

WELCOME TO YOUR FUNDRAISING GUIDE!

Everything you need to
make your fundraiser
a huge success!

**REFUGEE
COUNCIL**

THE NATION'S
REFUGEE CHARITY



NEMAT

Craft and Chat
Group, Sheffield



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



We are the Refugee Council, the nation's refugee charity.

Together with community groups, partners and volunteers, we help people who have escaped war and persecution to rebuild their lives, integrate into communities, and play their part in Britain.

With your support, we can help refugees to lead purposeful, happy lives.

We can help with:



Learning English



Finding employment
and developing skills



Finding a safe,
secure place to live



Accessing healthcare and
mental health support



Accessing
legal help



Providing
specialist therapy



Getting to know
people in the local
community



Understanding
the asylum
application process

WHY YOUR SUPPORT IS SO IMPORTANT



HOSSAIN & FAMILY



My generation, we thought we were the luckiest generation that Afghanistan ever had. But in August 2021 we saw everything collapse, not just Kabul but also our dreams, our aspirations, our country. We were evacuated on the 20th August. The world was watching. It was a big tragedy.

If I divide the past three months into two phases – the first phase is very dark. The second phase is very bright when I get to the Refugee Council, when I find help and when I see them helping us. We realised there are people out there helping us. We were very happy. We felt it is not like a job for them, it is a real aspiration for us to be able to live. We made friendships, the people

at Refugee Council are very nice people. They are helping us in a way that you think family members would. They really know their job, they are professional and caring. Refugee Council helps refugees with a wide range of issues. All the basic things that a newcomer needs. So they help you to find English classes. They help us to navigate and explore the city. I am having employability workshops. Helping with kids schools, everything. They do it in a way that you really think you are not left alone, there are people out there to help you."

There are many other refugees like Hossein who have travelled thousands of miles fleeing war, torture and persecution and who arrive in the UK with nothing.

Start fundraising today and you can help refugees rebuild their lives in a welcoming place of safety.

LOOKING FOR SOME INSPIRATION?

We've included stories from some of our amazing fundraisers to give you plenty of inspiration!



YOGA WORKSHOP WITH ROWENA

A huge thank you to Rowena, who **organised a yoga workshop to raise funds** in support of the Refugee Council. Rowena told us she recognises how people seeking asylum go through extremely challenging times and wanted to reflect on this through the calmness that yoga practice can provide.

BOOK RELEASE BY BECCA

Becca Pearl recently had her book "Don't Look Back" published and kindly donated **50p of every copy sold to the Refugee Council.**



Although the time and place is generic in my book, it is based on my family's true story of escaping Communist Czechoslovakia in 1949. I grew up hearing about my grandparents daring escape with my infant father, but it was only as an adult with kids of my own that I understood the magnitude of what they did. They risked their lives to reach a safer place - just like the millions of people fleeing conflict, violence



and persecution today. They must all share the same desperation. That's why I chose to support the Refugee Council; I wanted to give back and to my mind there is no better organisation to support and empower refugees to rebuild their lives in the UK."

COUCH TO 5K WITH KEITH

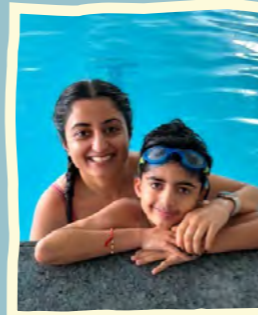
Keith Osborn **raised over £200 with his couch to 5K challenge** and told us his motivations:



In what can be a very hostile environment for refugees and people seeking asylum in this country, I think it's vital that we stand up for supporting and protecting those fleeing war, violence and persecution, and that we ensure they are treated with compassion, dignity and fairness.



I'm delighted to do my part by fundraising for the Refugee Council to help them do precisely that."



