



Directory of Refugee led Groups

in

BOLTON, BURY, SALFORD and WIGAN

April 2006

Refugee Action is an independent, national charity working to enable refugees to build new lives in the UK. We provide practical advice and assistance for newly arrived asylum seekers and long-term commitment to their settlement through community development work. As one of the country's leading agencies in the field, Refugee Action has more than 20 years' experience in pioneering innovative work in partnership with refugees. We want a society in which refugees are welcome, respected and safe, and in which they can achieve their full potential.

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Registered Charity number 283660
Registered Company number 1593454



working with refugees to build new lives

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INTRODUCTION

'When you become a refugee you have left one country where you were somebody, and you have come to a country where you are not yet somebody.'

'Integration is a two-way process - it requires adaptation on the part of the newcomer but also by the host society' Castles et al 2002

Refugee Community Organisations

Refugee Community Organisations are groups formed by, of and for refugees and people seeking asylum, essentially self-determining, but usually reliant on funding from the voluntary or statutory sector. They are organisations where people can meet others from their country/culture and gain strength from the sense of safety and support that these interactions can supply. They are formed by people whose skills and resources are committed to meeting the needs of those who have come to the UK in search of safety, and to enabling people to build new lives.

Refugee Community Organisations are a means by which people who have become disempowered by the experiences of forced migration can negotiate meaningfully with the host community and can begin to break down the barriers to participation. As such, they play a vital role in the integration of refugees into UK society.

Refugee Community Organisations offer advocacy, mediation and support. They are the experts on refugee issues, and can provide appropriate services in safe settings. In order to do this, particularly in the early stages of their existence, they need the support of the UK voluntary and statutory sector.

Many Refugee Community Organisations go beyond offering simply advice, signposting and support, and arrange cultural, social, sporting and artistic activities, women's groups, English language (ESOL) and computer (IT) classes, supplementary schools where children can be helped to overcome disadvantage or where they can retain links with their home culture, mentoring, informal translating and interpreting and many other activities.

The Directory

This Directory contains contact details of refugee led organisations in Bolton, Bury, Salford and Wigan – areas with little history of receiving refugees prior to the dispersal of asylum seekers, which began in 1999, and where refugee-led groups are in their infancy. Because of the scarcity of formally constituted groups, particularly in Bury and Wigan, the criteria for inclusion have been widened to include significant points of contact and meeting places, including religious services led by refugees.

The purpose of the Directory is to enable statutory and voluntary organisations to contact refugees and people seeking asylum, whether for consultation purposes or to give information about their services or activities. It will also enable new arrivals to make contact with people from their country and feel less isolated. Although the majority of entries refer to groups in the four areas, it also includes some groups that, although not based in Bolton, Bury, Salford and Wigan, have members in these areas and are not listed in other directories. This is uncharted territory, which has not been comprehensively mapped before, and may well be incomplete as groups may have formed which have not been made contact with organisations. This is a rapidly changing sector with much unplanned and ad hoc growth, and the Directory will be available in electronic format to facilitate ease of updating.

Hopefully the Directory will help to raise the profile of refugee-led organisations by giving them a chance to showcase their services. **However, organisations should bear in mind that these groups are often fragile and should not be overloaded.** Their members are struggling with enormous issues, are almost all volunteers, and have few resources other than their own resilience, resourcefulness and intelligence. They are also, inevitably, self-selected, and while most try to faithfully represent their members' views, organisations should not assume that because they have consulted with the officials of the group that they have consulted with the community. Organisations which exist to support the voluntary and community sector should be thinking of how best to support the specific needs of this particular community.

The information in this Directory has been provided by the various groups. While every effort has been made to check this information, Refugee Action can accept no responsibility for any of the entries in the Directory. The information is accurate as of April 2006.

Other refugee-led organisations in Greater Manchester can be found in the Refugee and Migrants Forum Directory available from Manchester Refugee Support Network (MRSN) on 0161 232 7420 www.mrsn.org.uk.

BOLTON

AFRICAN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF BOLTON

2-16 Mayor Street,
Bolton

Contact: Nat Biney (Chair)
Tel: 01204 655 044
07939 967 009
e-mail: nat.biney@ntlworld.com

Look after the welfare of all Africans in the community, for example cultural activities and social events.

BOLTON VOICE OF AFRICAN UNITY

336 Chorley Old Road
Bolton BL1 4JU

Contact: Otis Johnson (Chair)
Tel: 07830 341 595
e-mail: otis.Johnson@btopenworld.com

Offer:
Advice and support
Signposting
Confidence building

BOLTON WEST INDIAN ASSOCIATION

Unity Centre
Johnson Street
Bolton BL1 1NX

Contact : Duncan Burnett (Chair)
Mrs. Lola Harwood
Tel: 01204 396644

Open 9am - 4pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, plus homework club and music club in the evenings.

