



# Impact Report



**"Modern day Wales is a society built on diverse and multi-cultural communities.....I strongly believe that this is what makes Wales such a vibrant nation." – Jane Hutt - Minister for Finance and Leader of the House with responsibility for Equality Matters – Refugee Week Wales - 2012**

## About Us

Launched in 1990, the Welsh Refugee Council was set up to support refugees and asylum seekers in Wales. We do this through the provision of confidential and independent specialist advice and support services throughout our offices in Cardiff, Wrexham, Swansea and Newport. Alongside influencing and advocacy to change perceptions and promote an asylum process that saves lives.

## Our Mission

To help refugees and asylum seekers, rebuild their lives in Wales.

## Our Core Value

To promote the right to seek asylum as a fundamental human right as stated in the 1951 UN Refugee Convention. We believe that it is our humanitarian duty to actively participate in saving the lives of people who are forced to flee their homeland in search of their basic human rights.

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## Our Funders

Our services are funded by the United Kingdom Border Agency (UKBA), the Welsh Government, Children in Need, Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, Community Organisations and Individual community members.

## Our Strategic Goals

- To continue to lead on asylum and refugee issues within the sector in Wales.
- To help shape and change perceptions and behaviours towards refugees and asylum seekers among political leaders, the media, service providers and the general public throughout Wales.
- To continually strive for excellence in the delivery of our advice and support services and investment in volunteering.
- To promote and encourage social inclusion for asylum seekers and provide move-on services to enable refugees to rebuild their lives in Wales.
- To work with the devolved and non-devolved administrations to affect positive change for asylum seekers and refugees in Wales.
- To work towards alleviating destitution among asylum seekers and refugees in Wales



## CEO'S Statement



It gives me great pleasure to provide a brief comment as part of the introduction to the Welsh Refugee Council's 2012 Impact Report. It would be tempting as this will be my last annual report before I leave in March 2013 to make it more of a personal reflection. However, I want to focus on what I would see as some key issues facing the broad refugee sector as it moves forward in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

At the heart of the work of the WRC are two key areas, firstly quality advice and support for asylum seekers and refugees. Secondly, and equally as important is our influencing work. If you like one is about change today and one is about change tomorrow. In my six years at the WRC I have seen the quality of both improve and I want to thank all the dedicated volunteers, partners and staff who make this work possible and their contribution to it.

The Annual Report more than adequately reflects the work of the WRC and the quality of what we do. One of the highlights of our work this year and there are many to choose from, is the acknowledgement of our support for volunteers and the contribution they make within the Welsh Refugee Council.

The organisation has more than adequately coped with the challenges of almost a million pounds of funding being cut from it. Whatever the challenges are for the organisation, they are as nothing to those faced by asylum seekers. The recent report by John Vine, Chief Inspector of the UK Border Agency demonstrates in detail what is wrong with the asylum system in the UK and what needs to improve. Asylum seekers deserve a system of protection, which is effective and fair. It would be nice to think that it will not be long before this happens. However, the evidence is not encouraging, but I hope I am wrong. We shall just have to wait and see.

On the day of our AGM, I will almost to the day have been interviewed for the post of the CEO 6 years ago. Can I thank everyone I have worked with over the last six years for their contribution to improving the lives of asylum seekers and refugees in Wales. I continue to be passionate and angry in equal measure about the way asylum seekers are treated. We have much to celebrate and much to be embarrassed and angry about in relation to this treatment.

I will leave you with that quote which I have often used, which is still very relevant: "Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored". – Aldous Huxley (1927)

Thank you and diolch yn fawr.

Mike Lewis  
Chief Executive Officer



## Chair's Forward

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this Annual Report as Chair of Welsh Refugee Council. It is clear that the need to provide protection for refugees is as vital today as it was when the 1951 UN Refugee Convention was agreed.

The scenes of men, women and children fleeing from Syria for their safety are daily reminders of why we must continue to promote the rights and well-being of refugees.

I am proud to be part of an organisation which is doing this in Wales. I would also like to pay tribute to Aled Eirug for all his work and commitment as Chair up to January 2012.