SETH'S SPONSORED SWIM

Thank you to Seth, for his incredible determination to make a positive impact for refugees, and challenge himself to swim 100 lengths in November, setting a fundraising goal of £250. **Through his dedication, Seth not only completed the swim but also surpassed his target, raising £460. Well done Seth!**



WALKING CHALLENGE WITH RACHEL

Thank you to Rachel, another one of our amazing supporters who **raised £332 completing the 50-mile Longmynd Hike in 17 hours and 46 minutes.** Rachel told us:



It was an absolute pleasure to fundraise for everyone who is helped by the Refugee Council. I have huge respect for the work that you all do. I challenged myself and am happy to say that I managed it!"

FUNDRAISE AT WORK

IDEAS...

Share a lunch

Why not get to know your colleagues by taking the same lunch break and organising a shared meal. Ask everyone to bring a sweet or savoury dish, set up a buffet and dig in.

Auction of promise

Do something nice for a colleague... and put a price on it. Will you make everyone's tea for a week? Great at cutting hair? Are you a star baker? Promise to do something for the colleague who bids the highest amount of money in an auction of promises and donate the proceeds to support refugees.

Working from home?

Donate what you would have spent in a week or month on your coffees and lunch, or perhaps your commute towards the Refugee Council.

Start a sweepstake

Whether it's for Wimbledon, the Euros, or the Great British Bake Off – **join in on the fun in the office!** You can organise exciting prizes whilst also supporting a great cause, making it a win-win for everyone involved.

Payroll Giving

If you're too busy to put on an event, how about donating a small portion of your salary to Refugee Council every month? You can do this through Payroll Giving, just let the HR team member who deals with payroll at your work know.

Donating straight from your salary also means that you won't have to pay tax on your donation. Check with your employer today if they are offering a Payroll Giving scheme. Find out more on www.gov.uk/payroll-giving.



Thank you to a group of colleagues at Nintex who walked 10 miles across all the bridges in London in September and raised over £400!

“The team particularly resonated with stories regarding the children who the Refugee Council help, as the majority of us are parents, we can only imagine what a horrible situation this would be to experience. We were all very inspired to support the Refugee Council.”

FUNDRAISE WITH YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

IDEAS...

Whether it's with your faith group, book club, sports team or choir, start planning your fundraising activity today.

As well as raising money you will also be spreading awareness in your local community. Maybe you will even inspire someone else to support refugees.

Organise an around the World celebration

Ask each guest to bring something from their favourite country or culture. Be it food, music, dance or fashion, get together and celebrate different cultures and raise money for refugees. Ask for voluntary donations or sell tickets to your event and donate the proceeds.

Host a bake sale

It's a classic. Get your community together and get baking. Sell your delicious treats at church, sports tournaments, book club or shows and performances. Sell per slice or ask for voluntary donations.

Organise a shared lunch

Ask everyone to bring a dish, set up a buffet and dig in! Everyone could donate to take part, or set a price per dish, with all the proceeds going towards helping refugees.



Thank you to the Red Guitars for your generous support through the release of your new single 'Ho Ho Hum'. The donations from you and your community are gratefully received, and we appreciate your music shining a light on the struggles faced by refugees.



FUNDRAISE AT SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

IDEAS...

Almost

50% OF THE PEOPLE

we supported last year were children and young people aged **under 21**.

We supported

6,774 YOUNG PEOPLE

last year, most arrived in Britain alone, without their parents.

Get your school, college or university talking and learning about refugees.

Not only will you raise money for refugees, but you will also be spreading awareness amongst your peers about refugees and the issues they face.

Put on a show

Whether it's a choir concert, gig, play or talent contest, put on a show at the end of term and sell tickets to fundraise for refugees.

Attempt to break a world record

Get your year group or whole school together and attempt to break a world record! Think outside the box on this one and ask for sponsorship from teachers, your parents, sports coaches!