Saturday club for children.

Offer:
Support and advice, a hot drink and a warm welcome for all refugees and asylum seekers
Computer access
Basic skills
Games for children

B.R.A.S.S (Befriending Refugees and Asylum Seekers)

Victoria Hall
Knowsley Street
Bolton BL1 2AS

Contact: Ray Collett
Tel: 01204 397152

Drop-in every Wednesday 1pm - 5pm

Tuesday - themed sessions, eg, ESOL, Cookery classes, Internet access, money skills, computer maintenance

Offer:
Destitution support

INTEGRATION-AFRICAN FRENCH SPEAKING COMMUNITY

25 Lilly Street
Bolton BL1 3AU

Contact: Pastor Hubert
Tel: 01204 465790 or 07950 161 183
e-mail: integrationafricaninuk@yahoo.co.uk

Offer:
Support and befriending
Information and advice
Basic ESOL classes
IT
Translation
Accompanying to appointments

Church service in French every Sunday 2pm - 4pm
Victoria Hall
Knowsley Street
Bolton BL1 2AS
Information and advice session after the service

IRAQI GROUP OF BOLTON

Contact: Fadil Hussain
Tel: 07916 164 971
Safa al Hakeem
Tel: 07886 642 829

Advice and support for Arabic speaking Iraqis

LIVING WATERS INTERNATIONAL CHARITY

PO Box 405
Bolton BL3 6WT

Contact: Robbie Joshua Chiphaliwali
Tel: 07729 508 810
e-mail: chiphaliwali262@yahoo.com

Offer:
Material help, eg, clothes, utensils
Mentoring for skills
Counselling
Social events and outings

NEW BOLTON SOMALI ASSOCIATION

Back 192 Deane Road
Bolton BL3 5DP

Contact: Abdi Abdullay (Community Co-ordinator)
Ibrahim Ismael (Community Development Worker)
9 part-time paid employees
Tel: 01204 399239
e-mail: bolsomcom@hotmail.com

Aim to encourage community cohesion and break down barriers to access for refugees and asylum seekers from Somalia.

Offer:
Advice and support
Translation
Football
Outings

NORTH WEST TAMIL ASSOCIATION

32 Lowerhouse Walk
Bromley Cross
Bolton BL7 9JS

Contact: Visvalingham Manivanan
Tel: 01204 593747 / 07712 529 511

Offer:
Translation
Support

SHPRESA (Hope)

Contact: Halil Zeqiri
Tel: 01204 370783
e-mail: zeqiri4@yahoo.co.uk

BURY

SOLIDARITY DROP-IN

Mosses Centre
Cecil Street
Bury BL9 0SB

Contact: Sue Arnall 0161 761 2079

Drop-in run by volunteers on second Saturday of every month, 1pm - 4pm
Also drop-in Tuesdays 1pm - 3.30pm

Offer:
Advice and signposting
Support
Activities
Occasional outings

SALFORD

AFRICAN AMANI

306 Lower Broughton Road
Salford M7 2HQ

Contact: Deo Djuma (Chair)
Tel: 0161 792 1623 / 07821 473 415
e-mail: africaamani@yahoo.co.uk

Offer:

Advice, information, guidance and support

Various projects including health, education, employment and welfare.

Translation and interpreting in French, Swahili, Kicongo, Shona, Portuguese and Souto

IT and ESOL classes

BUKAVU ACTION CONGO

62 Cannon Street
Salford M3 6EG

Contact: Alan Mambu
Tel: 0161 833 3854
e-mail: baccharity@yahoo.co.uk

Aim to help and give advice and information to asylum seekers and refugees about housing, employment and translation.

CORNERSTONE CHAPEL

1 Old Wellington Road (opp. St Andrew's Medical Centre)
Eccles
Salford

Contact: Christine and Keith Kelly
Tel: 0161 736 9407

Drop-in every Friday 10am - 12.30pm

Offer:
ESOL classes

FRENCH EMANUEL CHURCH and Hope Community Church

Salford Methodist Community Church
Pendleton Way
Salford M6 5JA

Contact: Pastor Anthony Sofini
Tel: 0161 705 0017 / 07949 661 186
e-mail: sofinimupa@hotmail.co.uk

Church services for French speaking and English speaking Africans

Saturdays: 3.30pm - 4.30pm	Prayer time
4.30pm - 6pm	Activity
6pm - 7.30pm	Training for musicians