This impact report sets out the work of the Welsh Refugee Council in 2011/12 to promote the rights of refugees and asylum seekers and to help them rebuild their lives in Wales. The organisation has faced challenges during this time, not least in managing significant cuts to our funding whilst continuing to provide core services.

It is all too easy when managing these daily stresses and strains, to lose sight of the positive impact of the organisation's work and it is good to take time to reflect on this in the report.

Of course, working successfully with partners has enabled us to deliver many of our shared aims and I would like to thank them for their support.

I would also like to thank all the staff, volunteers and of course my fellow trustees for all their hard work and commitment over the year. There are plenty of further challenges as we look ahead and this continued commitment will be essential to enable us to build on these achievements going forward.

In particular, I would like to thank Mike Lewis who has led the organisation as Chief Executive for the past 6 years and who has now decided to move on to meet new challenges.

We wish him well in all his future endeavours.

Anna Nicholl  
Chair

"Every time  
I come here, no  
matter  
how bad I feel,  
**the staff help me  
and make me feel  
human again."**  
- Samuel, a Service  
User

## Operational Review

### *Our Support Work in Newport*

The Newport Office opened in 2002 and assists an average of 50 service users on a daily basis. Based in central Newport, it is easily accessible to service users and other agencies.

This has led to the development of a hub where, in addition to our core services of advice, support and advocacy: we can make referrals and sign-post service users with other difficulties directly to partners and other support agencies who operate from our premises throughout the week.



Newport Learning Suite

This has enabled us to:

- provide an individualised and responsive service for our service-users
- increase access to services, promote social-inclusion and educate providers about the needs of asylum seekers and refugees
- facilitate understanding with refugee and asylum-seeker communities about Newport services and Welsh culture.

One example of the positive impact of hub working is our work with Molly Williams, Diversity Officer from Gwent Police. Many of our service-users are often fearful and afraid of talking to the police due to negative experiences in their country of origin. Yet, by introducing service-users to the Diversity Officer at WRC, she has been able to provide a service in a non-threatening, safe and supportive environment to victims and perpetrators of crime from refugee and asylum-seeker communities.

We have also been fortunate to work with Annie Llewellyn-Davies, a Community Psychiatric Nurse, who, until recently has provided a dedicated service to Asylum Seekers at the Newport office. Annie has identified and been able to provide support to individuals suffering from mental health difficulties; such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and, where appropriate made referrals to mainstream mental health services. Annie's medical experience and insight has had a huge impact as together (and in partnership with other agencies), we have been able to support and advocate on behalf of vulnerable individuals with varying health and safeguarding needs from an early stage.

Other key projects/ agencies that we work in partnership with and who operate a service from the Newport office include:

- Asylum Justice- pro-bono legal advice on asylum
- Displaced People in Action – Readiness for Work Project
- Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations– Young Asylum Seekers Coordinator
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Excellence Centre – counselling service
- SOVA – befriending service for new arrivals

**“I am very proud to work for the WRC and I firmly believe that the work we do across Wales, makes a real difference to the lives of people who are trying to navigate through a very complicated asylum process” – Jayne Conlon, Service Manager**



## Operational Review

### *Our Work in Reducing Destitution*

In 1999, the UK Government created legislation, which withdrew basic support to refused asylum seekers. This created widespread destitution for many who could not return home and remain in limbo, at risk of exploitation, and enduring ongoing indignities on a daily basis, while living rough on the streets of Wales.

We operate a hardship fund to help reduce this widespread destitution amongst asylum seekers and refugees. The fund is generously supported through public donations due to the efforts of WRC staff and volunteers, such as the delivery of destitution talks by Jayne Conlon, Service Manager.

Jayne often accompanied by guest speakers from asylum seeker communities; has opened the hearts of people across South Wales to the devastating realities of destitution. Their response has been overwhelmingly positive and has allowed us to give, a weekly cash amount of £10 and a food parcel to known individuals suffering from destitution.



Collecting Donations

This generosity of spirit has also been reflected in regular donations of food, baby equipment, nappy creams, bonnets and even toys. At what is a difficult time for many people across Wales, the continued heartfelt support from the local community is a welcome and much-needed lifeline for the people we work with.