Organise a sports event

Revive childhood memories with classic games like egg and spoon,



STUDENTS AT TASIS

three-legged races, and tug-of-war! You could charge per ticket to play, and why not add food stalls with snacks and drinks to raise even more money. Why not try a staff versus students team game, or parents versus children?

We'd like to thank the Upper School students at TASIS England, who organised a charity football tournament to raise funds to support refugees as they rebuild their lives after moving to the UK.

TAKE ON A CHALLENGE EVENT

IDEAS...

No matter what sport you enjoy, make a challenge out of it and raise money for the Refugee Council.

Join an event

You could sign up to run your local half-marathon, join a swim-a-thon or take part in a cycle ride.

Make your miles count! Thinking about running the Great North Run or London Marathon? Why not apply for a ballot and use your place to raise money for refugees and people seeking asylum in the UK!

Set a personal challenge

Why not challenge yourself to walking 50 miles over the course of a week, or how about cycling to work every day for a month? Get fit and raise money – it's a win-win situation.

Our Top Tips!

- **Set up a JustGiving page** early to make donating easy.
- **Start off strong** with a high first donation to inspire others.
- **Double your donation impact** by asking if your employer will match your fundraising.
- **Spread the word** through social media and your local radio/newspaper.
- **Timing matters** – share your fundraising page with friends and family after payday!
- **Don't forget that Gift Aid** can add 25% to your donation.





HOW YOUR FUNDRAISING WILL HELP



£25

could help provide one therapy session to support children to cope with their trauma and grief.



£30

could provide essentials like warm clothing for refugees who are desperate to escape homelessness.



£50

could help refugees have hot food and a shower at a Refugee Council drop-in centre.



£100

could support refugees with employability skills such as CV writing and preparing for a job interview.



£200

could help provide much-needed access to our counselling programme.

CELEBRATE AND DONATE!

Getting married

Why not swap the traditional wedding list for a charitable donation? Ask your guests to celebrate the next chapter of your life with a donation to support refugees rebuild their lives in Britain.

An easy way to do this is to set up a JustGiving page and share the link with your wedding guests. Visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ideas/wedding to find out more.

Birthday fundraisers

Instead of sending cards, why not ask your friends and relatives to make a donation to support refugees in celebration of your next birthday. An easy way to do this is to set up a JustGiving page and share the link with your loved ones. Visit home.justgiving.com/startfundraising to find out more.

Alternatively, Facebook also has an easy way of setting up a Birthday Fundraiser. They will even remind you as it gets closer to your big day.

Celebrate a loved one's memory

Remember someone special and celebrate their memory with a donation in their name. Help their kindness and values live on, whilst supporting future generations.

Anniversary

If you're celebrating something special, why not recognise it by raising funds to help refugees rebuild their lives.



HOW TO SEND IN THE MONEY YOU'VE RAISED



Set up a JustGiving page

If you are taking on a challenge, organising an event or asking

for donations in celebration of your wedding, then the easiest way to fundraise is by creating your own JustGiving page. Your friends and family can make their donations online and the money comes directly to us, making it hassle-free for you.

Visit home.justgiving.com/startfundraising to set up your page.



Give us a call

Our Supporter Care team can

process your donation by credit or debit card over the phone. Call us on **0207 346 1205** to pay in your fundraising money. Our office hours are 9.30am-5.30pm, Monday – Friday.



Send us a cheque

You can send us a cheque, made payable to Refugee Council, with your donation total. When you post your cheque remember to include the donation slip which you can find at the end of this document. Fill in your details so we know who you are and what you did to raise money.

