

Sanctuary in Chichester

The refugee crisis is the biggest since World War II and we feel the need to take urgent action.

We're a group of local people who want to make the Chichester area welcoming for refugees and asylum seekers.



City of Sanctuary

We're all volunteers and part of the national City of Sanctuary movement. We want to make all refugees and asylum seekers in West Sussex feel welcome, safe and empowered so they can build rich and fulfilling lives in the UK.

We hope we can be a part of their progress by providing friendship, language support and practical and financial help.

What we offer

- Support to Syrian refugee families in West Sussex
- Twice-weekly drop in sessions for refugees and asylum seekers
- Supported lodgings where young asylum seekers can live in a safe, caring environment
- Speakers to local groups to raise awareness of our work and the wider refugee crisis
- Social and pastoral support for young asylum seekers: from taking them on day trips to coordinating Eid celebrations
- English language tuition
- Emergency accommodation and financial support for destitute asylum seekers, and those whose asylum applications have been rejected but who cannot return to their home countries
- Training for adults to accompany asylum seekers to judicial or quasi-judicial hearings, such as age assessments, where we can be a reassuring presence during often gruelling proceedings.

If you're interested in volunteering, please get in touch.
Sanctuaryinchichester@gmail.com



“ We hope we make people’s lives easier in their transition from often traumatic experiences to settling and building a meaningful life here in the UK. ”

Sanctuary in Chichester volunteer



“ Sanctuary in Chichester keeps me from thinking about all the things back home, and all the things we saw on our journey here. My favourite thing was going to visit Arundel Castle, because it reminds me of places I’ve seen in films. ”

A young refugee in Chichester

Support us

We are all volunteers and give our time for free. Through our amazing supporters and donors, we've already raised £30,000 but need a further £40,000 by the end of 2019.

With this funding we want to:

- Create more drop-in facilities
- Help other Syrian families arrive and settle in West Sussex
- Extend our language learning service
- Offer more friendship-building and mentoring opportunities, potentially using sport as a focus
- Provide shelter to destitute asylum-seekers, sometimes at short notice
- Increase awareness of and access to our services
- Boost understanding among local residents of the issues that refugees and asylum seekers face.

Please donate

£15 could pay for an English language textbook.

£25 could cover the monthly cost of broadband internet so a refugee family is able to contact loved ones.

£100 would provide a destitute asylum seeker with meals for a month.

Ways you can give

Make a one-off payment or regular donation using a standing order.

Check our website for fundraising events or hold your own fundraising event. Contact: rebecca.dowman@cantab.net

Bank details: Please include your name as the reference
Barclays / Sanctuary in Chichester **Sort Code:** 20-20-62 **Account No:** 13110397

Cheque: Please make cheques payable to Sanctuary in Chichester and send to Sanctuary in Chichester, PO Box 794, Chichester, PO19 9UL