

Hello and welcome to our latest News Bulletin.

In this edition:

<b>Syrian Resettlement Programme</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>P3 - People Potential Possibilities</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Grantham Foodbank</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Grantham Foodbank Harvest Appeal</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Great Barr FoodBank</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>Ediblelinks Atherstone</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Room availability</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>Mentor Matching</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>Every Mind Matters</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>Schools Engagement</b> .....	<b>12</b>

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](#)

Follow us on Twitter [@CSLocalMidlands](#)

# 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 note of contact meetings.
- Refugee Action volunteers commit to the service for at least 6 months.

## Arrivals, Advocate & Support Volunteer (Syrian Resettlement)

Do you want to gain casework experience in an advice and outreach setting?

Do you want to be part of a team that is working to promote greater understanding of refugees and the issues affecting them and build a movement that welcomes all refugees and asylum seekers?

### What is the role?

The Arrivals aspect of the role is to provide assistance to an individual or household group of newly arrived resettled refugees for their first week in the UK. The Advocate element of the role is to support clients to carry out specific tasks as part of their on-going resettlement. These tasks will be directed by the Resettlement Team. The role involves providing local orientation to refugees within Birmingham and supporting them to use public transport and local services. This role also involves producing accurate notes of contact meetings and submitting them to Resettlement team.

### What is the time commitment?

- You'll need to be available to complete some initial induction and training sessions.
- We'd reasonably expect you to commit to a full day a week (minimum), between Monday- Friday, 9.30 am – 4.30 pm. Some flexibility may be required in arrival weeks;
- Refugee Action volunteers commit to the service for at least 6 months.

### Will I receive training and support?

All Refugee Action volunteers will receive:

- Induction and number of training sessions;
- On-going support from a volunteer supervisor;
- Reasonable expenses to cover travel and lunch

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](#).



# Grantham Foodbank



If you are that someone who haven't used any of their volunteering days or you are looking for the next volunteering opportunity, well here's your chance!

The **Grantham Foodbank** is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to:

- Assist in their warehouse (organising the donated food items, this to include parceling/packing food for the vulnerable individuals/families who use their services)
- Give advice on: benefits, taxes, legal issues (DWP, HMRC, LAA)
- Lead project/s on community gardening within the Grantham area
- Donate food items (non – perishables) No out of date items
- Fundraise (adopt the foodbank for a year)

If you are that someone, for further information contact:

Brian Hanbury  
Project Co-ordinator  
07816872561  
[Email the Foodbank](#)

Or Brenda Bond: [Bren.Bond@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:Bren.Bond@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)

# Grantham Foodbank Harvest Appeal



Please support our

## Harvest Appeal

Your donations help to provide three days of emergency food and support to local people in crisis.

We are in need of:

- 
- Milk (UHT or powdered)
  - Sugar (500g)
  - Fruit juice (carton)
  - Soup
  - Pasta sauces
  - Sponge pudding (tinned)
  - Tomatoes (tinned)
  - Cereals
  - Rice pudding (tinned)
  - Tea bags/instant coffee
  - Instant mash potato
  - Rice/pasta
  - Tinned meat/Fish
  - Tinned fruit
  - Jam
  - Biscuits or snack bars



[www.granthamfoodbank.org.uk](http://www.granthamfoodbank.org.uk)

Reg. Charity Number. 1146588



# Great Barr FoodBank



Photo by [rawpixel](#) on [Unsplash](#)

## GREAT BARR FOODBANK: HELPING LOCAL PEOPLE IN CRISIS

Volunteer at the **Great Barr Foodbank** in Birmingham.

The foodbank operates on a Tuesday & Friday from 12 - 2pm

Volunteers are needed to:

- Assist in their warehouse on a Monday (organising the donated food items, this to include parceling/packing food for the vulnerable individuals/families who use their services)
- Fundraise (adopt the foodbank for a year)
- Give advice on: benefits, taxes, legal issues (DWP, HMRC, LAA)
- Donate food items (non – perishables) No out of date items
- Assist with their Christmas food collection at Tesco's (Walsall) on the 2 December 2018

For further information on how to get volunteering contact:

Hazel Powell: <mailto:info@greatbarr.foodbank.org.uk>

Tel: 0121 357 5399

Or Brenda Bond: [Bren.Bond@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:Bren.Bond@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)

# Room availability



Connect

With the help of the Civil Service Local network we have now been able to locate all the government sites across the Midlands. This tool is really helpful for Civil Service Local to identify where we've been engaging and how much work we've been doing. We'd like all government departments to be able to use this tool to share opportunities, meeting rooms and utilise particular offices skill sets.

