

Hello and welcome to our latest News Bulletin.

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You can find out more about Civil Service Local [here](#)

To see what's happening in the Midlands and find the latest opportunities visit our [Blog](#)

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## Department for a Day

(D4D) Civil Service Academy project success at Civil Service Live 2018



The Branson family from last year's Civil Service Academy had a great success promoting their project at Civil Service Live in Birmingham on 13 June. The project has created a flexible framework for Civil Servants to visit other departments, so that best practice can be shared, attendees get a flavour of what it is like in another department and help to develop a more 'joined up' approach across the Civil Service.

This approach was mentioned by John Manzoni in the Collaborative leadership seminar as a good example of getting departments to work together. The project team signed up close to 500 interested parties as either potential ambassadors for host departments or attendees keen to find out more about another department.

Thank you to all those who signed up and watch this space for additional information on actual D4D days that you can attend. If you expressed an interest in becoming an ambassador the project team will be in touch soon on how we will be arranging the D4D visit days.

If you'd like to find out more about the project please contact: [Azhar.Ahmed@insolvency.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Azhar.Ahmed@insolvency.gsi.gov.uk)

# Black Country Food Bank

## VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Black Country Foodbank love having small groups of volunteers helping out in our warehouse in Brierley Hill, DY5 3EE

The feedback we have had from volunteers in the past is that volunteering with BCFB is one of the most rewarding ways they have spent their time.

The jobs that need doing are vital and ultimately help families and individuals receive emergency food parcels at times of crisis.

The jobs you'll be doing include:

- Dating Donated Stock
- Stacking Shelves
- Rotating Stock
- Organising Stock Requests
- Visiting Centres (if the vans are available)
- Making tea!

You'll be asked to wear warm clothes and sturdy shoes/boots as the warehouse can get chilly. You are welcome to bring your own lunch.

We are really looking forward to having you here!!

The Team at BCFB

Contact: [Vanessa.Boden@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:Vanessa.Boden@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)

# Ediblelinks Atherstone



Ediblelinks is an award winning food hub based in Atherstone North Warwickshire. Run by health and wellbeing charity, Nuneaton & Bedworth Healthy Living Network, it provides:

- a food bank service
- food to community groups working with vulnerable sectors of the community
- food and support to community "honesty shops" where customers pay what they can afford for groceries.

Ediblelinks have a range of volunteering opportunities for individuals and teams. These include helping with the day to day running of the hub by working in the warehouse, acting as a driver's mate and helping with stock rotation. If you are interested please contact [Sonya.Johnson@nhs.net](mailto:Sonya.Johnson@nhs.net)



## Catch 22

work with children and young people who have gone missing from home or care, or who are at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). They deliver bespoke support and interventions to children and young people to build resilience and aspiration, empowering them to take control of their lives and supporting them to stay safe.

For this to work for us from the perspective of our young people and taking into account their vulnerabilities, we could offer the following:

- A 2 day training course
- 6 x weekly half-day sessions (either morning or afternoon) of mentoring support for a young person.

(Total 5 working days)

In addition, the volunteer would need to complete the online local Safeguarding Children Board level 1 Safeguarding training in their own time (This takes approximately one hour).

They would also be eligible to attend a full day Safeguarding and Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness course with us, but that would take them beyond the 5 days per annum allowed by the scheme so may involve taking a day's annual leave. However, there would be no charge from Catch22 and the Safeguarding comes with a 3 year accreditation.

For more details please contact [Vanessa Boden](#)

# REFUGEE ACTION

## Syrian Resettlement Programme

Refugee Action is aiming to increase their volunteering capacity in Birmingham, Burton on Trent, Lichfield and Tamworth.

### Syrian Resettlement VPR Scheme- English Practice Volunteer

Do you want to be part of a resettlement programme by helping newly arrived refugees gain self-confidence and improve their English?

Do you want to be part of a team that is working to build a movement for change for refugees and asylum seekers?

#### What is the role?

Our clients are Syrian refugees who have recently arrived to live in Staffordshire. English language acquisition is vital for their resettlement and integration and therefore we need volunteers to help them practice their English out in their communities and in every day settings.