We would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank all our donors and supporters for making a huge difference to people seeking sanctuary in Wales.

In 2012, we distributed a total of £8,632.54 in small cash donations of £5 - £25 to 991 refugees and asylum seekers across Wales.

We need your support more than ever to continue our work on reducing destitution, and welcome any support for the work of the Welsh Refugee Council. If you wish to help, please feel free to contact any of our offices and help us to make life better for those who have to flee their homeland in search of protection.

**You can help**  
**STOP**  
**destitution now**



"When I had nothing but fear and confusion WRC was everything to me – their help and support has **kept me safe** and enabled me to start my life again."- Michael, Asylum Seeker

## Operational Review

### *A Day in the life of a Caseworker*

I began my first role at the Welsh Refugee Council as an administrator working on the then equal project. Since then I have worked on Refugee Week Wales and am currently an asylum advice caseworker.

In this role, I provide advice, advocacy and support for individuals seeking asylum on a broad range of issues; including:

- the asylum process
- asylum support for destitute asylum seekers
- sign-posting and referrals to services and third sector partners; such as health and social services, Asylum Justice etc.
- Information about Cardiff, Welsh culture and accepted behaviours



Banire Sy Savane-Caseworker

**From 2011-2012, the Welsh Refugee Council provided 10,478 advice and support sessions as part of our One-Stop Service.**

#### Achievements:

My recent achievements include the facilitation of the development and implementation of the Joint Client Database, a project and formal partnership initiated in 2010 between the Welsh, Scottish and English Refugee Councils, and Northern Refugee Centre. This resource has enabled us to provide a seamless service to asylum seekers, who are frequently moved across the UK and often have to repeat their stories to a range of refugee agencies in order to access appropriate services.

The joint client database takes away this burden from new arrivals as case workers can now access a secure and confidential record for all service users. Relevant data collected includes previous appointments, vulnerability indicators and referrals to specialist support agencies. This not only saves time but enables us to provide a more effective and appropriate service; such as a female case worker or immediate advocacy for mental health support. This system has also provided the following additional benefits:

- Clear information sharing agreements between Refugee agencies, creating one-of-a-kind effective partnership working.
- Concise, accurate and uniform reports from each agency to UKBA.
- Accurate data about issues concerning service users.
- The ability to plan based on emerging trends such as new language needs
- The ability to identify key issues across all areas of service provision; such as, health housing and in the non-delivery of financial support.
- The ability to identify services that have previously been provided to service users in order to provide a seamless service based on the provision of accurate information.

**"I can see positive change for asylum seekers in Wales, within UKBA processes and Welsh Government's Refugee Inclusion Action Plan. I am proud to have contributed to improving the lives of asylum seekers through my own experiences and understanding".**

## Operational Review

### *Our Move-On Service*

The WRC Move-On Advice Service provides support to refugees as they 'move on' from life as an asylum seeker to begin the process of rebuilding a new life in Wales.

This support is a life-line to service users as the Move-On case worker is able to navigate the complex world of benefits, entitlements, housing, etc on their behalf and provide emotional support at a time of great uncertainty and change.

The move on service also provides useful advice and integration assistance through referrals to ESOL classes, volunteering opportunities and Displaced People in Action's employment advice service.

**From 2011-2012, the Welsh Refugee Council assisted 1,228 service users via the Move-On advice service.** These included single people, single parents, couples and families with dependents.

Lina Liu, Move-On Advice Caseworker, Swansea believes that this service is a real safety-net for service users, who may not have family, friends or even a social support network at what is clearly a stressful transition. Newly granted refugees are expected to learn about life in Wales within moments of being issued their papers yet language differences and a lack of confidence based on previous experiences negate against this.

The WRC Move-On service understands these difficulties and adapts and responds to service users accordingly; to ensure that we can continue to make a life-changing difference to individuals and families beginning to rebuild their lives in Wales.



