

Shoulder to Shoulder Sefyll gyda'n Gilydd

Welsh Refugee Council Impact Report

April 2009 - March 2010

Empowering asylum seekers and refugees
to rebuild their lives in Wales

Adroddiad Effaith Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru

Ebrill 2009 - Mawrth 2010

Yn galluogi ceiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid i
ailadeiladu eu bywyd yng Nghymru



WELCOME

I wish to pay tribute to the outstanding work of our staff and volunteers who stand shoulder to shoulder with asylum seekers and refugees.

2010 has been a special year because it is the 20th anniversary of the Welsh Refugee Council. We have celebrated our achievements and have thanked the many people who have worked with the Council over the years. This report includes inspirational and uplifting stories of those people in Wales who have been moved to help asylum seekers and leaves readers with a challenge: what could you do?

Our specialist, independent, confidential advice services have helped thousands of people and built partnerships with other asylum and refugee organisations, so that asylum seekers and refugees can receive a holistic service. We have worked hard to safeguard the welfare of children, especially those who arrive in Wales without adults. We have promoted the talent of those asylum seekers and refugees who have come to Wales through our training and volunteering programmes. We have campaigned for a fairer asylum system, and we have helped refugee voices to be heard through running

language classes and through organising cultural events.

2011 will be a challenging year for the organisation. The UK Government insists on reducing our funding by over 60% and we will see this reflected in substantial changes to our services. But this challenge requires to work even more closely with our funders, clients, other refugee organisations, and our own staff to ensure we continue to deliver services of a high quality. I thank them for their dedication and commitment.

Aled Eirug Chair



CROESO

Hoffwn dalu teyrnged i waith rhagorol ein staff a'n gwirfoddolwyr sy'n sefyll yn gytûn â cheiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid.

Bu 2010 yn flwyddyn arbennig gan ei bod hi'n ugain mlynedd er sefydlu Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru. Rydym wedi dathlu ein cyflawniadau a diolch i'r bobl niferus sydd wedi gweithio gyda'r Cyngor ar hyd y blynnydoedd.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn cynnwys straeon sy'n ysbrydoli a chalonogi am y gefnogaeth yr ydym wedi'i chael gan unigolion yng Nghymru a gafodd eu hysgogi i helpu ceiswyr lloches. Mae hefyd yn cynnig

her i'r darlenydd: beth allet ti ei wneud?

Drwy ein gwasanaethau cynghori arbenigol, annibynnol a chyfrinachol rydym wedi rhoi cymorth i filoedd o bobl, a meithrin partneriaethau â sefydliadau ffoaduriaid a cheiswyr lloches eraill fel y gall ceiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid dderbyn gwasanaeth cyfannol. Rydym wedi gweithio'n galed i ddiogelu lles plant, yn enwedig y rhai hynny sy'n cyrraedd Cymru heb oedolion yn gwmni iddynt. Drwy raglenni hyfforddi a gwirfoddoli, rydym wedi hyrwyddo'r talentau niferus a ddaw i Gymru yn sgil ceiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid. Rydym wedi ymgyrchu am system lloches decach, ac wedi helpu i sicrhau bod lleisiau ffoaduriaid yn cael eu clywed drwy gynnal gwersi iaith a threfnu digwyddiadau diwylliannol.

Bydd 2011 yn flwyddyn llawn her i'r sefydliad. Mae Llywodraeth y DU yn mynnu cyflwyno gostyngiad o fwya na 60% i'n nawdd, a bydd hyn yn cael ei adlewyrchu yn y newidiadau sylweddol i'n gwasanaethau. Ond mae'r her hon yn golygu bod angen i ni weithio'n agosach fyfyr â'n noddwyr, ein cleientiaid, sefydliadau ffoaduriaid eraill a'n staff ein hunain i sicrhau y gallwn barhau i ddarparu gwasanaethau o ansawdd uchel. Diolchaf iddynt am eu hymroddiad a'u hymrwymiad.

Aled Eirug Y Cadeirydd

THANK YOU

We would like to thank the following people for their help during 2009-10:

Our wonderful team of staff and volunteers and the generous individuals who support our work in many ways

Our funders:

Welsh Assembly Government,
UK Border Agency,
Diana Memorial Fund,
Children in Need and
Wrexham Fair Share Trust

Our Board of Trustees:

Aled Eirug (Chair)
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Mohamed Field
Maureen Gower
Themba Moyo
Teddy Seyoum
Terry Threadgold

DIOLCH

Hoffem ddiolch i'r bobl ganlynol am eu help yn ystod 2009-10:

Ein tîm gwych o staff a gwirfoddolwyr a'r unigolion hael sy'n cefnogi ein gwaith mewn sawl ffordd.

Ein Harianwyr:

Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Asiantaeth Ffiniau'r DU
Cronfa Goffa Diana
Plant Mewn Angen ac Ymddiriedolaeth Fair Share
Wrecsam

Ein Bwrdd Ymddiriedolwyr:

Aled Eirug (Cadeirydd)
Julie Barton (Is-gadeirydd)
Ian Summers (Trysorydd)
Mick Antoniw
James Aylward
Adele Blakebrough
Mohamed Field
Maureen Gower
Themba Moyo
Teddy Seyoum
Terry Threadgold

REPORT FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

ADRODDIAD Y PRIF WEITHREDWR

It gives me great pleasure to contribute to our annual Impact Report in our 20th year of operation. I hope that the aspirations of our founders have been met and will continue to do so in the future. My thanks as always to our funders, staff, volunteers, partners and trustees. This job of which I am now in my fourth year continues to be a privilege. I look forward to continuing to work with you to improve the lives of asylum seekers, refugees and refugee communities in Wales. My best wishes, Mike Lewis.

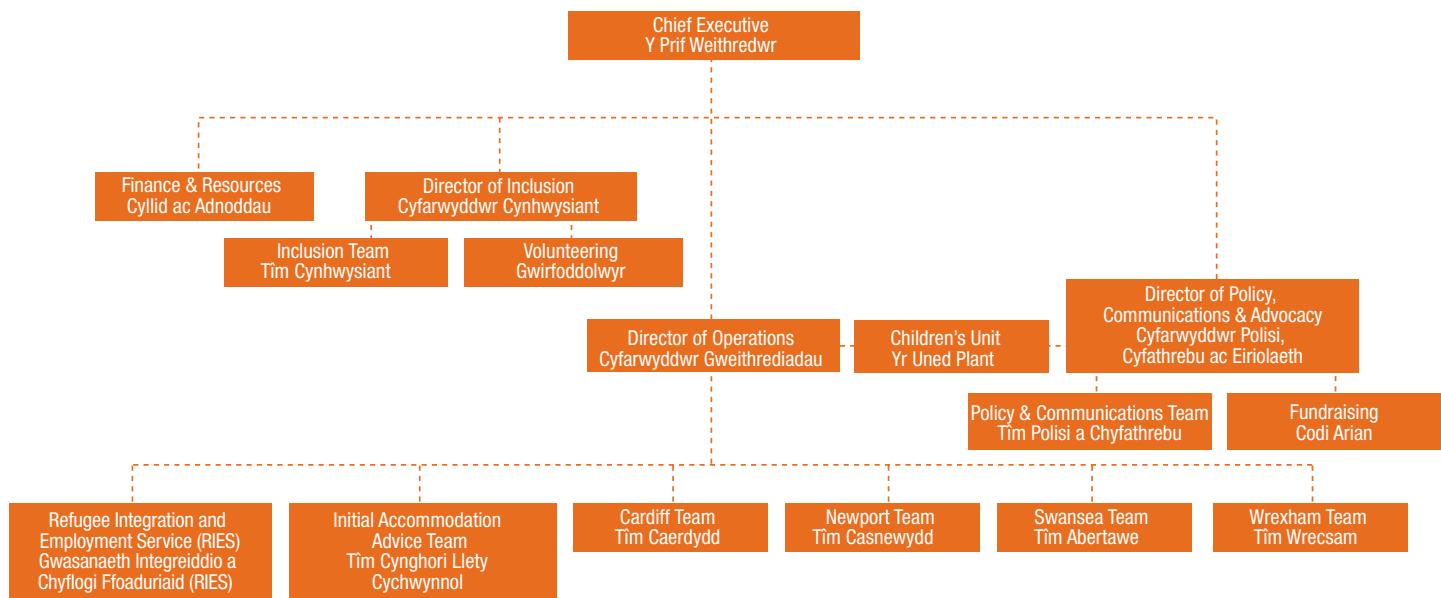
Mike Lewis
Chief Executive

Pleser o'r mwyaf yw cyfrannu at ein Hadroddiad Effaith blynnyddol ar ein hugeinffed flywyddyn o weithredu. Gobeithiaf ein bod wedi gwireddu dyheadau ein sylfaenwr ac y byddwn yn parhau i wneud hynny yn y dyfodol. Hoffwn ddiolch unwaith eto i'n noddwyr, staff, gwirfoddolwyr, partneriaid ac ymddiriedolwyr. Rywf bellach ar fy mhedwaredd flywyddyn yn y swydd hon, ac mae'n parhau i fod yn faint i'w chyflawni. Edrychaf ymlaen i barhau i weithio gyda chi i wella bywydau ceiswyr lloches, ffoaduriaid a chymunedau o ffoaduriaid yng Nghymru. Pob dynuniad da, Mike Lewis.

Mike Lewis
Y Prif Weithredwr



ORGANOGRAM 2009-2010



WHAT IS THE WELSH REFUGEE COUNCIL?

Welsh Refugee Council is an independent charity that empowers refugees to rebuild their lives in Wales. It has offices in Cardiff, Wrexham, Swansea and Newport. It works in four ways:

- WRC runs specialist teams that give asylum seekers and refugees advice, for example, they help people to understand the asylum system, find a lawyer and deal with any health and housing problems. Children who have arrived without their parents have a specialist advice worker. People with the right to work can get advice on job-hunting.
- WRC runs innovative arts events such as Refugee Week which tell a refugee story, in partnership with artistic, cultural and educational organisations.
- WRC works with Welsh politicians, the Welsh Assembly Government and the Home Office, to develop fair policies for asylum seekers and refugees in Wales.
- WRC works in partnership with small organisations and individuals throughout Wales to promote the inclusion of refugees in local communities.

Welsh Refugee Council values

- Remain independent and accountable.
- Treat everyone with equality, respect and empathy.
- Ensure that the voices of refugees and asylum seekers are heard throughout our organisation.
- Work in partnerships which are beneficial to refugees and asylum seekers.
- Promote the rich diversity that refugees and asylum seekers bring to the UK, and uphold their rights.
- Continually strive to improve and always act with honesty, transparency and integrity.

Strategic goals 2009-2014

- To provide leadership to the refugee sector in Wales
- To achieve excellence in the standard of its advice and support services
- To promote opportunities for refugees to fulfil their potential in all parts of Wales
- To promote positive responses to asylum seekers and refugees among political leaders, service providers and the general public throughout all parts of Wales
- To communicate the Welsh response to asylum seekers and refugees to an audience outside Wales

BETH YW CYNGOR FFOADURIAID CYMRU?

Elusen annibynnol yw Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru sy'n galluogi ffoaduriaid i ailadeiladu eu bywydau yng Nghymru. Mae ganddi swyddfeydd yng Nghaerdydd, Wrecsam, Abertawe a Chasnewydd ac mae'n gweithredu mewn pedair ffordd wahanol:

- Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n cynnal timau arbenigol sy'n rhoi cyngor i geiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid, er enghraifft, maen nhw'n helpu pobl i ddeall y system lloches, cael hyd i gyfreithiwr a datrys unrhyw broblemau'n ymneud â iechyd neu dai. Caiff plant sy'n cyrraedd heb eu rhieni weithiwr cynghori arbenigol. Gall pobl â'r hawl i weithio gael cyngor ynglŷn â chwilio am swydd.
- Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n cynnal digwyddiadau celfyddydol arloesol fel Wythnos y Ffoaduriaid sy'n adrodd stori'r ffoadur, mewn partneriaeth â sefydliadau artistig, diwylliannol ac addysgol.
- Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n cydweithio â gwleidyddion Cymru, Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru a'r Swyddfa Gartref er mwyn datblygu polisiau teg i geiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid yng Nghymru.
- Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n gweithio mewn partneriaeth â sefydliadau bychain ac unigolion ledled Cymru er mwyn hyrwyddo cynnwys ffoaduriaid mewn cymunedau lleol.