Sundays: 4.30pm - 6.30pm	Worship and prayer
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Support:
Translation
Interpreting

GATE FOR THE SHEEP MINISTRY

St. Clement and St. Matthews Church
Broughton Lane
Salford M7 9UR

Contact: Pastor Francois Mukuna
Tel: 0161 833 9428

Sunday 1pm - 3.30pm	Service and fellowship in French and English
Wednesday 7pm - 9pm	Bible study
Saturday 3pm - 5pm	Intercession prayer

Seminars, prayer sessions, school of ministry

The church's aim is to bring all nations together and give rest to the weary.
People from Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Cote d'Ivoire.

THE GLORY

Cobden House
2 Cobden Street
Salford M6 6WF

Contact: Pastor Patrick Nzizi
Tel: 0161 736 9245
e-mail: lagloiremanchester@yahoo.fr

Offer:
Advice, support and signposting

In the future hope to offer:
ESOL and IT classes
Internet access
Health advice

This is a French speaking African group, but welcome all nationalities.

GREAT LAKES WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

4 Stern Avenue
Salford M5 3AB

Contact: Fabiola Bayavuge
Tel: 07932 868 750
e-mail: glwass@hotmail.com

Offers:
Further education for women
Social activities
Recreational activities
Voluntary counselling
Workshops on HIV and other health issues

Composed of women and their families from Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia.

Aims to empower women and promote the role of women in the community.

KURDISH ASSOCIATION CENTRE

3 Crosby Road
Salford M6 7RB

Contact: Fazil Jamal Mustafa
Tel: 07761 616 535
E-mail: faziljamalmustafa@yahoo.co.uk
Website: www.kacnet.net

Drop-in every Tuesday 1pm - 4pm at Windsor Church, Churcill Way, Salford M6 5BU.

Offers:
Dancing and musical group
New Year celebrations
Halabja memorial service
Refugee week festival

Kurdish language supplementary school every Saturday in Manchester.

LITTLE HULTON COCKTAIL GROUP

Contact: Jay Brennan, Community Health Development Officer
Tel: 0161 212 5396

Meet Wednesday 1pm - 3pm
One-Stop Shop
Little Hulton

Offer:
Computer skills
Support

Mixed nationality refugee group

MANCHESTER MINORITIES EMPOWERMENT

17 Cedar Place
Salford M7 1NJ

Contact: Francois Mukuna (Secretary)
Tel: 0161 833 9428
e-mail: francois2691@yahoo.co.uk

Offer:
Advice and signposting
Interpreting in French and Lingala
Mentoring for children in school - empowering parents to help their children and to feel confident in attending parents' evenings. Advice on how to deal with bullying in school
Counselling

REVIVE

St. Boniface's Church
St. Boniface's Road
Salford M7 2GE

Contact: Peter Fell or Eloise Cockcroft
Tel: 0161 792 0282
e-mail: revive01@yahoo.co.uk

Drop-in Tuesdays 11am - 3pm

Offer:
Long term support and advocacy for asylum seekers
Red Cross destitution support

ST. BONIFACE'S CHURCH (Roman Catholic)

St. Boniface's Road
Salford M7 2GE

Contact: Father Liam Armour, Mill Hill Missionaries
Tel: 0161 737 9742
E-mail: l.armour@btinternet.com

Service in French every Sunday 12.45pm, followed by a social gathering.

Offer:
Pastoral care
Befriending and support

SALFORD REFUGEES LINK (SARELI)

172 Tatton Street
Ordsall
Salford M5 3PS

Contact: Barthelemy Leon N'Guessan (Chair)
Lili Bokaki
Tel: 07932 253 763
E-mail: sareli_uk@yahoo.co.uk

Aim to bring social cohesion, racial harmony and the integration of ethnic minority communities in Salford.

Offer:
African arts and culture
Health conferences
Advice and signposting
Interpreting and translation

SALFORD SATURDAY LEARNING CENTRE

Albion High School
1 London Street
Salford M6 6QT

Contact: Hajeera Azad - Chair 07931 756 548
e-mail: salfordsaturdaylearningcentre@yahoo.co.uk

Open to refugees, people seeking asylum and other minority ethnic communities across the city. It enables children to settle into school and integrate with other communities in order to help understand the culture of the UK. The centre helps children aged 2 - 18 years with English and homework.