Move-On caseworker  
with a Service User

An example of this is our work with Jamie, a survivor of torture. Jamie found it difficult to trust and needed support to express himself in a clear and calm manner with other agencies. Overtime the Move-on Case Worker was able to gain his trust and enabled him to access mental health support and support his interactions with other agencies. This has ensured that Jamie has been able to maintain his tenancy and avoid any possible evictions from his new home.

**“It is good to help  
asylum seekers  
and refugees to  
ease their way  
and help them  
feel included”–  
Lina Liu, Move-On  
Advice Caseworker**



## Operational Review

### *Our Support to Women and Children*

Nimo is an advice caseworker, providing specialist advice and advocacy to people seeking asylum via our One Stop Service: she also provides support to women who have been trafficked and or suffered domestic violence, rape and other forms of gender-based abuse.

In rare cases, perhaps inadvertently, women may disclose issues concerning gender-based abuse at their first meeting with Nimo. However, the reality is that most will need time and support to feel safe and build trust before they are able to disclose any kind of violation or abuse that has affected them. Particularly if they believe their life or that of their children is in danger.

As an experienced female case worker, Nimo is able to provide sensitive support and the reassurance necessary to enable women to feel safe enough to tell their story. She then liaises with a range of providers and specialist support agencies; such as Cardiff Health Access Practice, New Pathways, BAWSO, etc to ensure the woman (and her family, if necessary) receive the help and support to reclaim their lives.



Nimo Askar-Caseworker

Nimo has helped a range of service-users who have fled horrendous situations, where her help has been imperative in enabling women to receive refuge from human traffickers and abusive situations. She believes, following a disclosure of human trafficking that individuals within the asylum system should be treated as potential trafficking victims as soon as possible. This is because traffickers may easily track and find vulnerable individuals at UKBA accommodation: placing them at risk of re-trafficking or worse. Yet if women could access safe accommodation and support from the moment of disclosure, all agencies would be in a stronger position to ensure their safety and save lives.

Sonia, from the Ivory Coast managed to escape forced prostitution in London and tried to seek help from a police officer only to be directed to Croydon to seek asylum. She was then sent to Wales by UKBA where her asylum claim would be considered. Overtime Sonia gained confidence in Nimo and began to share fears about her past. Nimo provided sensitive support and began to liaise with specialist agencies; such as Cardiff Health Access Practice and BAWSO to address her immediate need for healthcare and safety. She is now receiving support and counselling in safe accommodation.

**"I dread to think what would happen to vulnerable people, specifically women, if it were not for the work of the amazing staff at Welsh Refugee Council who continually provide help and support to individuals in life-threatening situations."**

## Operational Review

### *Our Partnership and Volunteering Work*

We are delighted to report on our success in achieving the Investing in Volunteers Quality award. This award recognises volunteering as a form of social investment that, if nurtured, can change the lives of volunteers, service-users, organisations and the wider community.

This could not be more pertinent as our organisation was initiated by a small but determined group of volunteers, who wanted to make a difference to asylum seekers and refugees in Wales.

In our 21<sup>st</sup> year of maturity, this award not only confirms our continued commitment to invest in volunteers: but presents a welcome opportunity to celebrate the work of volunteers who, through their time, energy, skills, individual perspectives and talents have created and continue to enhance our services and contribute to saving the lives of people fleeing persecution in Wales.

We currently work with 28 volunteers across all business areas from reception and administration, to media, communications, and policy. The majority are also linguistically gifted, speaking a total of 21 different languages and receive training and support to provide interpretation for service users.

Many of the volunteers, who choose to invest their time with WRC are refugees and asylum-seekers who want to gain experience in a UK work environment. Others are UK and European Nationals with a passion for advocacy and human rights - and a desire to make a difference. Everyone demonstrates a significant commitment to helping refugees and asylum seekers and we would not be able to deliver our service without them.

In terms of key partnerships, 3 recent developments which have greatly enhanced our Cardiff advice service include; partnerships with,

- Victim Support Cymru: to provide practical and emotional support to victims of hate crime and anti-social behavior.
- The Parade: to provide in-house ESOL for Refugees and Asylum Seekers who are unable to access other classes due to waiting lists
- Supporting Others through Voluntary Action: to provide mentoring and orientation support to new arrivals.