Gwerthoedd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru

- Parhau i fod yn annibynnol ac yn atebol.
- Trin pawb yn gyfartal, gyda pharch ac empathi.
- Sicrhau y clywir lleisiau ffoaduriaid a cheiswyr lloches drwy ein holl sefydliad.
- Gweithio mewn partneriaethau sydd o fudd i ffoaduriaid a cheiswyr lloches.
- Hyrwyddo'r amrywiaeth gyfoethog a ddaw i'r DU yn sgil ffoaduriaid a cheiswyr lloches, a chynnal eu hawliau.
- Ymdrechu'n barhaus i wella a gweithredu'n onest, yn ddiwyll ac yn hygred bob amser.

Nodau strategol 2009-2014

- Rhoi arweiniad i'r sector ffoaduriaid yng Nghymru
- Sicrhau rhagoriaeth yn safon ei wasanaethau cynghori a chefnogi
- Hyrwyddo cyfleoedd i ffoaduriaid gael gwreddu eu potensial ym mhob rhan o Gymru
- Hyrwyddo ymateb cadarnhaol i geiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid ymysg arweinwyr gwleidyddol, darparwyr gwasanaeth a'r cyhoedd ym mhob rhan o Gymru
- Mynegi'r ymateb gan Gymru i geiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid i gynulleidfa y tu allan i Gymru.







SPECIALIST, INDEPENDENT, CONFIDENTIAL (AND BUSY!) ADVICE SERVICES FOR PEOPLE SEEKING SAFETY

Asylum seekers who arrive in Wales are searching for safety. Welsh Refugee Council works hard to ensure that Wales is a place of safety for those who need it. First and foremost, it does this by providing specialist, independent, confidential advice services. It also works with partners to develop services, and it advocates on behalf of asylum seekers and refugees with politicians and policy makers.

'WRC is a friendly, understanding and respectful organisation, I feel at home there and I feel comfortable talking to them'

Our advice work between April 2009 and March 2010

Welsh Refugee Council has one advice team based in the initial accommodation centre for asylum seekers that have recently been dispersed to Cardiff.

- **941** new arrivals were welcomed at the initial accommodation hostel.
- **3211** induction briefing sessions were given by our team in the hostel to tell the new arrivals about their rights and responsibilities and what to expect in the asylum system.
- **4517** one-to-one problem solving advice sessions were carried out with the new arrivals.

Welsh Refugee Council also runs 4 One Stop Services.

• **32912** one-to-one advice sessions provided by the One Stop Services for asylum seekers, refugees and refused asylum seekers living in Cardiff, Swansea, Newport and Wrexham.

Some examples of the advice given at the One Stop Services are how to:

- Register with a doctor or get hospital treatment.
- Find a lawyer.
- Register children at school.
- Sort out problems with housing such as broken heating etc.
- Plus the One Stop Services regularly help people to understand letters and documents that they have received.
- Helping asylum seekers to access the asylum support payments to which they are entitled is a central part of our advice work. Our teams help asylum seekers to apply for support and challenge delays and other problems in the administration of these payments.

In December 2009 the system of support for refused asylum seekers who are unable to leave Wales was changed from vouchers to the Azure payment card. Welsh Refugee Council's caseworkers worked hard to explain the new system to asylum seekers and help those who were finding it difficult to use the card.

Welsh Refugee Council began to co-ordinate the Refugee Integration and Employment Service (RIES) in early 2009. This offers advice, employment and mentoring services to people who have recently been

granted Refugee Status. During April 2009 – March 2010 these services were delivered in partnership with British Red Cross Newport, City and County of Swansea Council, Displaced People In Action and the volunteer group SOVA.

292 people were helped by RIES from April 2009-March 2010. All of them received advice and support to develop a Personal Integration Plan and almost all of them went on to develop an Employment Action Plan to help them to find work. 150 of them also took part in the Mentoring Service.

3077 advice sessions were given by our 'move on' staff to help people granted refugee status or another form of leave to remain to access mainstream services such as independent housing, education, and to apply for welfare benefits. Move on staff raised concerns about delays in child tax credits and child benefits.

Case study

A family from Azerbaijan were dispersed to Cardiff where they had no family or friends - very few Azerbaijanis live in Cardiff. Initially they were provided with accommodation and support payments by the UK Border Agency, but in less than 3 months they were granted refugee status and needed to live independently. They were very worried about housing and money. They had no idea about how to arrange a place at school for their eldest child. They wanted to be part of their local community but they were very unsure about the cultural differences between Azerbaijan and Wales and how to integrate successfully.

Welsh Refugee Council's RIES team helped in the following way:

- Working with the local authority housing department to find them somewhere to live.
- Helping them to secure a Community Care Grant to cover the cost of essential furniture.
- Advising them on how to apply for child benefit, jobseekers allowance and other benefits and working with the relevant agencies to ensure that these applications are processed.
- Finding a school place for the eldest child.
- Securing a volunteering opportunity for the husband at a local hospital.
- Writing references to enable the family to open bank accounts.
- Providing ongoing advice and support for the family, who are now happily settled in the local community - the children are invited to birthday parties by schoolfriends.



GWASANAETHAU CYNGHORI ARBENIGOL, ANNIBYNNOL, CYFRINACHOL (A PHRYSUR!) I BOBL SY’N CEISIO DIOGELWCH

Bydd ceiswyr lloches sy'n cyrraedd Cymru'n chwilio am ddiogelwch. Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n gweithio'n galed i sicrhau bod Cymru'n lle diogel i'r rhai hynny sy'n ei geisio. Yn anad dim, mae'n gwneud hyn drwy gynnig gwasanaethau cyngori arbenigol, annibynnol a chyfrinachol. Mae hefyd yn cydweithio â phartneriaid i ddatblygu gwasanaethau ac yn eiriol ar ran ceiswyr lloches a ffaoaduriaid gyda gwleidyddion a llunwyr polisi.

Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n sefydliad cyfeillgar sy'n cynnig dealtwriaeth a pharch. Ryw'n teimlo'n gartrefol yno ac yn gyfforddus yn siarad â nhw'

Ein gwaith cyngori rhwng mis Ebrill 2009 a mis Mawrth 2010

Mae gan Gyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru un tîm cyngori sydd wedi'i leoli yn y ganolfan llety cychwynnol i geiswyr lloches sydd wedi cael eu gwasgari i Gaerdydd yn ddiweddar.

- Croesawyd **941** o newydd-ddyfodiaid yn yr hostel llety cychwynnol.

- Rhoddwyd **3211** o sesiynau brifio ymsefydlu gan ein tîm yn yr hostel er mwyn hysbysu'r newydd-dyfodiaid ynglŷn â'u hawlau a'u cyfrifoldebau a'r hyn i'w ddisgwyl yn y system lloches.

- **4517** o sesiynau cyngori un wrth un i ddatrys problemau wedi'u cynnal gyda'r newydd-ddyfodiaid.

Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru hefyd yn rhedeg 4 Gwasanaeth Un Stop.

• Darparwyd **32912** o sesiynau cyngori un wrth un gan y Gwasanaethau Un Stop i geiswyr lloches, ffaoaduriaid a cheiswyr lloches gwirthodedig sy'n byw yng Nghaerdydd, Abertawe, Casnewydd a Wrecsam.

Dyma rai enghreifftiau o'r cyngor a roddir yn y Gwasanaethau Un Stop:

- Sut i gofrestru gyda meddyg neu gael triniaeth yn yr ysbyty.
- Sut i ganfod cyfreithiwr.
- Sut i gofrestru plant yn yr ysgol.
- Sut i ddatrys problemau gyda thai fel gwresogydion sydd wedi torri ac ati.
- Yn ogystal â hyn, mae'r Gwasanaethau Un Stop yn helpu pobl yn rheolaidd i ddeall y llythyrau a'r dogfennau y maent wedi'u derbyn.
- Mae helpu ceiswyr lloches i gael mynediad at y taliadau cymorth lloches y mae ganddynt hawl i'w derbyn yn rhan ganolog o'n gwaith cyngori. Mae ein timau'n helpu ceiswyr lloches i wneud cais am gymorth a herio unrhyw oedi neu broblemau eraill wrth weinyddu'r taliadau hynny.

Ym mis Rhagfyr 2009, newidiwyd y system cymorth i geiswyr lloches gwirthodedig na allant adael Cymru o dalebau i'r cerdyn talu Azure. Bu Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n gweithio'n galed i egluro'r system newydd i geiswyr lloches ac i helpu'r rhai hynny sy'n ei chael hi'n anodd defnyddio'r cerdyn.

Dechreuodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru gydgysylltu'r Gwasanaeth Integreiddio a Chyflogi

Ffaoaduriaid (RIES) yn gynnar yn 2009. Mae'r Gwasanaeth yn cynnig gwasanaethau cyngori, cyflogaeth a mentora i bobl y rhoddwyd Statws Ffaoadur iddynt yn ddiweddar. Yn ystod mis Ebrill 2009 i fis Mawrth 2010 darparwyd y gwasanaethau hyn mewn partneriaeth â'r Groes Goch Brydeinig Casnewydd, Cyngor Dinas a Sir Abertawe, Alltudion ar Waith a'r grŵp gwirfoddolwyr SOVA.

Rhoddodd RIES gymorth i 292 o bobl o fis Ebrill 2009 i fis Mawrth 2010. Cafodd pob un ohonynt gyngor a chefnogaeth i ddatblygu Cynllun Integreiddio Personol ac aeth bron bob un ohonynt ymlaen i greu Cynllun Gweithredu Cyflogaeth i'w helpu i ganfod gwaith. Cymerodd 150 ohonynt hefyd ran yn y Gwasanaeth Mentora.

Rhoddodd ein staff 'symud ymlaen' **3077** o sesiynau cyngori er mwyn helpu pobl y rhoddwyd statws ffaoadur iddynt, neu fath arall o ganiatâd i aros yn y wlad, i gael mynediad at wasanaethau prif ffrwd fel tai annibynnol ac addysg, ac i ymgeisio am fudd-daliadau lles. Cododd staff 'symud ymlaen' bryderon ynghylch oedi gyda chredydau treth plant a budd-daliadau plant.

Astudiaeth achos

Cafodd teulu o Azerbaijan eu gwasgari i Gaerdydd lle nad oedd ganddynt unrhyw berthnasau na ffrindiau – ychydig iawn o bobl o Azerbaijan sy'n byw yng Nghaerdydd. I ddechrau cawsant lety a thaliadau cymorth gan Asiantaeth Ffiniau'r DU, ond o fewn llai na 3 mis enillodd y teulu statws ffaoadur ac roedd yn rhaid iddynt fyw'n annibynnol. Rodden nhw'n poeni'n ofnadwy am dai ac arian. Doedd ganddyn nhw ddimm syniad sut i drefnu lle yn yr ysgol.

ysgol i'w plentyn hynaf.

Rodden nhw am fod yn rhan o'u cymuned leol, ond yn ansicr iawn ynglŷn â'r gwahaniaethau rhwng diwylliant Azerbaijan a Chymru a sut i integreiddio'n llwyddiannus.