#### What is the time commitment?

- You'll need to be available to complete some initial induction and training sessions and then to commit to one half day a week minimum, Monday- Friday, between 9.30 am – 4.30 pm. Some flexibility may be required. Hours are likely to be approximately 1 hour per session with a client. This **does not** include travel time, (up to 2 hours per visit for a round trip), planning time (up to 1 hours per week) and approx. 1 hour per week and writing up an accurate notes of contact meetings.
- Refugee Action volunteers commit to the service for at least 6 months.

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- Refugee Action volunteers commit to the service for at least 6 months.

If you would like further information please contact [Vanessa Boden](#)

# P3 - People Potential Possibilities

We have services for homeless people and people who are at risk of homelessness.

P3 is a charity and social enterprise, made up of passionate people, who care about people. We run a variety of services all across the UK that aim to give everyone the chance to be part of the community they live in and feel connected to society. We think that everyone is unique, and with support and confidence can unlock their inner potential, opening up a world of possibilities.



P3 provides many services across the UK in areas including:

- Homeless services
- Young people's homeless service
- Homeless Families Accommodation
- Hospital discharge
- Community rehabilitation
- Leaving care
- Street Outreach
- Criminal Justice
- Children's services
- Supported housing and floating support

Our service models differ depending on the type and size of contract but we have a range of hostels for people come to our services at the lowest point in their lives. We also have a high street presence within our navigator hubs; clients can pop in for advice and support with support around benefits, housing related enquiries, jobs and volunteering.

Our clients have experienced trauma, abuse, stigma and social isolation from communities. They would feel empowered to have volunteers taking time out to spend with them to develop their understanding of any of the Civil Service Agencies that they access support from.

Within the hostels and our Navigator Hubs we have opportunities for your staff to help through workshops or one to one sessions for staff and volunteers or clients. We could offer the minimum of five days a year for each member of your team who would like to be involved in this project.

We would also love to explore the opportunity for some joint partnership working with drop in support particularly around income or housing related benefits.

If you visit our website or facebook page you will get more details about the diversity of services we run.  
<http://www.p3charity.org>

If you would like further information please contact [Vanessa Boden](#).

# The new Civil Service Local Project Leads

We are delighted to introduce our new project leads: **Brenda Bond** , **Andrea Charity** and **Error! Reference source not found.** who joined the Civil Service Local Midlands team this month.

**Brenda Bond** is on 12 months secondment from Office of the Public Guardian. She is currently assigned as Volunteer Lead on the Food bank/Junk food project. This project aims to get Civil Servants utilising their volunteering days to become personally active in delivering Civil Service Vision by engaging with local charities by providing assistance to those vulnerable in their communities.

**Andrea Charity** first joined the Civil Service with the CPS in Derby in 1986, most recently she has been with HMRC in Nottingham working in VAT compliance.

“All through my Civil Service career I’ve enjoyed volunteering. It’s been mainly with schools but there have been careers fairs and social outreach programs over the years so I was delighted to start working with Civil Service Local as Midlands Lead. To me it’s the opportunity to continue encouraging other Civil Servants to get involved in the community. It’s such valuable work and rewarding work, professionally as well as personally. As well as supporting and developing our current work I plan on developing our Going Forward Project, helping prepare offenders for release by improving employment and life skills prior to release. Having worked in criminal justice for so long a project that aims to help bring re-offending rates down is a natural continuation for me and one I very much look forwards to working with.”

**Ryan Preece**, is (until next week) the most recent secondee to work with Civil Service Local (CSL). Prior to his move into CSL he worked within the HMRC Chief Technology Office firstly as an IT Cost Engineer and more recently as a Business Manager.

“Civil Service Local is a great opportunity for me personally, I am extremely passionate about social action and community development and this role allows me to directly have an impact in these areas. Outside of work I have a lot of hobbies including scouts, mountaineering, kayaking, climbing and cooking.

I look forward to engaging with as many Civil Servants as possible over the next 12 months, and hopefully will be able to get you involved in some of the great CSL projects as well as some new grass routes initiatives.”

## Contact the team:

**Katie Giles**                      [Katie.Giles@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:Katie.Giles@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)

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