Every Saturday 10.30am - 12.30pm

SALFORD YEMENI DEVELOPMENT ACTION GROUP

Rainbow Community Centre
259 Liverpool Road
Eccles
Salford M30 0QN

0161 789 8091

Contact: Kuloud Mahyoub
Tel: 0161 789 8091 or 07894 172 701

Established 1994

Activities:

Saturday and Sunday Supplementary School for children 4-16 years - SHEBA - based at St. Andrews Primary School, Barton Road, Eccles.

Signposting to services
Social Gatherings
Summer outings

Welcomes all Arabic speaking refugees and asylum seekers.

SELASSIE ORTHODOX CHURCH

St. Philip's Church
Encombe Place
Salford M3 6FJ

Contact: Addisu Tel: 07957 251 393
Mesfin Tel. 07949 957 778

Services alternate Sundays, 2 - 4, followed by a social gathering
People from Ethiopia and Eritrea.

SRI LANKAN COMMUNITY IN SALFORD

Contact Hajeera Azad
Tel: 07931 756 548

Offer:
Befriending
Support
Interpreting and translation

SWAP (Salford Wide Asylum Partnership)

PO Box 159
Salford M5 3DZ

Contact: Michael Scantlebury
Tel: 0161 848 8176

Aim to form a link between Salford communities and people seeking asylum.

Organised activities:
Saturday School for children aged 13 - 19
Help with understanding the UK

SYNERGY

17 Spruce Court
Salford M6 5EN

Contact:
Bachir Cisse - 07960 041 074
Patrick Kokouri - 07930 837 027
e-mail: olivierSRge@yahoo.fr
Website: www.synergy-salford.org.uk

Services:
Drop-in Wednesdays every fortnight at 17 Spruce Court.
Advice, support and signposting
Free Interpretation for drop-in clients only in French, Portuguese and Arabic

WINDSOR DROP-IN

Windsor Church
Churchill Way
Salford M6 5BU

Contact: Christine and Keith Kelly
Tel: 0161 736 9407
Mission - 0161 736 7959
e-mail: kcjkelly@aol.com

Drop-in every Tuesday 1 - 4pm
Advice and sign-posting
Board games, table tennis, billiards
Sewing and crafts

YEMEN AND ARAB CULTURAL SOCIAL CENTRE

84-86 Liverpool Road
Eccles
Salford M30 0WZ

Contact: Abdullah Ahmed (Chair)
Tel: 07838 332 669 or 07727 008 370
e-mail: yemeniarabcentre@aol.com

Offer:
Arabic school on Saturday and Sunday in Eccles
Music sessions for young people in Broughton
Advice on benefits, immigration and health
Translations

WIGAN

KURDISH CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF WIGAN

99 Greenhey,
Orrell, Wigan WN5 0DQ

Contacts:

Khaled Amini - 07861 287 912

e-mail: khaled_amin@yahoo.co.uk

Suleiman Mohammed 07709 755 149

Aim to introduce English people to Kurdish culture and teach Kurdish people about the UK.

Intend to offer:

Advice, support and signposting

Interpreting and translation

ESOL

Music

Sporting activities

Supplementary school in Kurdish language

LASARS (Leigh Asylum Seekers and Refugees Support)

Kingsleigh Methodist Church
King Street
Leigh

Contact: Alan Gawith

Tel: 01942 676641

Drop-in every Tuesday 2 - 4pm

Support and advice

Signposting

Refreshments

Games - table tennis, games for children

Occasional outings

WALASARA

(Wigan and Leigh Asylum Seekers and Refugees Association)

Leigh Ethnic Centre
81 Church Street
Wigan WN7 1AZ

Contacts:

Etienne Kouam - 07884 186 359
Joseph Nkameni - 07931 538 940

Services:

Advice, support and signposting
ESOL and IT classes
Cultural events
Sport and leisure activities

Aim to bring together asylum seeker and refugee families and support their well-being and integration into the local community.

WIGAN WELCOME

Queen's Hall Methodist Mission
46 Market Street
Wigan WN1 1HX

Contact: Lynne Calvert (Secretary)
Tel: 01942 204884

Drop-in every Saturday 2 - 4pm

Advice and Support
Signposting
Games for children
Foreign language library

GREATER MANCHESTER

UNITED COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION FOR LIBYAN REFUGEES

76 Lloyd Street South
Manchester M14 7LH

Contact: Mahmud Elgin, Chair - 07914 362 331
e-mail: mahmud1969@aol.com
Azeldin El-Sharif, Secretary
e-mail: morady5@yahoo.com

e-mail: uca4lr@yahoo.co.uk

Offer:

Support and advice for new asylum seekers

Sport and cultural activities

Sunday activities - sport and art

4pm - 10pm

at Millennium Power House, Moss Side