Rhoddodd tîm y Gwasanaeth Integreiddio a Chyflogi Ffaoaduriaid y cymorth canlynol iddynt:

- Gweithio gydag Adran Dai'r awdurdod lleol i ganfod rhywle iddynt fyw.
- Eu helpu i sicrhau Grant Gofal Cymunedol i dalu am ddodrefn hanfodol.
- Eu cyngori ynghylch sut i ymgeisio am fudd-daliadau plant, lwfans ceisio gwaith a budd-daliadau eraill, a gweithio gyda'r asiantaethau perthnasol i sicrhau bod y ceisiadau hyn yn cael eu prosesu.
- Canfod lle mewn ysgol i'r plentyn hynaf.
- Sicrhau cyfle i'r gŵr wirfoddoli mewn ysbyty lleol.
- Ysgrifennu geirdaon er mwyn galluogi'r teulu i agor cyfrifon banc.
- Rhoi cyngor a chefnogaeth barhaus i'r teulu, sydd bellach wedi ymgartrefu'n hapus yn y gymuned leol - mae'r plant yn cael eu gwahodd i bartïon pen-blwydd eu ffrindiau yn yr ysgol.







WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP TO PROVIDE HOLISTIC SUPPORT

'When people come out of the asylum process they have no idea what to do. We take them by the hand through everything they need'
Clarisse, WRC volunteer

Not only does WRC use its 5 offices to provide very busy advice services, but in 2009-10 it endeavoured to provide more holistic support by allowing other specialists to use its office space, for example a specialist nurse, ESOL teachers, pro bono lawyers from Asylum Justice, and staff from GAVO, BAWSO, Newlink Wales, and many more.

As we continue to see many refused asylum seekers who are destitute, the Red Cross regularly attend our Cardiff office to administer financial and other support to destitute clients. ESOL classes are regularly held at the WRC offices in Cardiff, Newport and Wrexham.

The Newport Office opened a computer suite in late 2009, allowing asylum seekers and refugees to search and apply for jobs and to have lessons in computer skills. UWIC donated computers for refugees to use in the Cardiff office.

Throughout 2009-2010, Welsh Refugee Council continued to provide office space and other facilities to Refugee Community Organisations (RCOs) and their umbrella group Refugee Voice Wales.

All this was achieved despite the limitations of our modest offices. 2009 saw the completion of repairs in our Cardiff office, thanks to the generosity of the Welsh Assembly government.

Improving the quality of our advice services

In 2009-2010 WRC improved its system collecting data about individual cases, enabling caseworkers to provide more effective advice.

Volunteers were used more widely in the advice services, enabling teams to help as many people as possible.

Meetings were held with Citizens Advice Bureaux and with homelessness organisations such as Wallich to enable Welsh Refugee Council to refer people to them more effectively.

Play sessions for young families

Welsh Refugee Council has a play worker, funded by Children in Need, who provides young children visiting our Cardiff office with the chance to engage in play in a safe and attractive environment while their parents can meet other parents and gain access to practical information and advice. During 2009 new play sessions have been extended to other venues, including Trinity Methodist Church in Cardiff and Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations (GAVO) in Newport.



Helping torture and trauma survivors

Asylum seekers and refugees who have experienced torture, violence and trauma have very particular mental health needs that currently it is hard for professionals in Wales to understand and treat. During 2009-2010, Welsh Refugee Council worked with the London based charity the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture, to assess the implications of its mapping exercise of mental health services in Wales. This concluded that a programme of training is needed to ensure that all mental health professionals in dispersal areas are trained to deal with the unique needs of asylum seekers and refugees who have survived torture and violence.

Welsh Refugee Council began looking for funding to extend its services for those with mental health needs. Welsh Refugee Council is a member of the Cardiff & Vale Mental Health Forum which advocates on behalf of those with mental health problems. In March 2010 Welsh Refugee Council organised a Refugee Mental Health and Well-being Awareness Day in partnership with Mind Cymru and AWETU. This brought together over 100 participants from various parts of UK.

Helping asylum seekers who are victims of traffickers

Welsh Refugee Council has seen a rise in the number of asylum seekers who are feared to be victims of trafficking and forced into illegal employment or prostitution. In 2009 Welsh Refugee Council's advice teams responded by improving their procedures for identifying and working with victims of trafficking. Staff also shared non-confidential information about trafficking with partner organisations elsewhere in the UK and attended a meeting with the Ministry of Justice and UKBA in London to highlight concerns. WRC conducted a discussion forum to raise awareness among asylum seekers and refugees about trafficking and how to access support for trafficking victims from the new National Referral Mechanism, and has also briefed organisations such as Barnado's Cymru. WRC is a founder member of the strategic group to tackle trafficking that has been set up by Wales police.

Improving housing opportunities

WRC's Move-on and Inclusion staff have been working very closely with a wide range of organisations to improve housing opportunities for refugees and to influence the policies of the Welsh Assembly Government Housing Directorate. Our partners in this work are: Housing Association Charitable Trust (Hact), Shelter, Chartered Institute of Housing Cymru, Tai Pawb, Refugee Voice Wales, Community Housing Cymru, Refugee Community Organisations (RCOs) and housing providers.

GWEITHIO MEWN PARTNERIAETH I DDARPARU CEFNOGAETH GYFANNOL

'Pan fydd pobl yn dod allan o'r broses loches, does ganddyn nhw ddim syniad beth i'w wneud. Rydym ni'n eu harwain drwy bopeth y mae arnynt eu hangen'
Clarisse, Gwirfoddolwr Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru

Yn ogystal â defnyddio'i 5 o swyddfeydd i gynnig gwasanaethau cyngori y ceir galw enfawr amdanynt, yn 2009-10 ymdrechodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru i gynnig mwy o gymorth cyfannol drwy ganiatáu arbenigwyr eraill i ddefnyddio'i ofod swyddfa, er enghraift nyrs arbenigol, athrawon ESOL, cyfreithwyr pro bono o Asylum Justice, a staff o GAVO, BAWSO, Newlink Wales, a llawer mwy.

Gan ein bod yn parhau i weld llawer o geiswyr lloches gwirthodedig sy'n ddymgeledd, mae'r Groes Goch yn mynchu ein swyddfa yng Nghaerdydd i roi cymorth ariannol, a mathau eraill o gymorth i gleientiaid diymgeledd.

Cynhelir gwersi ESOL yn rheolaidd yn swyddfeydd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru yng Nghaerdydd, Casnewydd a Wrecsam.

Agorwyd ystafell gyfrifiaduron yn Swyddfa Casnewydd yn hwyr yn 2009, gan alluogi ceiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid i chwilio am swyddi ac ymgeisio amdanynt, a chael gwersi sgiliau cyfrifiadurol. Cyfrannodd UWIC gyfrifiaduron i'w defnyddio gan ffoaduriaid yn swyddfa Caerdydd.

Drwy gydol 2009-2010, parhaodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru i gynnig gofod swyddfa a chyfleusterau eraill i Sefydliadau Cymunedol Ffoaduriaid a'u

sefydliad ambarél, Llais Ffoaduriaid Cymru.

Sicrhawyd hyn oll er gwaethaf y cyfngiadau yn ein swyddfeydd cyffredin. Yn 2009 cwblhawyd yr atgyweiriadau yn ein swyddfa yng Nghaerdydd, drwy garedigrwydd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru.

Gwella ansawdd ein gwasanaethau cyngori

Yn 2009-2010 diwygiodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'r system sydd gando i gasglu data am achosion unigol, gan alluogi gweithwyr achos i roi cyngor mwy effeithiol.

Gwnaed defnydd ehangach o wirfoddolwyr o fewn y gwasanaethau cyngori, gan alluogi timau i helpu cynifer o bobl ag sy'n bosibl.

Cynhalwyd cyfarfodydd â'r Canolfannau Cyngori a chyda sefydliadau i'r digartref fel Wallich er mwyn galluogi Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru i gyfeirio pobl atynt yn fwy effeithiol.

Sesiynau chwarae i deuluoedd ifanc

Mae gan Gyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru weithiwr chwarae, a ariennir gan Plant mewn Angen, sy'n rhoi cyfle i blant bach sy'n ymweld â'n swyddfa yng Nghaerdydd gael chwarae mewn amgylchedd diogel a deniadol wrth i'w rhieni gwrdd â rhieni eraill a chael gwybodaeth a chyngor ymarferol. Yn ystod 2009 mae sesiynau chwarae newydd wedi cael eu hehangu i leoliadau eraill, gan gynnwys Eglwys Fethodistaidd y Drindod yng Nghaerdydd a Chymdeithas Sefydliadau Gwirfoddol Gwent (GAVO) yng Nghasnewydd.

Helpu'r rhai sydd wedi goroesi artaith a thrawma

Bydd gan geiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid sydd wedi profi artaith, traus a thrawma anghenion iechyd meddwl neilltuol iawn, ac ar hyn o bryd mae'n anodd i weithwyr professiynol yng Nghymru ddeall ac ymdrin â'r anghenion hynny. Yn ystod 2009-2010 bu Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n cydweithio ag elusen yn Llundain o'r enw'r Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture i asesu goblygiadau ei ymarfer i fapio'r gwasanaethau iechyd meddwl yng Nghymru. Casgliad yr ymarfer oedd bod angen rhaglen hyfforddi er mwyn sicrhau bod pob gweithiwr iechyd meddwl professiynol mewn ardaloedd gwasgaru wedi'i hyfforddi i ymdrin ag anghenion unigryw ceiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid sydd wedi goroesi artaith a thrais. Dechreuodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru chwilio am nawdd i ehangu ei wasanaethau i rai a chanddyt anghenion iechyd meddwl.

Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n aelod o Fforwm Iechyd Meddwl Caerdydd a'r Fro sy'n eiriol ar ran rhai a chanddyt broblemau iechyd meddwl. Ym mis Mawrth 2010, trefnodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru Ddiwrnod Ymwybyddiaeth Iechyd Meddwl a Lles Ffoaduriaid mewn partneriaeth â Mind Cymru ac AWETU. Daeth hyn â mwy na 100 o gyfranogwyr ynghyd o rannau amrywiol o'r DU.

Helpu ceiswyr lloches sydd wedi cael eu masnachu

Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru wedi gweld cynnydd yn nifer y ceiswyr lloches yr ofnir eu bod wedi cael

eu masnachu a'u gorfodi i weithio'n anghyfreithlon neu i weithio fel puteiniaid. Yn 2009 ymatebodd timau cyngori Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru drwy wella'u trefnau i adnabod a gweithio gyda dioddefwyr masnachu. Rhannodd y staff hefyd wybodaeth nad oedd yn gyfrinachol ynglŷn â masnachu mewn pobl gyda sefydliadau partner yn rhannau eraill o'r DU, a mynchyu cyfarfod â'r Weinyddiaeth Gyflawnder ac Asiantaeth Ffiniau'r DU yn Llundain i amlygu pryderon. Cynhaliodd y Cyngor fforwm trafod i godi ymwybyddiaeth ymmsg ceiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid ynglŷn â masnachu mewn pobl a sut i gael cymorth i rai sydd wedi cael eu masnachu drwy'r Mecanwaith Atgyfeirio Cenedlaethol. Mae'r Cyngor hefyd wedi briffio sefydliadau fel Barnado's Cymru. Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n aelod-sylfaenydd y grŵp strategol a ffurfiwyd gan heddlu Cymru i fynd i'r afael â'r fasnach mewn pobl.

Gwella'r cyfleoedd am dai

Mae staff Symud Ymlaen a Chynhwysiant Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru wedi bod yn gweithio'n agos iawn gydag ystod eang o sefydliadau i wella'r cyfleoedd am dai i ffoaduriaid, ac i ddyylanwadu ar bolisiau Cyfarwyddiaeth Tai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru. Ein partneriaid yn y gwaith hwn yw: Ymddiriedolaeth Elusennol Cymdeithasau Tai (Hact), Shelter, Sefydliad Tai Siartredig Cymru, Tai Pawb, Llais Ffoaduriaid Cymru, Tai Cymunedol Cymru, Sefydliadau Cymunedol Ffoaduriaid a darparwyr tai.

