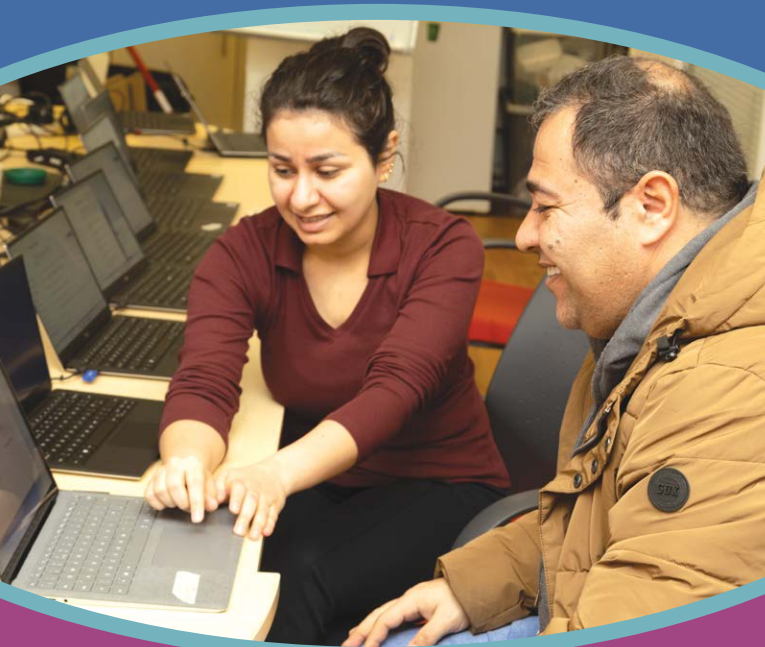




Asylum Welcome began when a small group of people decided that nobody seeking sanctuary in Oxfordshire should face the future alone.

Thirty years and thousands of clients later, that simple idea still shapes everything we do.

This year brought fresh challenges. Refugees and asylum seekers faced growing uncertainty, rising homelessness and an often hostile public debate. Immigration policy changed repeatedly. Some asylum hotels closed. Campsfield Immigration Removal Centre reopened. Family reunion remained suspended.

Across every part of Asylum Welcome, we responded together. We stood alongside people facing uncertainty – providing expert legal advice, helping those at risk of homelessness, supporting children and families to settle in schools and neighbourhoods, and bringing communities together to champion welcome over hostility. None of this would have been possible without the remarkable commitment of our staff, volunteers, partners and supporters.

As we mark 30 years of Asylum Welcome, we do so with deep gratitude for everyone who has been part of that journey. **Together, we have shown what is possible when compassion is turned into action. We hope you'll continue the journey with us.**



**Sarah Totterdell
& Dr Hari Reed**
Asylum Welcome Joint CEOs



In 2025-26...

More than **300** volunteers gave over **24,500** hours of their time.

MONEY MATTERS

Every donation, grant and act of generosity helps people seeking sanctuary rebuild their lives.

Income

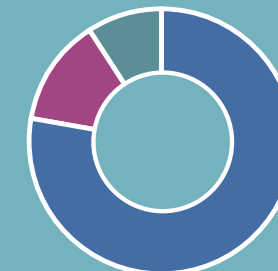
£1,564k



- Trusts and Foundations: **£500k (32%)**
- Statutory agreements: **£625k (40%)**
- Individuals and Communities: **£370k (24%)**
- Corporate, Partners and Other: **£69k (4%)**

Expenditure

£1,595k



- Service Provision: **£1,247k (78%)**
- Support and Governance costs: **£210k (13%)**
- Raising Funds (direct): **£138k (9%)**

For full financial information, please download our *Report & Accounts* at: www.asylum-welcome.org/accounts

ZARA'S STORY

At 17, Zara* arrived in the UK on a spouse visa following an arranged marriage. Instead of finding safety, she became trapped in an abusive relationship, experiencing physical violence, sexual abuse, coercive control and isolation. Her passport and phone were confiscated.

When she finally escaped, experiencing significant mental health distress, she faced another daunting challenge: navigating the immigration system alone.

After being referred to Asylum Welcome, Zara's case was reviewed by our **Immigration Advice Service**, who identified the appropriate legal route after she had previously received incorrect advice.

Our specialist advisers helped her move into a refuge, coordinated safeguarding support and guided her through the immigration process.

Today, Zara is living safely in Oxfordshire and beginning to plan for the future.

"When I arrived, I felt like my life had stopped. Now I finally feel that I can begin again."



In 2025-26...

656 people received immigration advice and support.

ABEDE'S STORY

Before he was forced to flee his home in East Africa, Abede had built a successful career in **information technology**. He left behind not only his profession but also his wife and young children, carrying with him the uncertainty and sadness shared by so many people seeking asylum.

Arriving in Oxfordshire, he found himself isolated. When he heard that Asylum Welcome's **Hotel Outreach Service** visited his accommodation twice a week, he went along to introduce himself.

The Outreach team referred him to our **Digital Inclusion Service**, who provided him with a refurbished laptop. When he came to collect it, he had one question: *"Can I help?"* That same day, he began volunteering, repairing donated laptops so other refugees and asylum seekers could stay connected too.

Since then, he has also started volunteering at a local GP surgery, building his confidence, friendships and a renewed sense of purpose.

"Today I feel stronger, more confident, and deeply grateful for the opportunities I have been given."



In 2025-26...

517 digital devices were distributed to **425 people**, opening doors to education, employment, family connections and everyday life in the UK.

THE HASSAN FAMILY

After fleeing Sudan and enduring the loss of close family members, the Hassan family were finally reunited in Oxfordshire.

