

*"I sit in my room it's like a prison of stress and worry. I'm very happy today, thank you so much"*

Sanctuary seeker at a Welcome Day

*"It was heart-warming seeing the community coming together to give all the families such a warm welcome."*

Volunteer from Brecon

*'What you all do really makes a difference. The positive impact on our group, asylum seekers and refugees alike, is immeasurable.'*

Volunteer from Swansea



**Hay, Brecon & Talgarth**  
Sanctuary for Refugees

In response to the terrible refugee crisis in Europe, with people drowning in the Mediterranean, our group was formed in September 2015. We wanted to help those less fortunate, and show we cared.

We are a charity, are all volunteers, and organise many activities. HBTSR exists to show and promote support for people forced to seek sanctuary because of violence and persecution (asylum seekers and refugees), and we try to show them that they are welcome.

## **Please join us...**

*...there's so much more that we can do!*

### **Hay, Brecon & Talgarth Sanctuary for Refugees**

For more information please visit our website: [hbtsr.org.uk](http://hbtsr.org.uk)

**Facebook:** Hay Brecon and Talgarth Sanctuary for Refugees

**Email:** [hbts4refugees@gmail.com](mailto:hbts4refugees@gmail.com)

**Twitter:** @hbts4refugees

**Donations** (we are a registered charity No: 1173570) to:

- Barclays Bank (Sort Code: 20-39-64 Account No: 83085120)
- Cheques (payable to HBTSR please)  
Address: Pavement House, Hay-on-Wye, HR3 5BU, Wales



## **Our aims**

- **We support** people seeking sanctuary
- **We raise money** to help people seeking sanctuary in a variety of ways
- **We lobby** our elected representatives about the need to show humanity towards those less fortunate.

## **What we do**

- We are affiliated to City of Sanctuary and work closely with sanctuary seekers support groups in Swansea, Newport and Cardiff.
- **We collect donations** of household goods, computers, phones, toiletries, sewing machines and bikes to distribute in Swansea and Newport. When Penally Camp was open we provided money and practical goods to help the residents there. We also try to help overseas refugee camps and local homeless or needy people when we can.
- During the pandemic we have **provided money for phone top ups** to combat Digital exclusion, helped many people with **small payments for especial hardship** (such as having no food or shoes) and **provided daily Vitamin D supplements** in conjunction with a local pharmacy.
- **We raise funds** to pay for all our activities, to support other like-minded groups, and to maintain a Hardship Fund which helps individuals with urgent needs.
- **We help people seeking sanctuary** to join in the day to day activities of their local communities – providing football tickets, sporting activities, bicycle repair workshop, sewing machines.

- **Once pandemic restrictions are lifted** we hope to resume:
  - **monthly Welcome Days** in our peaceful and beautiful area for groups of up to 70 people seeking sanctuary and many local supporters, providing transport, food, activities, sports and entertainment, but above all friendship and welcome. We have held more than 50 days, which have been extremely popular with our guests and the local communities who have hosted them.
  - **short stays in local holiday cottages or farms** for families and individuals seeking sanctuary.
  - **work with local schools**, encouraging them to raise awareness about people seeking sanctuary.
  - **the hand of friendship for moral support** to people who are attending immigration tribunals and Home office interviews.
  - **work with Hay Literary Festival and other events/groups** to raise funds and invite people seeking sanctuary to join in our local volunteering opportunities.



Illustrations  
by Eugene Fisk

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