DEFENDING ASYLUM-SEEKING CHILDREN

Advocacy for Unaccompanied Children Seeking Asylum

Every year, hundreds of children who are unaccompanied by parents or guardians arrive in the UK and claim asylum. They come from the world's most dangerous countries: Afghanistan, Iraq and Democratic Republic of Congo, for example. Some make their own way to Wales while others are dispersed from London to live in Welsh cities while their asylum claim is assessed. They are among the most vulnerable children in Wales. Most speak no English. Of greatest concern are those who are wrongly assessed either by the UK Border Agency (UKBA) or local authorities as being over 18, as they are expected to live independently unless they can successfully challenge the age assessment decision.

Children who arrive alone and are wrongly assessed as adults are liable to be detained and deported. They turn to the Welsh Refugee Council for help. The Welsh Refugee Council's Children's Advocacy Officer delivers support, advice and advocacy to these lonely and frightened children. This is the only post of its kind in Wales for unaccompanied children seeking asylum who arrive in or are dispersed here.

Between April 2009 and March 2010 the Children's Advocacy Officer supported around 70 unaccompanied children. There is an urgent need for best-practice guidance for social workers in Wales on conducting age assessments and appeals against age assessment decisions, to ensure that age-disputed unaccompanied children are provided with appropriate advocacy support.

Welsh Refugee Council is working with a range of agencies to promote best practice.

Case study

Z was an age disputed minor who stated that he was 14 years old. He had been housed with other male adults in a shared house. His appearance and behaviour was very childlike and he needed continuous help and support. He would come to see the Children's Advocacy Officer at least three times a week because he was feeling very vulnerable. She helped him in the following way -

- Talking to him to allow him to share his problems
- Arranging visits to the doctor
- Making solicitor's appointments
- Taking him to see specialist paediatricians as it was felt that he may have learning difficulties
- Guiding him through the asylum process
- Sitting in on the age assessment process with him
- Accompanying him to the Asylum & Immigration Tribunal hearing
- Advocating for more suitable accommodation
- Providing practical help with budgeting, shopping etc.

At the Asylum & Immigration Tribunal hearing the judge agreed that Z did appear to be 14 years old and hence he was granted discretionary leave to remain in the UK. The Children's Advocacy Officer referred him immediately to social services and he was placed into foster care. Since being in foster placement, Z continues to visit WRC's Children's Advocacy Officer for advice and advocacy.

Ending detention of children

Welsh Refugee Council continued to speak out against the detention of children in 2009-2010. Our Children's Policy Officer worked with Cardiff MP Jenny Willott who has pledged to repeatedly question UK Government on the detention of children. In response to a critical report by Chief Prisons Inspector Anne Owers in March 2010 Mike Lewis, Chief Executive of the Welsh Refugee Council made a public statement:



'It shouldn't be this hard to change government policy. There should not need to be report after report raising concerns. The solution is simple – stop putting the children of asylum seekers into detention centres. In the experience of the Welsh Refugee Council, the vast majority of asylum seekers want to comply with the obligations of the asylum system. Parents with young children are in no position to 'disappear'. The Border Agency has their addresses if it needs to contact them, it does not need to lock them up.'

AMDDIFFYN PLANT SY’N CEISIO LLOCHEΣ

Eiriolaeth i blant sy’n ceisio lloches ar eu pen eu hunain

Bob blwyddyn, bydd cannoedd o blant nad ydynt yng nghwmni rhieni neu warchodwyr yn cyraedd y DU ac yn hawlio lloches. Dônt o wledydd peryclaf y byd: Afganistan, Irac a Gweriniaeth Ddemocratiaidd y Congo, er enghraift. Bydd rhai’n teithio i Gymru ohonynt eu hunain ac eraill yn cael eu gwasgaru o Lundain i fw mewn dinasoedd yng Nghymru tra bo’u cais am lloches yn cael ei asesu. Dyma rai o blant mwyaf diamddiffyn Cymru. Nid yw'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt yn siarad unrhyw Saesneg. Y rhai sy’n peri’r pryer mwyaf yw’r rhai a asesir yn anghywir naill ai gan Asiantaeth Ffiniau’r DU neu awdurdodau lleol fel unigolion dros 18 oed, gan fod disgwl iddynt fyw’n annibynnol oni ellir herio’r penderfyniad asesu oedran yn llwyddiannus.

Mae plant sy’n cyraedd ar eu pen eu hunain, ac yr asesir yn anghywir eu bod yn oedolion, yn agored i gael eu cadw a’u halltudio. Byddant yn troi at Gyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru am gymorth. Bydd Swyddog Eiriolaeth Plant Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru’n cynnig cymorth, cyngor ac eiriolaeth i’r plant unig ac ofnus hyn. Dyma’r unig swydd o’i math yng Nghymru ar gyfer plant sy’n ceisio lloches ar eu pen eu hunain, ac sy’n cyraedd neu’n cael eu gwasgaru i’r wlad.

Rhwng mis Ebrill 2009 a mis Mawrth 2010 bu’r Swyddog Eiriolaeth Plant yn cefnogi oddeutu 70 o blant sydd ar eu pen eu hunain. Mae angen canllawiau arfer gorau ar frys i weithwyr cymdeithasol yng Nghymru ynglŷn â chynnal asesiadau oedran ac apelau yn erbyn penderfyniadau asesu oedran, i sicrhau bod plant sydd ar eu pen eu hunain, y ceir anghytundeb

ynghŷn â'u hoedran, yn cael cefnogaeth eiriol briodol. Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru’n gweithio gydag amrywiaeth o asiantaethau er mwyn hyrwyddo arfer da.

Astudiaeth achos

Bu anghytundeb ynglŷn ag oedran y bachgen Z, a fynnai ei fod yn 14 oed. Fe’i cartrefwyd gyda dynion eraill mewn tŷ amlbreswyl. Roedd yn ymddangos ac yn ymddw yn debyg iawn i blentyn, ac roedd arno angen cymorth a chefnogaeth barhaus. Byddai’n ymweld â’r Swyddog Eiriolaeth Plant o leiaf deirgwaith yr wythnos gan ei fod yn teimlo’n bryderus iawn. Dyma sut aeth y Swyddog ati i’w helpu:-

- Siarad ag ef a rhoi cyfle iddo rannu ei broblemau
- Trefnu ymweliadau â’r meddyg
- Gwneud apwyntiadau gyda chyfreithiwr
- Mynd ag o i weld paediatregwyr arbenigol gan fod amheuaeth y gallai fod yn cael anawsterau dysgu
- Ei dywys drwy’r broses lloches
- Eistedd i mewn gydag ef yn y broses asesu oedran
- Mynd gydag ef i wrandawiad y Tribiwnlys Lloches a Mewnfudo
- Eiriol drosto am lety mwy addas
- Rhoi cymorth ymarferol gyda chyllidebu, siopa ac ati.

Yng ngwrandawiad y Tribiwnlys Lloches a Mewnfudo cytunodd y barnwr fod Z yn ymddangos yn 14 oed, ac felly rhoddwyd caniatâd yn ôl disgrifiwn iddo aros yn y DU. Cafodd ei atgyfeirio ar unwaith gan y Swyddog Eiriolaeth Plant i’r gwasanaethau cymdeithasol ac fe’i lleolwyd gyda theulu maeth. Ers hynny, mae Z wedi parhau i ymweld â’r Swyddog Eiriolaeth

Plant er mwyn cael cyngor ac eiriolaeth.

Rhoi terfyn ar gadw plant yn y ddalfa

Parhaodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru i fynegi eu gwrthwynebiad i gadw plant yn y ddalfa yn 2009-2010. Bu ein Swyddog Polisi Plant yn gweithio gydag AS Caerdydd, Jenny Willott, sydd wedi addo codi cwestiynau drosodd a throsodd yn San Steffan yng Nghylch Cadw plant yn y ddalfa. Mewn ymateb i adroddiad beirniadol gan yr Arolygydd Carchardai Anne Owers ym mis Mawrth 2010, gwnaeth Mike Lewis, Prif Weithredwr Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru ddatganiad cyhoeddus:

‘Ni ddylai fod mor anodd â hyn i newid polisi’r llywodraeth. Ni ddylid bod angen adroddiad ar ôl adroddiad yn codi pryderon. Mae’r ateb yn symli – rhowch derfyn ar gadw plant ceiswyr lloches mewn canolfannau cadw. Yn ôl profiad y Cyngor Ffoaduriaid, mae mwyaf helaeth y ceiswyr lloches am gydymffurfio â gofynion y system lloches. Nid yw rhieni â phlant ifanc mewn sefyllfa i ‘ddiflannu’. Mae gan yr Asiantaeth Ffiniau eu cyfeiriadau os am gysylltu â nhw, does dim angen eu rhoi dan glo.’





PROMOTING REFUGEE TALENTS

Volunteering and training

In the year 2009-2010, 25 refugee volunteers were found placements in a range of organisations and were supported in those placements by the Welsh Refugee Council volunteer co-ordinator. In October 2009 Welsh Refugee Council organised an all Wales conference on volunteering to promote the mutual benefits derived from offering refugees the opportunity to volunteer in workplaces in Wales.

In Volunteering Week (June 2009) Welsh Refugee Council, with Cardiff Ethnic Minority Communities First Partnership, organised a community event on volunteering in which many agencies and organisations involved in volunteering came to exhibit their talents.

In early 2010 the Welsh Assembly Government set up the Refugee Employment and Skills Group as part of efforts to implement the Refugee Inclusion Strategy. Welsh Refugee Council was a founder member of the group.

Welsh Refugee Council works closely with Cardiff University to support refugees to become qualified teachers and interpreters. 15 refugees enrolled in the PGCE course in 2009-10. A further 18 refugees were supported to attend courses in interpreting which will lead to the Chartered Institute of Linguistics Diploma.

Throughout 2009-2010 Welsh Refugee Council continued to build capacity among Refugee Community Organisations (RCOs) by providing targeted training sessions. Refugee Community Organisations were provided with training courses run by Welsh Refugee Council or in partnership with Cardiff University, on charity governance, strategic planning, financial management and fundraising, research skills and I.T.

We also organized and jointly held an awareness raising event with the Welsh Assembly Government to encourage highly skilled refugees to apply for public appointments.

Welsh Refugee Council designed and delivered three sessions on Volunteering and Work Placement for young refugees for the African Friendship Association to encourage young refugees to contribute to their communities through volunteering and active citizenship and to inspire them to improve their employability and understanding of world of work.



PROMOTING A FAIRER ASYLUM SYSTEM FOR PEOPLE SEEKING SAFETY

Welsh Refugee Council believes that more scrutiny is needed to ensure that, in Wales, a place of safety is provided to those who need it. Welsh Refugee Council encourages the Welsh Assembly to play its part in scrutinising the fairness of the asylum system as it affects asylum seekers in Wales. We welcome the work of Bethan Jenkins AM in setting up the Welsh Assembly Cross Party Group on Human Rights and Asylum in 2009 and Welsh Refugee Council have regularly attended meetings of this group to provide expertise and to advocate on behalf of asylum seekers and refugees.

Welsh Refugee Council responded to allegations made in early 2010 about disrespectful attitudes to asylum seekers in the UK Border Agency's Cardiff office.

Legal advice

The lack of legal advisors able to represent asylum seekers at all stages of the asylum process is an acute problem in Wales, and in the latter part of 2009 there were no lawyers available in Swansea. Welsh Refugee Council raised concerns with the Legal Services Commission and worked in partnership with the legal charity Asylum Justice to support them to provide pro bono legal representation for refused asylum seekers.

From November 2009 Refused asylum seekers were no longer able to submit further evidence by post, they were required to travel to Liverpool to submit evidence in person. This created logistical problems for destitute people, and refused asylum seekers became fearful that they would be detained on arrival in Liverpool. Welsh Refugee Council and Asylum Justice jointly raised concerns about the changes in policy.

Challenging Destitution

Welsh Refugee Council, with the agencies of the Asylum Support Partnership, published 'the Second Destitution Tally', which showed the extent of destitution seen by leading refugee agencies. In May 2009 the Destitution Tally was covered on BBC News 24 and in the Guardian and the Welsh destitution data was covered in the Western Mail, ITV Wales and Radio Cymru.

