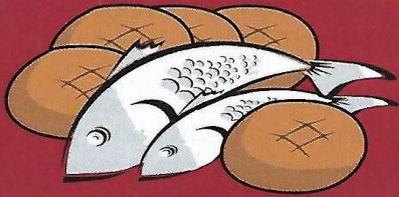


# Fund for Human Need

Registered Charity No. 208866



*Where a little means a lot*

**April 2019**

## Our Calling



**Refugee week  
17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> June**



**Service: The Church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.**

**Imagine – being a stranger in this land.**

From our applications - I am writing on behalf of AA, who is a client who claimed asylum in the UK on 10th December 2018. AA has three young children aged 2, 4 and 7 and has separated from her husband due to safeguarding risks. She was recently moved to asylum support housing. AA is extremely isolated where she lives. There are no free activities for the children and she is unable to go to English classes, to volunteer or access a dentist locally as resources are full. AA is particularly vulnerable because she does not have a strong support network due to the distance from another similar family who support her emotionally. A relocation request to another area, is pending but in the interim period AA would be grateful for support. The money will be used for travelling, for AA to access essential local services and attend English classes. This is so she does not sacrifice food and other essentials. We believe that this would make a significant impact to AA's life allowing her and her family to feel less isolated, more integrated into society and help the development of her kids' daily life.

## DONATE

**If you can help us in supporting individuals who have no access to the major relief funds or benefits, please see our website at:**

**[http://fundforhumanneed.org.uk/?page\\_id=111](http://fundforhumanneed.org.uk/?page_id=111)**

**There you will find all the information you need on making a donation or regular gift.**

**Or you can contact us at:**

**[fundhumanneed@gmail.com](mailto:fundhumanneed@gmail.com)**

## Remember

Thanks to our

Grant (From MAPJ) **100%** of your donations go to those of our 'neighbours' in the most need.

### Updates on Fundraising

Remember our film have a look at it on the website or at <https://vimeo.com/282308832> or <https://vimeo.com/284961519>.

**Refugee week is the 17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> of June.** In 2017/18 we had applications from 640 refugees and asylum seekers, including many who were homeless, had no income or were struggling to feed and clothe a family on £37 per week assistance. **This refugee week can you help us help them?**



**Just Giving:** We now have a page on Just giving. Search under 'Fund for Human Need' or follow the button from the giving page of our website. An excellent way to make one-off gifts and you can include Gift Aid if you are a taxpayer. If you are a fan of electronic media why not like and share our Facebook page?

**Making presentations** – Look out for us at **ECG** at Scarborough over Easter. We will be in the Market Place. We are going to be at some spring synods and will be at the **Greenbelt Festival** in the summer working to keep the Fund in the public eye.

**Encouraging local fundraising,** bake sales, coffee mornings and other fundraising events as well as collections or donations from churches and other organisations. Can you help? Can we help you?

**'Smile.Amazon'** – if you use Amazon to shop please use the 'smile' version and nominate us. 0.5% comes back to the Fund, and we have had our first payment. It costs you nothing.

**Inviting regular giving by Standing Order** – and increasing this where possible by gift aiding donations which enables us to claim back the tax and add 25p to every £ donated

**The backbone of any charity is its fantastic committed supporters who, whatever the amount they can donate, give regularly. If not already doing this, is this something you would consider?**

**Could you be a 'Friend to FHN'?** – We are looking for people who can raise our profile within their communities or Churches and make people aware of the work we do. See overleaf.

# Fund for Human Need

Registered Charity No. 208866

## Focus on Refugees

Refugee: "A person who owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence as a result of such events, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it." (The 1951 United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees)

In the UK, a person is officially recognised as a refugee when they have their claim for asylum accepted by the government. There were 30,603 asylum applications to the UK in 2016. (National Statistics on asylum 4th Quarter 2016)

A high number of initial decisions made by the Home Office on asylum cases are wrong. In 2016, the courts overturned 41% of negative decisions that were appealed. (National Statistics on asylum 4th Quarter 2016)

Since 2005 most people recognised as refugees are only given permission to stay in the UK for five years and can have their case reviewed at any time. This makes it difficult for them to make decisions about their future, to find work and make definite plans for their life in the UK. The Home Office still detains some children seeking asylum with their families each year, despite evidence that it causes them harm. (Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, The effects of administrative detention on children, young people and their families 2009)

Refugees do not come to the UK to claim benefits. In fact, most know nothing about welfare benefits before they arrive and had no expectation that they would receive financial support. (Refugee Council, Chance or Choice? Why asylum seekers come to the UK, 2010)

Most refugees live in poverty and many families are not able to pay for the basics such as clothing, powdered milk and nappies. (The Children's Society Briefing highlighting the gap between asylum support and mainstream benefits 2012)

Almost all asylum seekers are not allowed to work and are forced to rely on state support – this can be as little as £5 a day to live on. Asylum seekers are not entitled to council housing. The accommodation allocated to them is not paid for by the local council. Some asylum seekers, and those who have been refused asylum, are not entitled to any form of financial support and are forced into homelessness. This includes heavily pregnant women. Asylum seeking women who are destitute are vulnerable to violence in the UK. More than a fifth of the women accessing our therapeutic services had experienced sexual violence in this country. (Refugee Council, The experiences of refugee women in the UK, 2012)



**17<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> June – Help us to help them.**

**Reason for Applying** - L was from a Hindu religion. After he converted to Christianity a Hindu extremist group in his area turned against him and tried to force him to leave Christianity. When they failed to persuade him, they planned to kill him. L managed to escape after one of his friends informed him about the plan. L left the country and arrived in the UK to claim Asylum, The Home office rejected his Asylum claim on the basis of lack of evidence and advised him to relocate in another part of India. Relocation is very difficult for L as he will be found by the extremist group due to their strong links in other cities with similar groups. L has no financial support or accommodation. He sleeps rough on the streets and urgently needs help to buy a sleeping bag and some winter clothes.

## We're looking for more friends:

- To ensure FHN leaflets / newsletters are topped up and visible in all places where Methodists meet.
- To ensure FHN's work is mentioned regularly in newsletters and draw attention to the website.
- To use links to you have with other relevant organisations) and see if they can help?
- To recruit more Friends - and ask them to recruit more.
- To organise a local fundraising where the film can be shown, donations made and standing orders encouraged
- To send in a report (it need only be brief) so we don't duplicate activities in an area.

**All supplies and support provided, and if one of our trustees / officers is within reach we could send a speaker too.**

**Keeping in touch** – we will send a newsletter regularly, by post or email, to all supporters and interested parties. For new supporters we will get in touch to find out your mailing preferences. If at any time these change please let the administrator know.

Administrator Mrs Gill Mason:  
fundhumaneed@gmail.com  
01325 244992 - 6 Newlands Road, Darlington,  
Co Durham. DL3 9JL. If you need any help,  
leaflets or gift aid envelopes please get in touch.