special thanks to Amia!)

Faith groups

Bath Street Mosque
Central Oxford Mosque

Christ Church Abingdon
Church of the Holy Family
Cowley St John
Convent of the Incarnation
Cumnor URC
Eynsham Baptist Church
High Street Methodist Church
Holy Family Church
Holy Trinity Church
Medina Mosque
New Road Baptist Church
Oxford Diocesan Board
Oxford Jewish Congregation
Oxford Mosque Society
Portsmouth Diocese
Quakers of Oxfordshire (including Burford, Faringdon and Witney)
St James' and St Francis' Churches
St Margaret's Church

St Mary's Church Iffley
St Mary's Cogges Witney Parish
St Michael and All Angels
St Michael at the North Gate
St Peter's Church Wolvercote
St Swithun's Church
The Emmanuel Church
The Methodist Church
Trinity Church Abingdon
Wantage Methodist Church
Woodstock Methodist Church

Community groups

All our JustGivers
Brightwell Supporting Refugees
Charlbury Refugee Action Group



Music groups & artists

East Oxford Community Choir
Kieran Hodgeson
Marhaba Confluence Collective
Muradi Bakir
Music at Oxford
Irene Bradshaw,
Art Weeks in Witney
Skeleton Crew
Ryan Young
Will Gompertz

Highfield Residents' Association
Kennington Refugee Welcome
Oxford Wine Company
Tap Social
The North Wall Arts Centre

The Food Bank would like to thank all the individuals, community and faith groups, and primary schools for their generous donations of food this year. We are also immensely grateful for our partnerships with Oxford Food Bank, Tesco in Magdalen Street, and shoppers who donate to the



collection points in Sainsbury's at Temple Cowley and St Clements.

Distinguished Patrons

Professor Uwe Kitzinger CBE

Right Reverend Dr Steven Croft,
Bishop of Oxford

Staff

Kate Smart, *Director* (until April 2020)
Almas Farzi (Navid)
Frontline Services Manager
Clara Della Croce, *Prisoner and Detainee Project Coordinator*
Dr Gilberto Estrada Harris
Fundraising and Development Manager
Helena Cullen
Youth Services Coordinator
Jackie McDowell
Finance and Contracts Manager
Nazan Ozgur
Europa Welcome Casework Manager
Saeed Noaman, *Office Manager*

Staff who moved on

Ana Novaković
Shared Talents Coordinator
Ildephonse Rugema
Advice and Integration Officer
Luci Ashbourne
Volunteer Coordinator
Rachel Wiggans, *Education, Employment and Volunteering Lead*

New staff

Mark Goldring, *Director* (from April 2020)
Rosia Curtis, *Fundraiser* (from May 2020)
Simon Dawson, *Adult and Family Advice Service Coordinator* (from June 2020)
Hannah Underwood
Volunteer Coordinator (from July 2020)
Nicky Barnetson, *Shared Talents Coordinator* (from July 2020)
Caritas Umulisa, *Youth and AFS Assistant Coordinator* (from August 2020)
Fazil Kawani, *Refugees and Migrant Communities Support Coordinator* (from September 2020)

Trustees

Marcus Thompson, *Chair* (until April 2020)
Tony Samuel, *Co-Chair* (from April 2020)
Valerie Johnson, *Co-Chair* (from April 2020)
Thomas Espley, *Treasurer*
Abdoul Ma Aly Diallo
Clare Miller
Dr Tina Leonard
Linda Guma Bond
Susan Ni Chriodain
Catherine Briddick (stood down 2019)
David Gibbons (stood down 2019)
Matthew Sherrington (stood down 2019)
Jan Penrose, *Company Secretary*

I'd like to support Asylum Welcome

Donate online:

www.asylum-welcome.org/donate

I would like to donate: £

MY DETAILS

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Email:

Telephone:

☐ I'd like to support Asylum Welcome regularly by standing order:

Please speak to your bank,
and give them our bank details:

Asylum Welcome – Co-operative Bank plc, Salford M5 2QP
Account number: 65026773 Sort code: 08-92-50

☐ I'd like to be a member of Asylum Welcome:

Membership is free, simply tick to show you agree with the following statement:

I subscribe to Asylum Welcome's vision for asylum seekers, refugees and detainees:

- they feel welcome, respected and understood as members of a caring community
- they live in dignity with hope for the future: they can exercise their rights and have their cases fairly considered,
- they can access services to meet their needs, and have opportunities to develop and share their talents.

As a member of Asylum Welcome I will do what I can to achieve this vision, to promote these values, and to support Asylum Welcome's activities as a donor, volunteer, fundraiser or advocate.

I'd like Asylum Welcome to claim Gift Aid on my donation:

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made ☐ today ☐ in the past 4 years ☐ in the future
(Please tick all boxes you wish to apply). I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Signature _____

Date _____

☐ I authorise Asylum Welcome to store my details and consent to occasional mailings from Asylum Welcome. Details will not be shared with third parties without written permission.



**Asylum
Welcome**

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@AsylumWelcome

Photos by Asylum Welcome staff and volunteers.

Design: www.goodthinkingcommunications.net

Front cover photo: Caritas, staff member, former refugee and client; Navid, our Frontline Services Manager and former refugee; and Hosnieth, daughter of refugees, former volunteer and now Oxford City Councillor and Migrant Champion in the City Council

Asylum Welcome is a registered charity,
no.1092265, and company, no.4361627.

Please return this form to:

**Asylum Welcome, Unit 7,
Newtec Place, Magdalen Road,
Oxford OX4 1RE**

Thank you!