

Horsham Refugee Support Group

Newsletter May 2018

Updates

Things have been very quiet here at HRSG, which is why you haven't heard from us for a while.

Breaking news is that we now have dates for the arrival of our next two families, for which we have been waiting for a very long time. We now have a lot to do in a short space of time - please get involved!

The two families we are already supporting are very happy and integrating well into the area. They all express how much they like Horsham District and how friendly everyone is.

Can you help?

Items required

We are working with WSCC to provide the first week of food, plus other items which are not given under the government scheme. We will need to provide these items for two different families over the next 4-6 weeks so we need your support.

Please read the list attached and contact us to confirm what you are able to provide. If you would prefer to give a donation towards the items, please let us know.

The families we work with are so grateful for the welcome they receive from the community in this way.

Practical support

If you are able to help with final coats of paint, hanging curtains, building flat-packed furniture, waiting in for deliveries etc., we would love to hear from you at:

practicalsupport@horshamrefugeesupportgroup.co.uk

Befrienders and ESOL volunteers

We are recruiting to expand our team as the new families arrive. For more details about these roles and the application process, please contact us.

Staying in contact

With the new GDPR regulations, we need you to 'opt in' to receive our emails. We will continue to send 4-6 newsletters per year and any smaller or quickfire requests will be sent via our Facebook page. Please ensure you have signed up to our emails and joined our Facebook group.

What we do

We are a local group supporting refugees, helping families settle into their surroundings, introducing them to local facilities, and providing befriending services and English lessons. We also offer educating seminars helping to dispel myths.

The Syrian Vulnerable Person Relocation Scheme (SVPRS):

- 20,000 refugees are being resettled by the Home Office between January 2014 and May 2020. The name of the scheme is now **VPRS** to include refugees who have fled the conflict in Syria but do not have Syrian nationality.
- West Sussex County Council have offered to take 240 of the 20,000, which equates to approx. 2 families per year across Horsham District.
- As of February 2018, 10,538 people had been resettled under the VPRS, half of whom are children.
- The government is reviewing the scheme and there is a risk that they will scale it down or stop it altogether, so we need to make our voices heard. You can add your name to the petition at www.citizensuk.org

Join us!

We are looking for a new member to join the core team and write content for our various platforms.

If you are interested please get in contact.



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Find out more at www.horshamrefugeesupportgroup.co.uk



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