HYRWYDDO TALENTAU FFOADURIAID

Gwirfoddoli a hyfforddi

Yn ystod y flwyddyn 2009-2010 canfuwyd 25 o leoliadau i ffoaduriaid wifoddoli mewn amrywiaeth o sefydliadau, ac fe'u cefnogwyd yn y lleoliadau hynny gan gydgylltydd gwirfoddol. Ym mis Hydref 2009 trefnodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru gynhadledd Cymru gyfan ar wifoddoli er mwyn hyrwyddo'r cydfuddiant a ddaw drwy gynnig cyfle i ffoaduriaid wifoddoli yn y gweithle yng Nghymru.

Yn ystod Yr Wythnos Gwirfoddoli (Mehefin 2009) trefnodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru, gyda Phartneriaeth Cymunedau yn Gyntaf Lleiafrif Ethnig Caerdydd, ddigwyddiad gwirfoddoli cymunedol lle daeth nifer o asiantaethau a sefydliadau sy'n ymwneud â gwirfoddoli i arddangos eu talentau.

Yn gynnar yn 2010 ffurfiodd Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'r Grŵp Sgiliau a Chyflogaeth Ffoaduriaid yn rhan o'r ymdrech i roi'r Strategaeth Cynnwys Ffoaduriaid ar waith. Roedd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n aelod-sylfaenyd y grŵp.

Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n gweithio'n agos â Phrifysgol Caerdydd i gynorthwyo ffoaduriaid i gymhwys fel athrawon a dehonglwr. Cofrestrodd 15 o ffoaduriaid ar y cwrs ymarfer dysgu yn 2009-10. Cynorthwywyd 18 o ffoaduriaid eraill i fynychu cyrsiau dehongli a fydd yn arwain at Ddiploma'r Sefydliad Leithyddiaeth Siartredig.

Drwy gydol 2009-2010 parhaodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru i gynyddu gallu ymmsg Sefydliadau Cymunedol Ffoaduriaid drwy ddarparu sesiynau hyfforddi wedi'u targedu. Darparwyd cyrsiau hyfforddi i Sefydliadau Cymunedol Ffoaduriaid wedi'u cynnal gan Gyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru neu mewn partneriaeth â Phrifysgol Caerdydd, ar reoli elusen, cynllunio strategol, rheoli cyllid a chodi arian, sgiliau ymchwil a TG.

Gwnaethom hefyd drefnu digwyddiad codi ymwybyddiaeth a gynhalwyd ar y cyd â Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru i annog ffoaduriaid a chanddynt lefel uchel o sgiliau i ymgeisio am swyddi cyhoeddus.

Cynlluniodd a chynhaliodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru dair sesiwn ar Wifoddoli a Lleoliadau Gwaith i ffoaduriaid ifanc ar gyfer y Gymdeithas Cyfeillgarwch Africanaidd er mwyn annog ffoaduriaid ifanc i gyfrannu i'w cymunedau drwy wifoddoli a dinasyddiaeth weithgar, ac i'w hysbrydoli i wella'u cyflogadwyedd a'u dealltwriaeth o'r byd gwaith.



HYRWYDDO SYSTEM LOCHEΣ DECACH I BOBL SY'N CEISIO DIOGELWCH

Cred Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru fod angen mwy o graffu i sicrhau lle diogel yng Nghymru i'r rhai hynny sydd ei angen. Mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n annog Cynulliad Cymru i chwarae ei ran wrth graffu ar degwch y system loches gan ei bod yn effeithio ar geiswyr lloches yng Nghymru. Rydym yn croesawu gwaith Bethan Jenkins AC i sefydlu Grŵp Trawsbleidiol Cynulliad Cymru ar Hawliau Dynol a Lloches yn 2009 ac mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru wedi mynychu cyfarfodydd y grŵp hwn yn rheolaidd er mwyn cynnig ei arbenigedd ac eiriol ar ran ceiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid.

Ymatebodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru i'r honiadau a wnaed yn gynnar yn 2010 ynglŷn ag agweddau amharchus tug at geiswyr lloches yn swyddfa Asiantaeth Ffiniau'r DU yng Nghaerdydd.

Cyngor cyfreithiol

Mae prinder y cyngorwyr cyfreithiol a all gynrychioli ceiswyr lloches ym mhob cam o'r broses lloches yn broblem ddifrifol yng Nghymru, ac yn enwedig yn rhan olaf 2009 pan nad oedd unrhyw gyfreithwyr ar gael yn Abertawe. Cododd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru bryderon gyda'r Comisiwn Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a bu'n gweithio mewn partneriaeth â'r elusen gyfreithiol Asylum Justice i'w chynorthwyo i ddarparu cynrychiolaeth gyfreithiol pro bono i geiswyr lloches y gwrthodwyd eu hachos.

O fis Tachwedd 2009 nid oedd modd i geiswyr lloches gwrthoddedig gyflwyno dystiolaeth bellach drwy'r post. Roedd gofyn iddynt deithio i Lerpwl i gyflwyno dystiolaeth wyneb yn wyneb. Achosodd hyn broblemau logisteg i bobl anghenus, a dechreuodd ceiswyr lloches gwrthoddedig ofni y byddent yn cael eu cadw wedi iddynt gyrraedd Lerpwl. Cododd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru ac Asylum Justice bryderon ar y cyd ynglŷn â'r newidiadau i'r polisi.

Herio Amddifadrwydd

Cyhoeddodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru, ar y cyd ag asiantaethau'r Bartneriaeth Cefnogi Lloches, The Second Destitution Tally, a ddangosai faint yr amddifadrwydd a welir gan y prif asiantaethau ffoaduriaid. Ym mis Mai 2009 trafodwyd y Destitution Tally ar BBC News 24 ac yn y Guardian, ac fe drafodwyd data amddifadrwydd Cymru yn y Western Mail ac ar ITV Wales a Radio Cymru.

'IN OUR OWN WORDS': PROMOTING REFUGEE VOICES

Improving language skills

Asylum seekers and refugees are keen to improve their language skills - with these skills, many other things become possible – they can read official letters and documents, find their way around their locality, speak to doctors, teachers etc. and show appreciation to those who welcome them. Demand for beginners' English classes far outstrips supply and more high-quality, intensive English and Welsh language classes are needed for refugees and colleges and learning centres that are running popular and successful courses need support to expand provision.

Welsh Refugee Council helps in a practical way by organizing informal classes for asylum seekers and refugees who speak no English in its Cardiff, Wrexham and Newport offices. Some classes are run by refugee volunteers who have already learnt English, others are run by teachers from the Parade centre. In the year 2009-2010 over 100 people gained basic English skills due the classes run by the Welsh Refugee Council. In Cardiff, 15 students progressed to pass levels one, two and three of basic English and are now taking advanced courses.

Welsh Refugee Council organised focus groups for researchers and was a member of the Expert Advisory Panel for the research report: 'Review of the Provision of English for Speakers of Other Languages in Wales' which was published by the Welsh Assembly Government in February 2010.

Women's voices

In 2009 Welsh Refugee Council set up a women's group in its Cardiff office for refugee and asylum seeking women, and for their children. The Women's Group allows women to share experiences, make firm friendships and build trust.

Sessions have covered health, dance, cookery, craft and getting out and about in Cardiff. Activities are arranged following informal discussions with members and where possible cultural themes are drawn upon to reflect diversity. Sherman Theatre has run singing sessions that include songs from different countries in a variety of languages

Research interviews with refugees

September 2009 saw the publication of the research report: Refugees living in Wales: A survey of skills, experiences and barriers to inclusion. The research was a partnership project funded by the Welsh Assembly Government, Wales Strategic Migration Partnership and Welsh Refugee Council, and conducted by the Centre for Migration Policy Research at Swansea University. The research explores, for the first time, the background, skills and experiences of refugees living in Wales and the barriers to their potential inclusion as part of Welsh society. Most of the interviews with refugees were carried out in Welsh Refugee Council's offices.



Performing: Refugee Week Wales 2009

Refugee Week Wales is co-ordinated every year by the Welsh Refugee Council. In 2009 we partnered with Swansea Waterfront Museum for a day long launch party of live music performances, attended by around 2000 people. Organisations in Wrexham, Newport, Cardiff and Swansea, and elsewhere in Wales, hosted cultural, sporting and educational events throughout the week, including Cardiff's Sherman Theatre where Benjamin Zephania and Shappi Khorsandi performed.

Photographs of refugees in Wales

Stunning portrait photographs were commissioned by the Welsh Refugee Council showing Iraqi refugees who have settled in Wales. The 'Life after Iraq' photographs, with information about the lives of the subjects, were exhibited in the Swansea Waterfront Museum and the Pierhead building in Cardiff between June and August 2009, and appeared in the Western Mail newspaper. Wrexham library held an exhibition of photographs by the late Chris Ryder, who gave his time voluntarily to photograph events involving refugees in Wales.

'Life after Iraq' took me into the lives of the people portrayed in the pictures. Brings home how lucky we are to be free from conflict and oppression. Almost unbearable and brave stories of human suffering and courage. The old lady with the hijab – the eyes say it all' (comments in visitor book)

Conversation café: Caffi Bala Baghdad

At the National Eisteddfod in Bala Welsh Refugee Council's stall became a colourful Iraqi café with authentic music, poetry and mint tea. Thousands of visitors chose to relax and chat to Welsh Refugee Council's Welsh and Iraqi team. The café was featured on the BBC Wales website, 2 radio stations and 1 podcast. The Caffi won runner-up prize for the WCVA 'Best Communications Project by a Voluntary Sector Organisation 2009'.

'This is the coolest stand in the Eisteddfod.'

'What a nice place to come to chill out and have an interesting conversation.'

'I want to learn more about asylum seekers and refugees after coming here.'
(visitor comments)

Sharing experience

WRC staff regularly run awareness-raising and training sessions across Wales about working with refugees.

'YN EIN GEIRIAU NI'N HUNAIN': HYRWYDDO LLEISIAU FFOADURIAID

Gwella sgiliau iaith

Mae ceiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid yn awyddus i wella'u sgiliau iaith - gyda'r sgiliau hyn, daw llawer o bethau eraill yn bosibl - gallant ddarllen llythyrau a dogfennau swyddogol, mynd o fan i fan yn eu hardal leol, siarad â meddygon, athrawon ac ati, a dangos eu gwerthfawrogiad i'r rhai sy'n eu croesawu. Mae'r galw am wersi i ddechreuwyr Saesneg yn llawer uwch na'r cyflenwad ohonynt, ac mae angen mwy o wersi iaith Saesneg a Chymraeg dwys o ansawdd uchel i ffoaduriaid. Yn ogystal â hyn, mae ar golegau a chanolfannau dysgu sy'n cynnal cyrsiau poblogaidd angen cefnogaeth i ehangu eu darpariaeth. Cynhelir rhai gwersi gan ffoaduriaid sy'n wirfoddolwyr sydd eisoes wedi dysgu Saesneg. Cynhelir gwersi eraill gan athrawon o Ganolfan y Parade. Yn y flwyddyn 2009-2010 enillodd dros 100 o bobl sgiliau Saesneg sylfaenol drwy'r gwersi a gynhelir gan Gyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru. Yng Nghaerdydd, aeth 15 o fyfyrwyr yn eu blaen i basio Saesneg sylfaenol lefel un, dau a thri, ac maent bellach yn dilyn cyrsiau uwch.

Trefnodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid grwpiau ffocws i ymchwilwyr, ac roedd yn aelod o'r Panel Cyngori Arbenigol ar gyfer yr adroddiad ymchwil: 'Adolygiad o'r Ddarpariaeth Saesneg i Siaradwyr leithoedd Eraill yng Nghymru' a gyhoeddwyd gan Lywodraeth Cynlliaid Cymru fis Chwefror 2010.