**"Volunteering at the Welsh Refugee Council gives me a real opportunity to improve my English as well as supporting service users in their asylum claim. I enjoy the opportunity to make friends and contribute to the work of the Welsh Refugee Council" -**  
**Merbouha Kessour, Volunteer**



Volunteer Hiba



Volunteers Heewr & Jenny



## Refugees' Perspective

*From our longest serving staff member*

My story started when in 1990, upon returning from work; I was suddenly detained for a total of five years as a prisoner of conscience because of my part in advocating for democracy, human rights and equality in Sudan. I was kept in a secret torture chamber called "The Ghost House" where I was tortured for over a year.

After my release, I was warned that my life was in danger and it would be best if I left the country avoiding neighbouring countries due to the government's connections there. I left Sudan for the UK in 1993, and claimed asylum. After being granted status, I took on many roles and I am now the Chief Operating Officer of the Welsh Refugee Council. I am responsible for the strategic direction of the operations team and still enjoy providing support and advice to our services users when the opportunity arises.



Salah Mohamed - Chief Operating Officer

What my past has taught me is that refugees are **not economic migrants** and our decision to apply for asylum is not one of our own choosing.

As a refugee in the UK, I have lost a major part of my life and culture and having to start all over again in a new country is never easy. Even after many years of having a British Passport, I was detained by the Sudanese Authorities for 48 hours when visiting my family.

Reflecting on the evolution of the Welsh Refugee Council, I can see how it has developed and grown from strength to strength in the face of many challenges.

Each day we help save the lives of vulnerable people and assist them to rebuild their lives in Wales. Despite much advancement to the asylum process and support offered to asylum seekers over the years, I believe we still have some way to go.



### *....to our newest staff member, Amir Motaleb*

I am originally from Iran, and was a student studying agriculture at the local University. Due to demonstrations in my country, it became apparent that I would have to flee to a safe country in order to seek refuge. In December 2005 I claimed asylum in the UK. I was initially refused but after many appeals, over a period of 5 years I was granted indefinite leave to remain.

I studied English at the local college in Cardiff and participated in volunteering and interpretation within my local community. However, I still found it very difficult to gain employment despite my education background; therefore I started volunteering at the Welsh Refugee Council and other agencies as an

interpreter. Since then, my skills and abilities have improved greatly and in 2010 I was fortunate enough to be employed as an Administrator at the Welsh Refugee Council.

"When I was a volunteer, I was encouraged to learn more by being given the autonomy to perform specific tasks and complimented on a job well done. This **made me feel empowered** and has continued in my current role as administrator."

## Influencing and Communication Review

*Our work as a change agent*

### Influencing, Policy and Public Affairs

While decisions about an individual's asylum claim are made by the UK Border Agency on behalf of the UK Government's secretary of state, the lives of asylum seekers are devolved as access to services such as health, education, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults; and housing on receipt of refugee leave, are all devolved matters for consideration by the Welsh Government.



The Welsh Refugee Council has a key role therefore in working at the intersection of devolved and non devolved issues with politicians and policy makers to influence policy and legislative development. And, in sharing real life stories in the media, based on our frontline experience, to challenge myths and change public perceptions about asylum seekers, refugees and people who have been trafficked in Wales.

Over the past year we have worked with refugee agencies, third sector partners, civil servants, health officials, local authority representatives and politicians across the UK to influence the development of the equality, inclusion and human rights agenda and the development of an asylum model that is able to put people, rather than process first.

Below is a snap shot of some of our work:

### Safeguarding the most vulnerable:

- We supported a debate on the treatment of asylum seeking children in Wales at the National Assembly for Wales lead by Mick Antoniw, Assembly Member.
- We gave oral evidence to the National Assembly for Wales, Committee of Constitutional and Legislative Affairs about the intersection of devolved and non-devolved duties and hidden safeguarding risks to vulnerable adults and children
- We submitted evidence to the Joint Committee on Human Rights inquiry into unaccompanied migrant children in the UK
- We provided ongoing briefings to politicians at a devolved and non-devolved level about the implications of changes to legal aid
- We were interviewed on BBC Wales about the treatment of young people who are age disputed by the UK Border Agency or Local Authorities
- We submitted policy consultations on a range of issues affecting asylum seekers and refugees in Wales; eg, The Impact of the Equality duties, the Social Services( Wales) Bill, the representation of asylum seekers and refugees in the media, etc.

