

LOVING SERVICE OF THE WORLD

Asylum Seekers and Refugees



Diocese of
Leicester
Shaped by God

Leicester and Leicestershire are home to many people seeking asylum in the UK, fleeing from war, violence and persecution in their home countries. While they wait for their asylum application to be decided, they are not allowed to work and so many live in destitution, suffering from poor health and isolation. Language barriers also make it difficult to access services. But churches are well placed to show compassion and radical hospitality to people seeking asylum. Below are some local services and organisations which you can help people seeking asylum to access.

[Leicester City of Sanctuary's](#) hub provides support services, activities and a hot meal, so asylum seekers and refugees have a place to belong and make friends. They offer ESOL classes so people can learn English; sewing classes to develop skills; football and sporting activities; cultural and recreational trips to help people to get to know Leicester; and life skills activities to help people prepare for life in the UK.

The [British Red Cross](#) operate a service for refugees and people seeking asylum in Leicester. They offer emergency help, one-to-one support, and casework. To get in touch email: rsleicester@redcross.org.uk or call 0116 479 0900

[The Race Equality Centre](#) provides resettlement support to asylum seekers who are granted refugee status, indefinite leave to remain, humanitarian protection or discretionary leave. This includes helping clients access benefits, temporary and permanent accommodation, education and training.

[After18](#) supports unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and young refugees under 25 in Leicester with education, sports and art activities, and a support group for young women.

[Baca](#) provides supported accommodation, education, training and holistic support to unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and young refugees in Loughborough.

The [Assist Practice](#) provides healthcare for refugees and asylum seekers in Leicester.

[Migrant Help](#) run a free asylum helpline which is available 24/7, 365 days a year, offering independent advice and guidance to assist asylum seekers to make a claim and apply for support. The helpline number is 0808 8010 503.

[Open Hands](#) provide emergency support and care for people in need in Leicester – including a hot meal on Tuesday evenings and emergency food parcels, clothing, toiletries and bedding. They also provide employability training and English language classes.

[New Futures](#) provide practical and emotional support, including free counselling, to women in Leicester who may be experiencing or at risk of poverty, abuse and exploitation.