Lleisiau'r merched

Yn 2009 sefydlodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru grŵp merched yn ei swyddfa yng Nghaerdydd i ferched a oedd yn ffoi neu'n ceisio lloches, a'u plant. Mae'r Grŵp Merched yn rhoi cyfle i ferched rannu profiadau, gwneud ffrindiau da ac ennyn ymddiriedaeth.

Mae'r sesiynau wedi trafod iechyd, dawns, coginio a chelf a chrefft, gan gynnwys troeon o amgylch Caerdydd. Trefnir gweithgareddau yn dilyn trafodaethau anffurfiol ag aelodau, a lle bo'n bosibl defnyddir themâu diwylliannol i adlewyrchu amrywiaeth. Mae Theatr Sherman wedi cynnal sesiynau canu sy'n cynnwys caneuon o wahanol wledydd mewn amrywiaeth o ieithoedd.

Cyfweliadau ymchwil â ffoaduriaid

Ym mis Medi 2009 cyhoeddwyd yr adroddiad ymchwil: Refugees living in Wales: A survey of skills, experiences and barriers to inclusion. Prosiect partneriaeth oedd yr ymchwil a ariannwyd gan Lywodraeth Cynlliaid Cymru, Partneriaeth Ymfudo Strategol Cymru a Chyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru, ac a gynhalwyd gan Heaven Crawley a Tina Crimes o'r Ganolfan er Ymchwil ar Bolisi Ymfudo ym Mhrifysgol Abertawe. Mae'r ymchwil yn archwilio, am y tro cyntaf, gefndir, sgiliau a phrofiadau ffoaduriaid sy'n byw yng Nghymru a'r hyn sy'n rhwystro'r potensial o'u cynnwys yn rhan o gymdeithas yng Nghymru. Cynhalwyd y rhan fwyaf o'r cyfweliadau â ffoaduriaid yn swyddfeiddyd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru.

Perfformio: Wythnos Ffoaduriaid Cymru 2009

Cydlynir Wythnos Ffoaduriaid Cymru bob blwyddyn gan Gyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru. Cynhaliodd sefydliadau yn Wrecsam,

Casnewydd, Caerdydd ac Abertawe, ac yn rhannau eraill o Gymru, ddigwyddiadau ym maes diwylliant, chwaraeon ac addysg drwy gydol yr wythnos, gan gynnwys perfformiadau gan Benjamin Zephania a Shappi Khorsandi yn Theatr Sherman Caerdydd.

Ffotograffau o ffoaduriaid yng Nghymru

Cafodd ffotograffau portread syfrdanol eu comisiynu gan Gyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru a ddarluniau ffoaduriaid o Irac sydd bellach wedi ymgartrefu yng Nghymru. Cafodd ffotograffau 'Bywyd ar ôl Irac', ynghyd â gwybodaeth am fywydau'r unigolion yn y lluniau, eu harddangos yn Amgueddfa'r Glannau Abertawe ac adeilad y Pierhead yng Nghaerdydd rhwng mis Mehefin ac Awst 2009. Ymddangosodd y ffotograffau hefyd ym mhapur newydd y Western Mail. Cynhalwyd arddangosfa o ffotograffau gan y diweddar Chris Ryder, a roddodd ei amser yn wirfoddol i dynnu ffotograffau o ddigwyddiadau'n gysylltiedig â ffoaduriaid yng Nghymru.

'Gwnaeth 'Bywyd ar ôl Irac' fy nhywys i fywydau'r bobl a bortreadwyd yn y lluniau. Mae'n gwneud i rywun sylweddoli pa mor lwcus yr ydym ni i fod yn rhydd rhag rhyfel a gorthrwm.'

Hanesion sydd bron â bod yn annioddefol am ddewrder pobl yn wyneb dioddefaint. Yr hen wraig gyda'r hijab – mae'r llygaid yn dweud y cyfan' (sylwadau yn y llyfr ymwelwyr)

Caffi sgwrsio: Caffi Bala Baghdad

Yn yr Eisteddfod Genedlaethol yn y Bala, trowyd stondin Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n gaffi Iracaidd Iliwgar gyda cherddoriaeth o'r wlad, barddoniaeth a the mintys. Dewisodd miloedd o ymwelwyr gyrryd hoe i sgwrsio â thîm Cymreig ac Irac Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru. Trafodwyd y caffi ar wefan BBC Wales, 2 or saf radio ac 1 podlediad. Enillodd y caffi ail wobr Cyngor Gweithredu Gwirfoddol Cymru am 'Brosiect Cyfathrebu Gorau 2009 gan Sefydliad o'r Sector Gwirfoddol'.

'Dyma'r stondin mwyaf cwl yn yr Eisteddfod.'

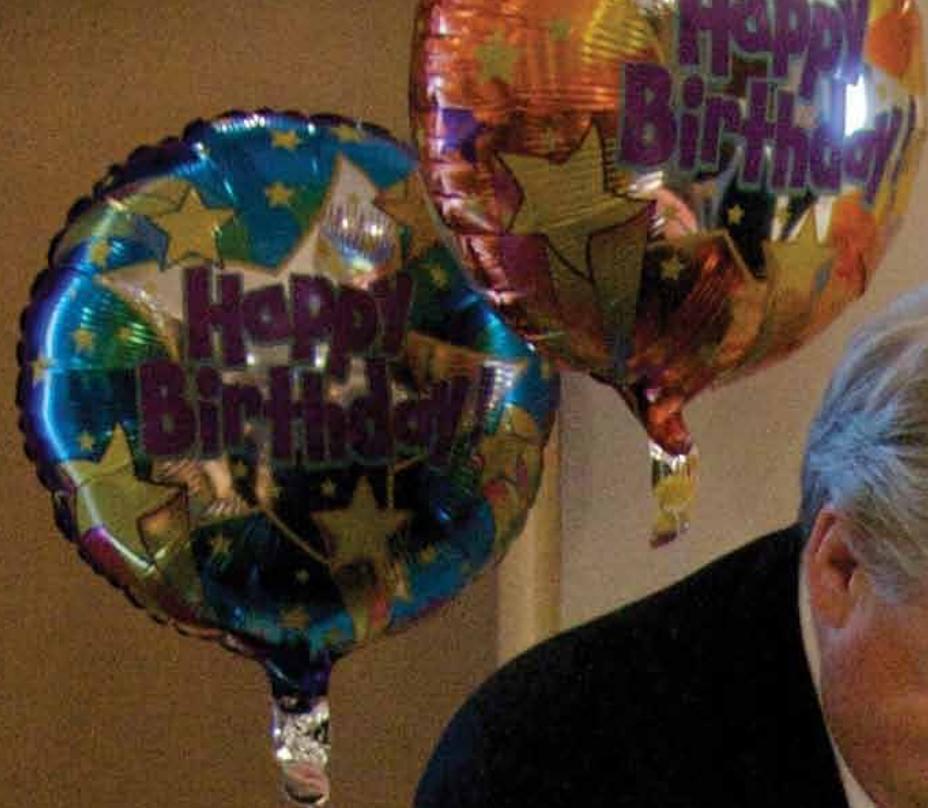
'Am le braf i ddod i ymlacio a chael sgwrs ddiddorol.'

'Rwyf am ddysgu mwy am geiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid ar ôl dod yma.' (sylwadau ymwelwyr)

Rhannu profiadau

Bydd staff Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n cynnal sesiynau rheolaidd ledled Cymru i godi ymwybyddiaeth a hyfforddi ynglŷn â gweithio gyda ffoaduriaid.





Happy
Birthday

Happy
Birthday

Happy
Birthday



Welsh Refu
Cyngor



powering
and asylum
rebuild their
ives in Wales

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER FOR 20 YEARS

In 2010, Welsh Refugee Council celebrates 20 years of providing advice and support to asylum seekers and refugees. Here are some highlights from the last 20 years.

1990

A dedicated group of refugees, politicians, and representatives of refugee community organisations, voluntary organisations and statutory bodies, came together to set up the Welsh Refugee Council – the national refugee charity for Wales. Until then, the nearest advice centre was the British Refugee Council in London. In its early days, WRC was supported by the South Glamorgan Race Equality Council through the leadership of its Director, Dr Rita Austin. Welsh Refugee Council was formally launched on February 11th 1990, the day that Nelson Mandela was released from Prison after 27th years behind bars.

Eid Ali Ahmed, founder member of the Welsh Refugee Council, now Deputy Chief Executive, was there:

"We stopped in the middle of the launch to witness the historic moment that Nelson Mandela walked free. It was very moving, especially for those of us who had suffered for human rights.'

1992

Welsh Refugee Council received a grant of £30,000 from the Home Office and was able to open its own office in Cardiff.

1996

The 1996 Immigration and Asylum Act removed housing and welfare benefits from asylum seekers and created widespread destitution for the first time. Welsh Refugee Council responded by setting up the Emergency Provision Project, in partnership with Red Cross, Cardiff & Vale Race Equality Council, Salvation Army, Churches, Mosques and Refugee Community Groups.

1997

Welsh Refugee Council commissioned Dr Vaughan Robinson from Swansea University to conduct research. This demonstrated that in Wales refugees are an 'invisible minority' and are not a priority for service providers.

1998

Welsh Refugee Council began to grow - it commissioned a strategic review to guide its work, it secured trust funding for development work and agreements were made with 14 social services departments to provide support services across Wales.

1999

As media hostility about asylum increased, Welsh Refugee Council set up the All Wales Refugee Media Group to advocate for improved reporting in Wales. The group included Oxfam, Red Cross, Barnados and Cardiff School of Journalism.

2000

Welsh Refugee Council grew rapidly as it took responsibility for providing advice and support to asylum seekers sent to Wales under the new dispersal policy. Drop-in centres were opened in Cardiff, Newport, Swansea and Wrexham.

2001

Welsh Refugee Council began to offer language workshops with support from 'Basic Skills in the Community'.

2002

The Refugee Good Health Project was established to tackle barriers to primary healthcare for asylum seekers and refugees in Wales.

2003

In response to the growing numbers of destitute people seeking help from the Welsh Refugee Council, a Hardship Fund was set up to make small emergency payments. It is supported entirely by donations.

2004

Welsh Refugee Council developed a series of initiatives to improve access to housing for refugees. WRC worked with Taff Housing on a project that helped refugees to access and manage a private sector tenancy. Research was carried out with Professor Vaughan Robinson on Refugee Housing in Wales, funded by HACT. Welsh Refugee Council's Move-on advisors began to give advice on the transition to independent accommodation.

2005

The WRC Equal Project was set up to support refugees into employment, training and enterprises through volunteering and work placements funded by the European Social Fund.

2006

Welsh Refugee Council provided funding and office space to support the development of the umbrella group for refugee communities: Refugee Voice Wales.

2007

Welsh Refugee Council conducted the Refugee Skills Audit which was the first of its kind in Wales.

2008

Following consultations with refugee communities that were facilitated by the Welsh Refugee Council, Minister for Social Justice and Local Authorities Dr. Brian Gibbons launched the Welsh Assembly's Refugee Inclusion Strategy. The Strategy sets out a positive agenda to support refugees and asylum seekers to rebuild their lives in Wales and play an active part in Welsh community life. Following a sustained campaign led by the Welsh Refugee Council, Health Minister Edwina Hart announced that the Welsh Assembly Government would allow refused asylum seekers access to healthcare, contrary to restrictions in England.

2009

Welsh Refugee Council sets up a Children's Unit to meet the needs of refugee children, including those who arrive in Wales alone. Welsh Refugee Council co-ordinates the new Refugee Integration and Employment Service across Wales. This service works with people who have recently been granted refugee status to help them secure training, employment and accommodation.



SEFYLL GYDA’N GILYDD AM UGAIN MLYNEDD

Yn 2010, mae Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n dathlu 20 mlynedd o roi cyngor a chefnogaeth i geiswyr lloches a ffaoaduriaid. Dyma rai o'r uchafbwntiau o'r 20 mlynedd diwethaf.