**Refugee Council,
134-138 The Grove,
London E15 1NS.**



Complete our paying-in form

You can fill in the paying in form at the end of this document and email it to us on: supporter@refugeecouncil.org.uk or post it to us at:

**Refugee Council, 134-138
The Grove, London, E15 1NS**



Donate online

You can pay in the money you have raised by making an online donation on our website. To do this visit refugeecouncil.org.uk/donate.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO CONSIDER

Fundraising with your friends, communities and colleagues is great fun and goes a long way in supporting refugees, **but it is important to keep your fundraising safe and legal!**

Here are some things you should consider:

Events involving food

If you are providing or serving food at your event, it is important to make sure it has been prepared and served safely. Making sure allergens are clearly labelled and including an ingredients list are simple things you can do to keep everyone safe. More guidance can be found here: food.gov.uk/safety-hygiene/providing-food-at-community-and-charity-events

Raffles and lotteries

These types of events have certain rules that you must consider. You don't need a license to hold a small raffle as part of an event, as long as there is no cash prize and you don't spend more than £500 on prizes. Tickets can only be sold at one location on one day, at the same event as the prize draw and the results have to be announced either at or after the event. Please have a look at the latest advice from the Gambling Commission before planning your fundraiser:

gamblingcommission.gov.uk/public-and-players/fundraising-and-lotteries

Refugee Council cannot accept liability for any problems or accidents during events raising funds for us. Fundraising is fun, and should be safe and legal too!

We're here to help

If you are not sure about what you need to consider before getting started with your fundraising, please contact our fundraising team at supporter@refugeecouncil.org.uk and we will be happy to help!

Some useful information:

More information about fundraising guidelines can be found by visiting the following websites:

- **The Charity Commission**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission>
- **Institute of Fundraising**
[ciof.org.uk](https://www.ciof.org.uk)
- **The Fundraising Regulator**
[fundraisingregulator.org.uk](https://www.fundraisingregulator.org.uk)



KEEP IN TOUCH AND SHARE YOUR STORY

We love hearing about our amazing supporters so keep us posted on your fundraising activities and send us your best photos.

And, if you're happy to, we'd love to share them with our supporters on social media. Email them to us on supporter@refugeecouncil.org.uk.



**THE NATION'S
REFUGEE CHARITY**


Photographs: Freepix, Refugee Council

British Refugee Council, (commonly called the Refugee Council) is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales, [No 2727514] and a registered charity number 1014576. Registered office: 134 – 138 The Grove, London E15 1NS, United Kingdom. VAT registration no: 936 519 988.

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and join our wonderful online community.

 @refugeecouncil

 @refugeecouncil

 @refugeecouncil

We have an amazing, growing online community of supporters so please do join the conversation using #refugeecouncil or tag us in your posts. Thank you!





THE NATION'S REFUGEE CHARITY

PAYING-IN FORM

Please fill out this form and return to:

Freepost Plus RSYE-AYUL-CEUL,
Refugee Council, PO Box 68614,
London E15 9DQ.

Any questions, please contact us on
020 7346 1205

supporter@refugeecouncil.org.uk



THANK YOU!

1 YOUR DETAILS

Title: First name: Last name:

Address: Post code:

We would like to keep you updated on the impact of our work together and other ways you can support refugees. Please tick the ways in which you would like to hear from us.

Phone: Email: SMS:

Email address:

Mobile number:

We are committed to keeping your data safe. For more information please visit: refugeecouncil.org.uk/privacy-policy If you'd like to update your contact preferences, please email supporter@refugeecouncil.org.uk or call **020 7346 1205**

2 DESCRIPTION OF FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY

3 YOUR GIFT

Total amount you have raised: £



A I enclose a cheque (made payable to Refugee Council) **OR**

B Please debit my: MasterCard Visa CAF

Card no. Expiry date / CVC

Cardholder's Name:

Signature: Date:



THE NATION'S
REFUGEE CHARITY



FULL NAME:	ADDRESS:	POST CODE:	DONATION AMOUNT £:	DATE PAID:	GIFT AID: please tick
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

We'll keep your data safe and in accordance with our privacy policy (visit refugeecouncil.org.uk/privacy_policy for further details). For any questions, you can get in touch via supporter@refugeecouncil.org.uk or **02073461205**.



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