



# ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS Autumn Newsletter

**Our work would not be possible without you  
Thank you for donating your time, money, energy and support.**



**Life is uncertain and difficult for all of us at the moment, but for asylum seekers and refugees, the ongoing pandemic is especially tough.**

Every fortnight we phone all of our clients to chat about how they are getting on and where we can help. Based on what they tell us, and what we learned through lockdown, we have designed a range of activities which we are delivering online, by phone and by post.

We launched the activities as a 'pilot phase' in September. By the start of 2021 we hope to have a good idea of what works, what doesn't, and how we can make sure we are there for the people who need us - whatever the year ahead brings.

The 'pilot' consists of:

- 1) Support packages every 2 weeks to 90 asylum seekers for food, essentials, phone-top-ups and travel.
- 2) English language lessons online, by phone and by post.
- 3) A remote Support Service to help people overcome practical difficulties.
- 4) NEW online art and writing, gym, choir, yoga and book group sessions.
- 5) Reopening our physical centre once a week as soon as it is safe to.

One of our clients, Haniya, who came to the UK with her brothers seeking asylum from Pakistan told us:

*"The support packages we receive from the Islington Centre helps us during a time when no one else can. For the last two months I have used the money I receive from the Islington Centre to help me do my laundry. I am very happy to work alongside the team, thank you Islington Centre."*



## We need your help: Campaign to raise £1000 for Digital Inclusion!

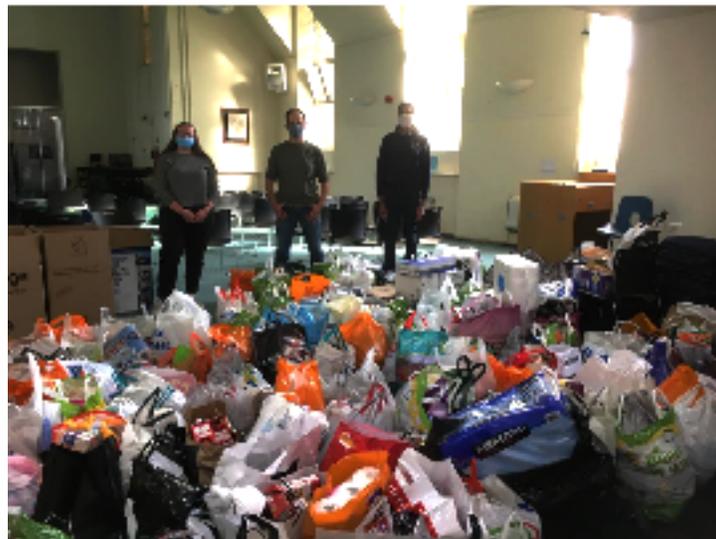
Here is a painting done by one XXX in an online art and writing class last week. XX could get online to join the class, but many others can't. Digital top-ups are an expensive luxury when you are struggling to buy food.

This month we are launching a campaign to raise £1000 to pay for digital top-ups. Help people get online. **Donate here.**

[Donate here to link through to donation ]page if possible]

### Funding update

We are very happy to have been awarded a grant of £60,000 by the National Lottery's Coronavirus Community Support Fund towards the costs of our pilot phase. Thank you National Lottery!



### Habs Girls harvest donations

A huge thank you to Haberdashers' Aske's School for Girls for their harvest festival donations last week! We were amazed and delighted to receive so much and will distribute the food and toiletries over the coming months, we know they will make a big difference.