1990

Daeth grŵp ymroddedig o ffaoaduriaid, gwleidyddion a chynrychiolwyr sefydliadau cymunedol ffaoaduriaid, sefydliadau gwirfoddol a chyrff statudol ynghyd i sefydlu Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru – elusen genedlaethol ffaoaduriaid yng Nghymru. Tan hynny, y ganolfan gynghori agosaf oedd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Prydain yn Llundain. Yn ei ddyddiau cynnar, cefnogwyd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru gan Gyngor Cydraddoldeb Hiliol De Morganwg o dan arweinyddiaeth ei Gyfarwyddwr, Dr Rita Austin. Cafodd y Cyngor ei lansiō'n ffurfiol ar 11 Chwefror 1990, ar yr un diwrnod ag y rhuddhawyd Nelson Mandela o'r carchar wedi treulio 27 o flynyddoedd dan glo.

Roedd Eid Ali Ahmed, aelod-sylfaenydd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru, sydd bellach yn Ddirprwy Brif Weithredwr y Cyngor, yno ar y pryd:

“Oeddodd pawb ohonom yng nghanol y lansiad i weld y foment hanesyddol pan gerddodd Nelson Mandela yn rhydd. Roedd yn achlysur emosiynol, yn enwedig i'r rhai hynny ohonom a oedd wedi dioddef dros hawliau dynol.”

1992

Derbyniodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru grant o £30,000 gan y Swyddfa Gartref a bu modd iddo agor ei swyddfa ei hun yng Nghaerdydd.

1996

Yn sgil Deddf Lloches a Mewnfudo 1996 tynnwyd budd-daliadau tai a lles i geiswyr lloches yn ôl gan greu amddifadrwydd mawr am y tro cyntaf. Ymatebodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru drwy sefydlu'r Prosiect Darpariaeth mewn Argyfwng, mewn partneriaeth â'r Groes Goch, Cyngor Cydraddoldeb Hiliol Caerdydd a'r Fro, Byddin yr Iachadwriaeth, Eglwysi, Mosgiau a Grwpiau Cymunedol Ffoaduriaid.

1997

Comisiynwyd Dr Vaughan Robinson o Brifysgol Abertawe gan Gyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru i gyflawni gwaith ymchwil. Dangosai'r gwaith mai lleiafrif anweledig yw ffaoaduriaid yng Nghymru, ac nad yw darparwyr gwasanaeth yn eu hystyried yn flaenorriaeth.

1998

Datbreuodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru dyfu – comisiynodd adolygiad strategol i lywio'i waith, sicrhaoedd arian ymddiriedolaeth ar gyfer ei waith datblygu a lluniwyd cytundebau ag 14 o adrannau gwasanaethau cymdeithasol i ddarparu gwasanaethau cymorth ledled Cymru.

1999

Wrth i'r cyfryngau droi'n fwyfwy gelyniaethus eu hagwedd at faterion lloches, sefydlwyd Grŵp Cyfryngau Ffoaduriaid Cymru i eiriol dros ohebu gwell yng Nghymru. Roedd y grŵp yn cynnwys Oxfam, Y Groes Goch, Barnardos ac Ysgol Newyddiaduraeth Caerdydd.

2000

Tyfodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n gyflym wrth iddo gymryd cyfrifoldeb am roi cyngor a chefnogaeth i geiswyr lloches a anfonir i Gymru o dan y polisi gwasgaru newydd. Agorwyd canolfannau galw heibio yng

Nghaerdydd, Casnewydd, Abertawe a Wrecsam.

2001

Dechreuodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru gynnig gweithdai iaith gyda chefnogaeth 'Sgilau Sylfaenol yn y Gymuned'.

2002

Sefydlwyd y Prosiect lechyd Da Ffoaduriaid i fynd i'r afael a ffactorau a oedd yn rhwystro ceiswyr lloches a ffaoaduriaid yng Nghymru rhag cael gofal ieched y cychwynnol.

2003

Mewn ymateb i'r nifer cnyddol o bobl anghenus a oedd yn gofyn am gymorth gan Gyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru, sefydlwyd Cronfa Galedi er mwyn gwneud mân daliadau brys. Cefnogir y gronfa'n gyfan gwbl drwy gyfraniadau.

2004

Datblygodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru gyfres o fentrau i wella mynediad ffaoaduriaid at dai. Bu'r Cyngor yn gweithio gyda Thai Taf ar brosiect a gynorthwyodd ffaoaduriaid i gael mynediad at, ac ymdopi gyda thenantiaeth sector preifat.

Cynhalwyd gwaith ymchwil wedi'i ariannu gan HACT gyda'r Athro Vaughan Robinson ar Dai i Ffoaduriaid yng Nghymru. Dechreuodd cyngorwrwyr Symud Ymlaen Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru roi cyngor am drosglwyddo i lety annibynnol.

2005

Sefydlwyd Prosiect Cyfartal Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru i gynorthwy ffaoaduriaid i gael swyddi, hyfforddiant neu i ddechrau busnesau drwy leoliadau gwaith a gwirfoddoli. Ariennir y prosiect drwy Gronfa Gymdeithasol Ewrop.

2006

Darparodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru gyllid a gofod swyddfa

i gefnogi datblygiad y grŵp ambarél gyfer cymunedau o ffaoaduriaid: Llais Ffoaduriaid Cymru.

2007

Cynhaliodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru yr Archwiliad Sgilau Ffoaduriaid, sef y cyntaf o'i fath yng Nghymru.

2008

Yn dilyn ymgynghoriadau â chymunedau o ffaoaduriaid a gynhalwyd gan Gyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru, lansiodd y Gweinidog dros Gyflawnder Cymdeithasol ac Awdurdodau Lleol Dr. Brian Gibbons Strategaeth Cynnwys Ffoaduriaid Cynulliad Cymru. Yn y Strategaeth, nodir agenda cadarnhaol i gynorthwyo ffaoaduriaid a cheiswyr lloches i ailadeiladu eu bywydau yng Nghymru ac i chwarae rhan weithgar ym mywyd cymunedol y wlad. Yn dilyn ymgyrch ddi-ildio a arweiniwyd gan Gyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru, cyhoeddodd y Gweinidog lechyd, Edwina Hart, y byddai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru'n caniatáu i geiswyr lloches gwrthoddedig gael mynediad at ofal ieched, yn groes i'r cyfngiadau yn Lloegr.

2009

Sefydlodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Uned Plant er mwyn bodloni anghenion plant sy'n ffaoaduriaid, gan gynnwys y rhai hynny sy'n cyrraedd Cymru ar eu pen eu hunain. Cyd-gysylltodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru y gwasanaeth newydd i Integreiddio a Chyflogi Ffoaduriaid ar draws Cymru. Mae'r gwasanaeth hwn yn gweithio gyda phobl y rhoddwyd statws ffoadur iddynt yn ddiweddar, i'w helpu i gael hyfforddiant, cyflogaeth a llety.





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DAYS A WEEK



SHOULDER TO SHOULDER TODAY: ENCOURAGING LOCAL SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES

Sponsoring

In March 2010, Mike Roberts, a volunteer from Welsh Refugee Council's Wrexham office, battled snow and ice to climb the spectacular 4,408ft high Ben Nevis. He was sponsored to raise money for the Hardship Fund after first-hand experience of working with asylum seekers. The Hardship Fund meets urgent expenses, for example to pay travel costs to hospital for those who are too ill to walk, or to buy food for those that are destitute and have no other source of food.

Climber Mike Roberts said: "I knew that anything I could do to contribute and help refugees and asylum seekers in the Wrexham area would at least be a small source of relief to them."

Socialising

Cardiff STAR (Student Action for Refugees), helped by Cardiff Refugee and Asylum Seeker Welcome, held a fundraising and awareness-raising event called Refugee Rhythms at Cardiff Students' Union, in aid of Welsh Refugee Council's Hardship Fund. Approximately 300 people attended the night of global music, food and local poetry.

Neil Gokani from Cardiff STAR said: "The event was organised by students who want to see a fairer world."

Story-telling

Hundreds of children made glitter dragons with Welsh Refugee Council at the Urdd (Youth) Eisteddfod and heard stories of how refugee children escape scary experiences - 'dragons' - in their own countries to find a home in Wales, the country of the friendly dragon.

Coaching

The Refugee Diversity Wrexham football team was set up in June 2009 and is going from strength to strength with help and support from the Welsh Refugee Council Wrexham office and the Wrexham Refugee Forum. Funds have been raised to cover football kit and travel expenses and Wrexham Football Club has provided professional coaching. Joining the football team has given asylum seekers and refugees a sense of belonging and enabled them to engage with the local community.

Spreading the word

In 2009, Welsh Refugee Council's new policy and communications team worked to encourage more individuals in Wales to actively support refugees. The website was redesigned and a lively facebook fan page was started. Hundreds of people in Wales have signed up to the facebook fan page and regularly share information about activities for refugees. Welsh Refugee Council began to sell branded merchandise in 2009 to raise funds for its Hardship Fund and spread the word about its work. This included Christmas cards and 'global citizen' T-shirts.

SEFYLL GYDA'N GILYDD HEDDIW: ANNOG CEFNOGAETH I FFOADURIAID YN LLEOL

Noddi

Ym mis Mawrth 2010, brwydrodd Mike Roberts, gwirfoddolwr o swyddfa'r Cyngor Ffoaduriaid yn Wrecsam drwy rew ac eira er mwyn dringo 4,408 o droedfeddi i gopa mynydd trawiadol Ben Nevis. Fe'i noddwyd i godi arian i'r Gronfa Galedi wedi iddo gael profiad o weithio'n uniongyrchol â cheiswyr lloches. Mae'r Gronfa Galedi'n talu costau brys, er engrhaift yn talu costau teithio i'r ysbyty i'r rhai hynny sy'n rhy sâl i gerdded, neu i brynu bwyd i'r rhai hynny sy'n gwbl amddifad na allant gael bwyd o unrhyw ffynhonnell arall.

Dyweddodd y Dringwr Mike Roberts:
"Gwyddwn y byddai unrhyw beth y gallwn ei wneud i gyfrannu a rhoi cymorth i ffoaduriaid a cheiswyr lloches yn ardal Wrecsam yn rhoi rhywfaint o ollyngdod iddyn nhw o leiaf."

Cymdeithasu

Gyda chymorth Cardiff Refugee and Asylum Seeker Welcome, cynhaliodd STAR (Student Action for Refugees) Caerdydd ddigwyddiad i godi arian ac ymwybyddiaeth o'r enw Refugee Rhythms yn Undeb Myfyrwyr Caerdydd, er budd Cronfa Galedi Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru. Mynychodd oddeutu 300 o bobl y noson lle cafwyd cerddoriaeth a bwyd o bob rhan o'r byd a barddoniaeth gan feirdd lleol.

Dyweddodd Neil Gokani o STAR Caerdydd:
"Trefnwyd y digwyddiad gan fyfyrwyr sydd am weld byd sy'n decach."

Adrodd storïau

Aeth cannoedd o blant ati i greu dreigiau glitter gyda Chyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru yn Eisteddfod yr Urdd. Clywsant hefyd storïau ynglŷn â'r modd y bydd plant sy'n ffoaduriaid yn dianc rhag profiadau dychrynlyd - 'dreigiau' - yn eu gwledydd eu hunain, ac yn ymgartrefu yng Nghymru, gwlaid y ddraig gyfeillgar.

Hyfforddi

Sefydlwyd tîm pêl droed Refugee Diversity Wrexham ym mis Mehefin 2009, ac mae'n mynd o nerth i nerth gyda chymorth a chefnogaeth gan swyddfa Wrecsam Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru a Fforwm Ffoaduriaid Wrecsam. Mae arian wedi cael ei godi i brynu cit pêl droed a chostau teithio ac mae Clwb Pêl Droed Wrecsam wedi darparu hyfforddiant proffesiynol. Mae ymuno â'r tîm pêl droed wedi rhoi ymdeimlad o berthyn i geiswyr lloches a ffoaduriaid, ac wedi'u galluogi i ymgysylltu â'r gymuned leol.