**"My experience of WRC has been a **positive** one and I would be very happy to work with them on events in the near future" – Houses of Parliament**



## Influencing and Communication Review

### Human Trafficking

The Welsh Refugee Council has been advocating for fair treatment of all victims of human trafficking for a long time, to ensure that people are not penalised because of their immigration status. However, to tackle human trafficking effectively a multi-agency approach is essential.

This year we initiated and coordinated the NGO Anti-Human-Trafficking Frontline Forum with Barnardos Cymru, BAWSO, Safer Wales, and New Pathways; Third Sector organisations determined to work together to share their knowledge and experience to affect policy change and service delivery for people who have been trafficked in Wales. Our first event, a Round Table on the Challenges of Human Trafficking in Wales: in partnership with Cardiff University was attended by over 19 different agencies; including the police, the UK Counter Human Trafficking Bureau, Joyce Watson AM and the UK Human Trafficking Foundation. We produced a report based on the recommendations of the Round Table which became a headline feature on BBC Wales and has been gratefully acknowledged by the Minister for Local Government and Communities.

We have also given evidence to Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, the OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and were proud to represent Wales as part of a UK delegation to the Netherlands' exploring the Dutch model of support for trafficking victims and institutional responses to Human Trafficking.

The Welsh Refugee Council has become an **invaluable resource** to our **LIBERATE** project providing expert immigration advice, support and partnership through the NGO Trafficking Forum. We look forward to **strengthening our working relationship** with them in the future - Sarah, New Pathways

### Training, awareness raising and speaker invitations:

We held a range of training sessions about the asylum process and the rights and entitlements of asylum seekers in Wales; including specialist training on children, education and benefit entitlements, health, housing, and human trafficking. Example benefactors include; Cardiff University, Swansea University, Cardiff and Vale Health Trust, Frontline Homelessness Forum, GAVO and South Wales, Local Authority Reviewing Officers.

We have also contributed to a Welsh Government commissioned Masters in Educational Practice, multimedia learning resource on managing troubling or difficult behaviours in the classroom, designed by Dr Gabrielle Ivinson at Cardiff University in partnership with the NSPCC.

"WRC provided teachers with well informed, accessible and up to date information on how to recognise and support vulnerable migrant children and young people. This resource will help teachers create environments in which **vulnerable children and young people feel secure**, so providing a strong foundation for their learning and future achievements" - Dr. Gabrielle Ivinson, Cardiff University





## Influencing and Communication Review

### Research

We produced and launched: *Young Lives in Limbo: the treatment of age disputed young people in Wales*. This research was supported by the Children's Commissioner for Wales' and facilitated high-level debate and positive media coverage about the risks facing children who are treated as adults in the asylum process.

We were commissioned (as part of a voluntary sector consortium) to undertake research for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation as part of their Ethnicity and Poverty Programme. This will be launched in February 2013.

**"The research from the WRC could hardly be more sharp" - Western Mail Comment and Debate on Young Lives in Limbo.**

### Conferences

We held the first *'Open-Space Refugee Communities Conference'* in Wales funded by the Big Lottery. Participants attended from over 80 different refugee community organisations and communities of interest. We have successfully used the conference report to provide case studies and evidence to officials and policy makers about a range of issues including destitution, the azure card and education.

**"Excellent conference, well organized, loved the community space thing! Much better than traditional speakers and solution focused – very good!" Delyth Bryne Tros Gynnal Plant**

### Children's Conference

The Children's Conference: *'Children in the asylum process- the challenges of border control and child protection'* was a partnership event with Children in Wales funded by the Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Trust. It was attended by over 150 people, predominantly practitioners and enabled us to highlight models of excellence and the need for improved care and advocacy for children who are too often unseen and unheard outside of society's protective mechanisms.

