



ISLINGTON CENTRE FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS Easter Newsletter 2021

From all of us here, Happy Easter!

Artwork by D.



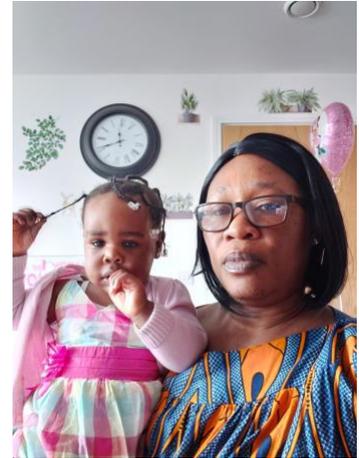
Online classes and our plans for reopening the physical centre

Our online work continues to go well. We are currently working with 130 people and to date, we have registered **6349 attendances at classes since September**, with 92% accessed online. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who make this possible - everyone has worked so hard to bring our community into the virtual world and we couldn't do it without you. We intend to continue with online work throughout the summer term. Looking ahead to the autumn, we plan a hybrid of sessions at the centre in Islington and groups and classes online.

New Online Baby and Toddler Group led by Sandra

Sandra, a refugee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, joins many of our online classes with her 1-year-old daughter, Hope. Knowing that others joining classes have young children too, Sandra suggested starting a parent and baby group.

With support from Romain, our choir leader who has a young child himself, and Judy, a volunteer, Sandra now helps to run our regular online baby group on a Thursday. Sandra said: 'We sing, we learn songs, we read stories. My little one really enjoys it and it keeps me busy.' To hear Sandra talk about the baby group please click [here](#)



Artist Wendy Hawley's Lockdown Journal - copies on sale to support the centre

Wendy Hawley has been recording her life in Lockdown in a set of illustrated Sketchbook Journals and is selling printed copies in support of the Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants and The Felix Project which collects fresh, nutritious food that cannot be sold and delivers it to schools and charities. The journal has already raised £400 for the centre. Thank you Wendy!

Please contact Wendy directly on aush.wenh@gmail.com for purchases and any queries.

New member of staff: Ruth Hill joins the team

We were delighted to welcome Ruth Hill to our staff team this term. Ruth is a recent Anthropology graduate who is joining us 3 days a week as an administrator and to help with referrals. As a student, Ruth volunteered to go to tribunals with young asylum seekers and has more recently volunteered with her local Mutual Aid scheme.

Ruth will be supporting the whole staff team and we are all so pleased to have her onboard.





Funding update - Donate your shares with ShareGift

Do you have shares which are uneconomical to sell? You could help us by donating them to ShareGift.

ShareGift is an independent UK registered charity which works by collecting together small lots of shares until there are enough to sell and then donating the resulting proceeds to a wide range of charities. To date ShareGift has donated over £37 million to more than 3,000 charities. ShareGift make their grants based upon suggestions from donors.

Simply donate any small shareholdings you may have to ShareGift, and mention that you support us. ShareGift has already made grants of £65,000 to The Islington Centre.

For more information on ShareGift please go to www.sharegift.org