Lledu'r gair

Yn 2009, bu tîm polisi a chyfathrebu newydd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru'n gweithio i annog mwy o unigolion yng Nghymru i weithredu er mwyn cefnogi ffoaduriaid. Ailddlynuniwyd y wefan a dechreuwyd tudalen fywiog i gefnogwyr ar facebook. Mae cannoedd o bobl yng Nghymru wedi ymuno â thudalen cefnogwyr facebook ac yn rhannu gwybodaeth yn rheolaidd ynglŷn â gweithgareddau i ffoaduriaid. Dechreuodd Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru werthu nwyddau wedi'u brandio yn 2009 er mwyn codi arian i'w Gronfa Galedi ac i ledu'r gair ynglŷn â'i waith. Roedd hyn yn cynnwys cardiau Nadolig a chrysau T 'dinesydd byd-eang'.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2009 - 10

INCOME	2009	2010	AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL INCOME	2009	2010	
RESTRICTED GRANT INCOME						
NASS - Home Office Grants	£1,304,014	£1,286,279	NASS - O.S.S & Initial Accom. GRANT	62.49%	49.88%	
NASS - Emergency Accommodation Grant	£0	£0	NASS Emergency Accommodation Grant	0.00%	0.00%	
Home Office - Strategic Grant	£60,000	£58,528	Home Office Integration Unit	2.88%	2.27%	
Hardship Funding	£16,736	£16,673	Welsh Assembly Government	21.51%	16.79%	
Welsh Assembly Government - Health Dev. Project	£0		Other*	13.13%	31.06%	
Welsh Assembly Government - Housing Project	£153,241	£155,539		100.00%	100.00%	
Welsh Assembly Government - Policy & Campaign	£49,905	£59,294	*OTHER: (RESTRICTED FUNDS)			
Welsh Assembly Government - Comm. & Events	£36,811	£41,712	Hardship Fund	0.80%	0.65%	
Welsh Assembly Government - Housing Dev. Officer	£45,000	£0	Refugee Week	1.84%	1.51%	
Welsh Assembly Government - Inclusion Strategy	£0	£0	Refugee Voice Wales	0.15%	0.00%	
Welsh Assembly Government - H.R. & Support	£0	£0	Wrexham Borough Council	0.29%	0.23%	
Welsh Assembly Government - CEO/PA	£101,604	£105,647	Community Foundation Wales	1.44%	1.86%	
Welsh Assembly Government - Child Advocacy	£0	£26,677	Diana Princess of Wales Memorial fund	0.60%	2.22%	
Welsh Assembly Government - Fund Raising Officer	£30,769	£44,228	BBC Children In Need	0.40%	1.17%	
Welsh Assembly Government - Inclusion Grant	£31,513	£0	Asylum Justice	0.13%	0.09%	
Refugee Voice Wales	£3,183	£0				
Wrexham Borough Council - Grant	£6,000	£6,000	*OTHER: (UNRESTRICTED FUNDS)			
Community Foundation Wales - Fairshare Projects	£30,107	£47,886	Development Forum	0.00%	0.00%	
Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Fund	£12,423	£57,172	Grant - W.C.V.A.	0.38%	0.00%	
BBC Children In Need	£8,327	£30,146	Subscriptions & Donations	0.17%	0.30%	
Asylum Justice	£2,750	£2,250	Interest Received	0.37%	0.01%	
Refugee Week	£38,500	£38,860	Management Fees	2.02%	2.28%	
UNRESTRICTED GRANT INCOME			Sundry Income (Misc. Recovery)	0.72%	0.18%	
Development Forum	£0	£0	U.K.B.A. - R.I.E.S. Service Contract	3.81%	20.58%	
Grant - W.C.V.A. -	£8,000	£0		13.13%	31.06%	
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS (OTHER)						
Subscriptions, donations and small grants	£3,604	£7,794				
Interest Received	£7,765	£164				
Management Fees	£42,054	£58,723				
Sundry Income (Misc. recovery)	£15,006	£4,579				
U.K.B.A. - R.I.E.S. Service Contract	£79,437	£530,833				
TOTAL INCOME	£2,086,749	£2,578,984				
ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE						
Pre Status expenditure		£1,861,381				
Refugee Status		£323,353				
Policy Advocacy		£270,112				
Governance		£46,390				
		£2,501,236				
Net movement in funds		£77,748				
Funds - brought forward		£111,057				
Funds - carried forward		£188,805				

These summarised statements may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity.

For further information, the full annual accounts and auditor's report on these accounts should be consulted. Copies of these can be obtained from:

The Chief Executive's Office, Welsh Refugee Council,
Phoenix House, 389 Newport Road, Cardiff CF24 1TP

DATGANIAD ARIANNOL AR GYFER 2009 - 10

INCWM	2009	2010
INCWM GRANT WEDI'I GYFYNGU		
NASS - Grantiau'r Swyddfa Gartref	£1,304,014	£1,286,279
NASS - Grant Llety Brys	£0	£0
Y Swyddfa Gartref - Grant Strategol	£60,000	£58,528
Cronfa Galedi	£16,736	£16,673
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru - Prospect Datblygu Iechyd	£0	
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru - Prospect Tai	£153,241	£155,539
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru - Polisi ac Ymgyrchu	£49,905	£59,294
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru - Cyfathrebu a Digwyddiadau	£36,811	£41,712
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru - Swyddog Datblygu Tai	£45,000	£0
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru - Strategaeth Cynhwysiant	£0	£0
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru - Adnoddau Dynol a Chefngogaeth	£0	£0
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru - Prif Swyddog Gweithredol/PA	£101,604	£105,647
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru - Eiriolaeth Plant	£0	£26,677
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru - Swyddog Codi Arian	£30,769	£44,228
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru - Grant Cynhwysiant	£31,513	£0
Llais Ffoaduriaid Cymru	£3,183	£0
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Wrecsam - Grant	£6,000	£6,000
Sefydliad Cymunedol yng Nghymru - Prospectau Cyfran Deg	£30,107	£47,886
Cronfa Goffa Diana Tywysoges Cymru	£12,423	£57,172
BBC Plant mewn Angen	£8,327	£30,146
Asylum Justice	£2,750	£2,250
Wythnos y Ffoaduriaid	£38,500	£38,860
INCWM GRANT HEB EI GYFYNGU		
Fforwm Datblygu	£0	£0
Grant - Cyngor Gweithredu Gwirfoddol Cymru	£8,000	£0
ARIAN HEB EI GYFYNGU (ARALL)		
Tanysgrifiadau, cyfraniadau a grantiau bychain	£3,604	£7,794
Llog a dderbyniwyd	£7,765	£164
Ffioedd rheoli	£42,054	£58,723
Incwm amrywiol (Adferiadau amrywiol)	£15,006	£4,579
Contract Gwasanaeth U.K.B.A. - R.I.E.S.	£79,437	£530,833
CYFANSWM INCWM	£2,086,749	£2,578,984
DADANSODDIAD O WARIANT ELUSENNOL		
Gwariant cyn statws	£1,861,381	
Statws ffoadur	£323,353	
Eiriolaeth ynghylch polisi	£270,112	
Llywodraethu	£46,390	
		£2,501,236
Arian net a symudwyd	£77,748	
Arian - a ddygwyd ymlaen	£111,057	
Arian - a gariwyd ymlaen	£188,805	

FEL CANRAN O GYFANSWM YR INCWM	2009	2010
GRANT NASS - O.S.S a Llety Cychwynnol	62.49%	49.88%
Grant Llety Brys NASS	0.00%	0.00%
Uned Integreiddio'r Swyddfa Gartref	2.88%	2.27%
Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru	21.51%	16.79%
Arall*	13.13%	31.06%
	100.00%	100.00%
*ARALL: (ARIAN WEDI'I GYFYNGU)		
Cronfa Galedi	0.80%	0.65%
Wythnos y Ffoaduriaid	1.84%	1.51%
Llais Ffoaduriaid Cymru	0.15%	0.00%
Cyngor Bwrdeistref Wrecsam	0.29%	0.23%
Sefydliad Cymunedol Cymru	1.44%	1.86%
Cronfa Goffa Diana, Tywysoges Cym.	0.60%	2.22%
BBC Plant Mewn Angen	0.40%	1.17%
Asylum Justice	0.13%	0.09%
*ARALL: (ARIAN HEB EI GYFYNGU)		
Fforwm Datblygu	0.00%	0.00%
Grant - CGGC.	0.38%	0.00%
Tanysgrifiadau a Chyfraniadau	0.17%	0.30%
Llog a Dderbyniwyd	0.37%	0.01%
Ffioedd Rheoli	2.02%	2.28%
Incwm Amrywiol (Adf. amrywiol)	0.72%	0.18%
Contract Gwasanaeth U.K.B.A. - R.I.E.S.	3.81%	20.58%
	13.13%	31.06%

Mae'n bosibl nad yw'r datganiadau cryno hyn yn cynnwys digon o wybodaeth i ganiatâu dealtwriaeth lawn o faterion ariannol yr elusen.

Am fwy o wybodaeth, dylid archwilio'r cyfrifon blynnyddol llawn ac adroddiad yr archwiliyd ar yr cyfrifon hynny. Gellir cael copïau o'r rhain o:

Swyddfa'r Prif Weithredwr, Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru,
Tŷ Ffenics, 389 Heol Casnewydd, Caerdydd CF24 1TP

WHAT COULD YOU DO?

Everyone can contribute to making asylum seekers and refugees feel safe and welcome in Wales. 2011 will be the 60th anniversary of the UN Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. Why not show your support in 2011 by volunteering, fundraising, befriending or helping to organize cultural events.

SUPPORT US

Welsh Refugee Council is an independent charity and the lead agency working for refugees in Wales. Support and donations from the public are essential to continue our work. If you would like to make a donation, or help in other ways, please contact us.

To find out more about our work please visit our website at www.welshrefugeecouncil.org

Become a facebook fan at www.facebook.com/pages/Welsh-Refugee-Council

Join our mailing list or send us a question at info@welshrefugeecouncil.org

Support us at www.justgiving.com/welshrefugeecouncil

BETH ALLECH CHI EI WNEUD?

Gall pawb gyfrannu i sicrhau bod ceiswyr lloches a ffaduriaid yn teimlo'n ddiogel ac yn cael croeso yng Nghymru. 2011 fydd trigainmlwyddiant Confensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Statws Ffoaduriaid. Pam na ddangoswch chi eich cefnogaeth yn 2011 drwy wirfoddoli, codi arian, bod yn gyfaill neu helpu i drefnu digwyddiadau diwylliannol.

EIN CEFNOGI

Elusen annibynnol a'r brif asiantaeth sy'n gweithio er budd ffaduriaid yng Nghymru yw Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru. Mae cefnogaeth a chyfraniadau gan y cyhoedd yn hanfodol er mwyn i ni allu parhau â'n gwaith. Os hoffech gyfrannu, neu helpu mewn unrhyw ffordd arall, cysylltwch â ni. Am fwy o wybodaeth ynglŷn â'n gwaith ewch i'n gwefan yn www.welshrefugeecouncil.org Cefnogwch ni ar facebook yn www.facebook.com/pages/Welsh-Refugee-Council Ymunwch â'n rhestr bost neu anfonwch gwestiwn atom yn info@welshrefugeecouncil.org Cefnogwch ni yn www.justgiving.com/welshrefugeecouncil

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Edited by Kate Smart, translated into Welsh by Cathrin Alwen Llywelyn, photographs by several Welsh Refugee Council staff and by photographers Kiran Ridley, Chris Ryder and Angela Catlin.

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Golygyd gan Kate Smart, cyfeithwyd i'r Gymraeg gan Cathrin Alwen Llywelyn, ffotograffau gan amryw o aelodau o staff Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru a chan y ffotograffwyr Kiran Ridley, Chris Ryder ac Angela Catlin.