

# Empowering Asylum Seekers and Refugees to build new Futures in Wales



**COMPANY NUMBER: 4818 136**

**CHARITY NUMBER: 1102443**

**WEBSITE: [wrc.wales](http://wrc.wales)**

**FREEPHONE: 08081967273**

Registered with Cofrestrwyd Gyda'r





# Welcome

We are a Welsh charity committed to protecting the human rights of people forced to seek safety from persecution, war, conflict, and other forms of injustice and abuse. For over 30 years, we have been helping people navigate the UK asylum system.

**Andrea Cleaver**

**Chief Executive Officer**

## *Our Vision*

is to create a Wales where asylum seekers and refugees are welcomed, respected, and access protection, safety, and dignity.

## *Our Mission*

To improve the lives of asylum seekers and refugees by delivering specialist advice and practical support and speaking out to positively influence public perception.

To get involved in supporting people seeking safety or to find out more about our work, please email us at [info@WRC.wales](mailto:info@WRC.wales)

# Helping People access safety and security



## The Asylum Rights Programme (ARP)

Asylum seekers are not allowed to work; they cannot choose where they live and survive on a weekly asylum support payment of £39.63 per week. Our Asylum Rights Team provides specialist advice to help:

- ✓ **alleviated poverty** and access **safe and secure housing**,
- ✓ **challenge unfair responses** relating to asylum decisions,
- ✓ gain **access to education, health, social and play opportunities** for children and their families.



*Cardiff, Newport, Swansea, and Wrexham*

*Alleviated  
Poverty*

*Training,  
Education &  
Employment*

*Safe & Secure  
Housing*



## Helping People Thrive – Life after asylum

Just over half of asylum cases are accepted for refugee status, and they are given just 28 days to leave asylum support, find housing and employment. During this time, homelessness becomes a real possibility. The Move-On Team supports this problematic transition; many have lived experience with a unique perspective of the asylum journey. They help:

- ✓ **alleviate homelessness** and **poverty**,
- ✓ ease the **transition from asylum to Refugee**,
- ✓ empower people into **training, education, and employment**, and promote integration and **give them a voice**.



*Cardiff and Newport*

## *Bringing joy to the lives of children*

After being forced to flee their home to seek safety, many asylum children arrive frightened and unable to communicate their feelings. Our team of Play Development Workers create safe and friendly spaces to reduce their trauma and help them have fun. The team:

- ✓ helps refugee children to **have fun and become confident individuals**,
- ✓ **supports them** with trauma and anxiety,
- ✓ prepares them for **learning at school**, and
- helps them feel **happier and more relaxed**.



*Cardiff*



## *Learning English is necessary for integration!*

Refugees who speak little or no English often struggle to access education or find employment. In collaboration with South Wales University and local volunteers, Wales Refugee Council provides interactive English classes from beginners to advanced level. Our classes support refugees to:

- ✓ develop their **language skills**,
- ✓ develop their **knowledge of life in Wales**, and
- gain **confidence and social skills** to help them integrate into communities.



*Cardiff and Newport*





## Refugees Resettlement in Wales

In 2019, the UK Government agreed to resettle 20,000 of the most vulnerable refugees living in the refugee camps in Lebanon. The Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Programme Team works with councils to help Syrian refugees feel welcome and included in life in Wales. Their work includes:

- ✓ support and advice with integration
- ✓ support with education and training, and
- ✓ registering with all the relevant authorities and organisations.

*Cardiff and Newport*



## Amplifying Refugee Voices

Asylum seekers and refugees bring skills and diversity that enriches Wales, but they can sometimes not feel welcomed in Wales. We challenge anti-refugee rhetoric behaviour and practice to get the best outcomes for asylum seekers and refugees. At the Welsh Refugee Council, we:

- ✓ ensure their **voices are heard**.
- ✓ provide evidence of **people lived experiences**.
- ✓ advocate for the **protection of their rights**, and
- ✓ promote the positive contributions they make.



*Cardiff, Newport Swansea and Wrexham*

## *Partnerships –Stronger Together*

We work in partnership with organisations across Wales, the UK, and Europe to ensure that people are given safety and security.

Our partnership work includes:

- ✓ Referring our **support** to organisations specialising in **health, violence against women, victims of crime and HIV**.
- ✓ Referral of **child protection** issues and legal issues.
- ✓ Community development **grants for Refugee-led organisations**.
- ✓ **Signposting to education** and training providers.
- ✓ **Events organisation** and workshops.
- ✓ **Campaigning** and advocacy.



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## *Campaigning & Advocacy*





## *Contact our office*

We are here to help. We work across Wales with offices in Cardiff, Newport, Swansea and Wrexham with community groups and drop-in centres.

### **Cardiff**

120-122 Broadway Street, Cardiff, CF24 1NJ

T: 02920 489 800

F: 02920 432 999

### **Newport**

66 Lower Dock Street, Newport, N20 1EF

Tel: 01633 266 420

### **Swansea**

Swansea YMCA, 1 The Kingsway, Swansea, SA1 5JQ

Tel: 01792 630 180

### **Wrexham**

BAWSO, 33 Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, LL11 1BT

Tel: 01978 355 818

# Talk to US



## *If you are an asylum seeker or Refugee*

We would be happy to hear from you. Call us for free on 0808 196 7273. Someone will be waiting to direct you to the right service.

- To join the ESOL classes, email: [info@wrc.wales](mailto:info@wrc.wales)
- To contact the Play Development Team, call Meryl on 07896 522 697
- If you want to volunteer with us, email [volunteering@wrc.wales](mailto:volunteering@wrc.wales)

## **Asylum Seekers and Refugee**

If you are an asylum seeker or a refugee, call us on 0808 196 7273

## **Policy and Communications**

If you'd like to speak to our Policy and Communications Team, please email [info@wrc.wales](mailto:info@wrc.wales)

## **Partnership Working**

To talk to us about partnerships, please email Jayne Conlon at [Jayne@wrc.wales](mailto:Jayne@wrc.wales)

## **Volunteering**

Our volunteers are our lifeblood. Visit our volunteering page to find out more about the exciting roles available and how you can apply.

## **Media Enquiries**

If you have a story or request a comment, please contact Althea Collymore at [althea@wrc.wales](mailto:althea@wrc.wales) or call 07896 690 070.

## **Funders**

Our work would not be possible without the generous support of our funders and donors. To understand more about how we make an impact on the lives of asylum seekers and refugees, email [andrew@wrc.wales](mailto:andrew@wrc.wales)



# ***Make a Donation***

**To donate to help support  
asylum seekers and refugees  
in Wales, do so simply and  
securely, go to our  
donate page.**





## Welsh Refugee Council

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Include the following.

Photo

Invest in Volunteering

OISC logo

info@wrc.wales

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@welshrefcouncil



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