**"Well done all, I feel much more confident to challenge professionals or advocate for young people in a better way."**  
Conference participant



# REFUGEE WEEK 2012 WALES



Refugee Week is a UK-wide programme of arts, cultural and educational events to celebrate the contribution of refugees to the UK, and encourage a better understanding between communities. It aims to deliver positive, educational messages to counter some of the fears, ignorance and negative stereotypes about the reasons why people seek sanctuary. The success of Refugee Week sits in our ability to coordinate and work with a wide range of partners to promote positive images of asylum across Wales; we are therefore hugely grateful to all individuals and organizations who contributed to the events below.

This year, over 3075 people attended 21 events across Wales: "Celebrating the Spirit of Welcome in Wales". Fortunately, the deluge of rain did not dampen their commitment as we were delighted to welcome attendees from a diverse range of communities to the launch of Refugee Week Wales at the Umbrella Parade, Cardiff. This event was also attended by Jane Hutt, Minister for Finance and Leader of the House who launched the updated Refugee Inclusion Strategy Action Plan. Volunteers and support were also provided by Children in Wales, and the Somali Integration Society.

Other highlights include:

- The Children's Art Competition Awards- an annual event which enables children to explore the issues facing refugees and asylum seekers through artistic expressions.

- Information and Entertainment Day at Cardiff Central Library supported by Ethnic Minority Community First, a new event, which enabled over 400 people from diverse backgrounds to find out about people seeking asylum and refugees in Wales.
- An awareness raising and educational music workshop for children and adults in Newport; Fundraising at Aberystwyth by AberPSC for the WRC Hardship Fund; Refugee House Project, by Oasis, Refugee Week Global Village, Swansea Museum and Swansea City Of Sanctuary.

We are very grateful to Refugee Community Organisations and other organisations who have contributed financially or showed their support to Refugee Week Wales 2012.

"It is down to organisations like WRC to **highlight the plight** of those much less fortunate than ourselves... and by bringing that message into schools, future generations will hopefully **care, understand, and take action** when they can" - Glan Afan Comprehensive School

Funded by:



Llenyddiaeth  
Cymru  
Literature  
Wales

Wythnos Ffoduriaid  
Cymru



Refugee Week  
Wales



## Income and Expenditure For year ending March 31, 2012

### Restricted Grant Income

	£
UKBA Home Office Grants	554,816
Welsh Government	292,144
Move-On	155,539
Diana Princess Of Wales Memorial Fund	60,514
Arts Council Grant	26,795
Refugee Week Wales	7,800
BBC Children In Need	23,135
Wrexham Borough Council Grant	6,000
ESOL 2 and 3 Wrexham Borough Council Grant	13,000
Community Foundation Wales Fairshare Projects	11,957
ESOL Cardiff County Council	8,214
Big Lottery Fund	4,876
Starbucks Youth Project	1,200
Hardship Fund Donations	9,750

### Unrestricted Grant Income

Grant WCVA	4,000
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### Unrestricted Fund (Other)

Subscriptions, Donations & Small Grants	13,763
Interest Received	31
Management Fees	46,304
Sundry Income	10,054
UKBA RIES Service Contract	185,656
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,435,548</b>

### Analysis of Charitable Expenditure

Pre Status Expenditure	704,415
Refugee Status Expenditure	476,186
Influencing Policy & Campaign	354,498
Governance	33,757
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,568,856</b>

Net Movement In Funds	-133,308
Funds Brought Forward	340,900
Funds Carried Forward	207,592



## Thank You

Finally, we would like to say a big-hearted thank you, to the funders, donors, organisations and individuals who continue to support our work; not just with their financial resources but with their kindness, energy and commitment - from marathon runners to coffee drinkers and book buyers. We salute you.



The achievements of 2012 would not have been possible without your help and we hope that we can continue to receive such amazing support in 2013.

## Our Board of Trustees

Anna Nicholl, Chair  
Julie Barton, Vice Chair  
Mohamed Field, Treasurer  
Mick Antoniwi,  
Rev. James Aylward  
Aled Eirug, Resigned August 2012  
Adele Blakebrough, Resigned May 2012  
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