For many months, they lived in temporary accommodation while trying to build a new life. Their young daughter found starting school in a new country difficult, while the family faced the everyday challenges of navigating unfamiliar systems, learning English and finding a place to belong.

Asylum Welcome's **Adult & Family Service** helped the family secure permanent housing, attend English classes and connect with wider support. Through our **Schools Advocacy Project**, they were matched with a family mentor, who worked closely with the family and their daughter's school.

Today, she is thriving at school, and her father volunteers with Asylum Welcome, supporting other families as they begin rebuilding their own lives in Oxfordshire.

"Our family has a future now."



In 2025-26...

At least **600 people** received support through our Adult & Family Service

MARIAM'S STORY

Mariam was a lawyer in Afghanistan, defending women and girls facing human rights abuses. After the Taliban returned to power, she was arrested and interrogated, while members of her family were also targeted. She fled to the UK, where she spent almost a year in Home Office accommodation waiting for her asylum claim to be decided.

After being granted refugee status, Mariam was required to leave her Home Office accommodation just before Christmas, with nowhere safe to stay.

Asylum Welcome's **Sanctuary Hosting Service** arranged emergency accommodation before matching her with a volunteer host. With the stability of a host placement, she was able to apply for work, rebuild her confidence and begin settling into life in Oxfordshire.

Today, Mariam works in a local school and remains close to the host who first welcomed her into their home.

"At last, I could feel safe."



In 2025-26...

Our volunteer hosts provided **3,118 nights** of safe accommodation for people with nowhere to go.

“Welcome is a place to be me,
and a place where people want
to know me.” YOUTH CLIENT

People seeking sanctuary have been forced to leave their homes, their livelihoods, their communities and the people they love. In an unfamiliar place, a warm welcome is the first step towards belonging again.

For thirty years, our community has been creating that welcome. With your support, we'll be here for the next person who needs safety, advice and hope.

See the full list of those who have helped us this year:
[asylum-welcome.org/thanks](https://www.asylum-welcome.org/thanks)

Look inside to see the difference you make

Stand with us:
www.asylum-welcome.org/donate



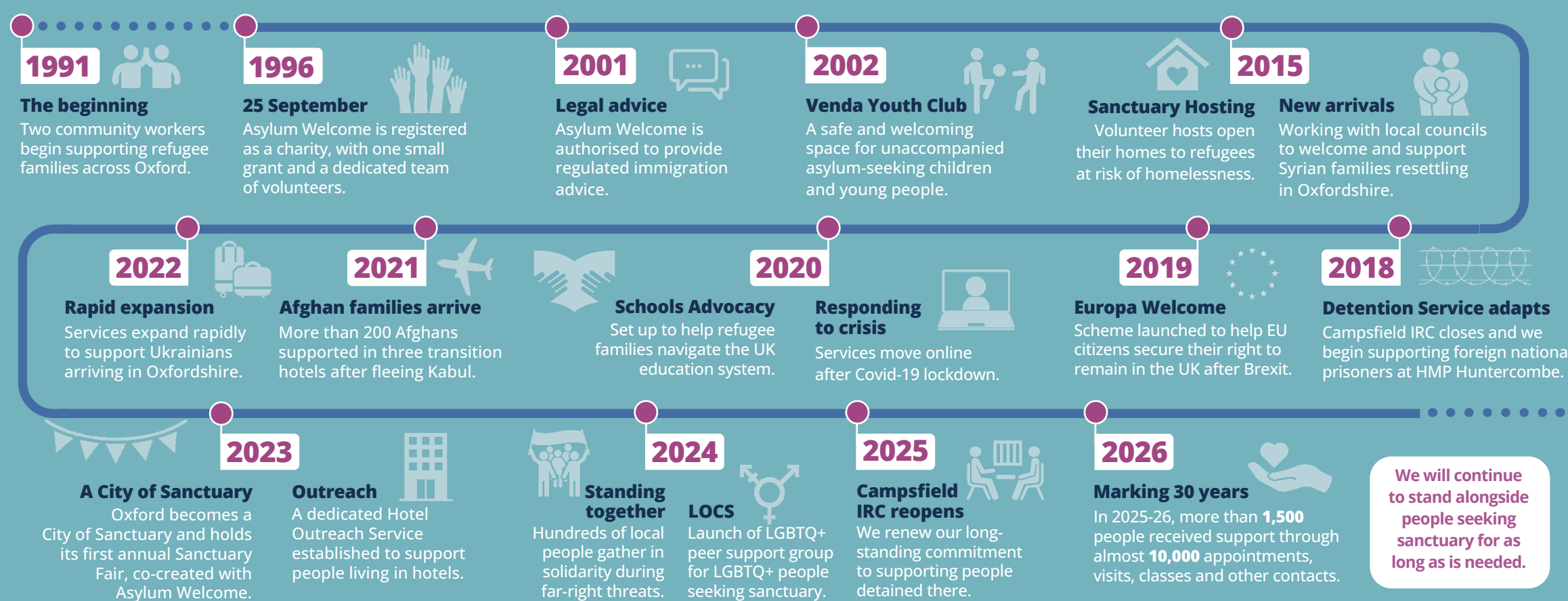
Asylum Welcome, Unit 7, Newtec Place, Magdalen Road, Oxford, OX4 1RE
01865 722082 • welcome@asylum-welcome.org
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30 YEARS OF WELCOME

From one room to a county-wide movement
For more than three decades, Asylum Welcome has grown alongside the communities it serves.

As the world has changed, so have we. Our work has evolved in response to new conflicts, changing policy, humanitarian crises and the needs of people seeking sanctuary in Oxfordshire.



We will continue to stand alongside people seeking sanctuary for as long as is needed.