## **Are you responsible for meeting rooms in your building? Can you help?**

If you are responsible for meeting rooms in your building we'd be grateful if you could email us with details of the meeting rooms available, their capacity and what business areas your site covers. If you are not the person responsible for meeting rooms in your building could you please inform who is.

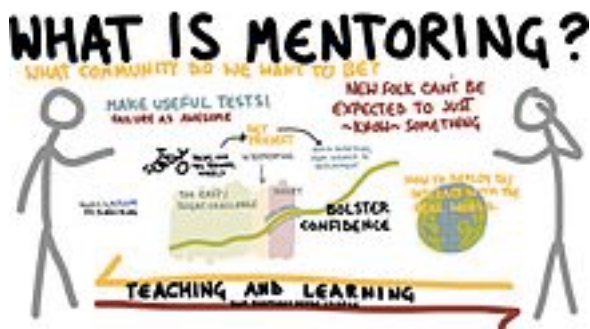
Once the mapping tool has this additional capability, we will start sharing it across our network so that it can be utilised by all civil servants across the Midlands.

Please email all information to [ryan.preece@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:ryan.preece@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)



# Mentor Matching

Civil Service Local Midlands is looking to set up a Mentor Matching service.



By Willow Brugh - what is mentoring, CC BY-SA 2.0,  
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=36934847>

Connect

Mentoring is a great way to gain insight into where you want to be and how you can get there. By having a mentor, you will gain access to their experiences of when they were once in a similar position to you.

Being a mentor can be a rewarding experience giving you a new perspective as well as the satisfaction of knowing that you have helped someone develop their skills and potential.

[Interested in being a Mentor?](#) Please get in touch. Tell us a little bit about yourself, and give a brief description of your current role and previous experience. If you have faced and overcome any challenges let us know as all this information will help with the matching process.

[Interested in being mentored?](#) Please tell us what your current role and position is and give a brief description of the type of mentoring help you are interested in.

If you are interested in participating please contact us at [cslocalmidlands@cabinet.office.gov.uk](mailto:cslocalmidlands@cabinet.office.gov.uk). Label your email Mentor or Mentoring.

# Every Mind Matters



HOW DO **YOU** HANDLE  
LIFE'S UPS AND DOWNS?



There are times when we feel stressed, low or anxious, or have trouble sleeping. But there are things we can do to look after our mental health and wellbeing. Get expert advice, practical tips and a personalised action plan with [Every Mind Matters](#)

# Schools Engagement

## Practice Interview Day

This is a Practice Interview Day for Year 10 students. Students have to attend an interview with an employer, they arrive in business dress or school uniform with their CV and a covering letter.

Where: **Stockland Green**

When: **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November** between 09.00 - 13.00

## Stockland Green Year 9 – 11 Careers Fair

This is an event that we hope all students from Year 9 through to Year 11, will have the opportunity of attending. Colleges, Training Providers and a number of employers attend this event.

Where: **Stockland Green School**

When: **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November** between 09.00 - 13.00

## Hodge Hill College

Call for apprentices/apprenticeship providers who'd be willing to help Hodge Hill College Year 9 Careers Speed Dating format, multiple quick-fire interactions.

When: **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November**

Where: **Hodge Hill College**

## Hall Green School's Industry Day

The aim of the day is for all of our Year 7 pupils to obtain Careers Information, Advice and Guidance directly from employers from a range of different career sectors.

When: **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018** between 10.40 - 15.15

Where: **Hall Green School**

For further details contact [ryan.preece@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:ryan.preece@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)

## Mock Interviews

Where: **Derby Moor**

When: **24 October 2018** between 1.30pm- 4.45pm

## Enterprise Career Day

Where: **Landau Forte**

When: **20 November 2018** between 8am- 3pm

## CV Workshop

Where: **Littleover**

When: **13 November 2018** between 8.30am- 12.30pm

For further details about these opportunities please contact

[Jo.Robinson@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:Jo.Robinson@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)

If you are interested in receiving updates and further information about other Schools Engagement opportunities please email [cslocalmidlands@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:cslocalmidlands@cabinetoffice.gov.uk) With the subject heading "SEO list".



**Contact the team:**

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