

London Churches Refugee Fund

“Imagine...”

Imagine is the theme for this year's [Refugee Week, 15-21 June 2020](#). In response, LCRF has put together this short resource, featuring actual cases from the charities we support. For 'how to donate', see the last page.

Monday 15th June: Imagine the only shoes you have are a pair of flip-flops



[Donate](#)

C is a torture survivor. One very rainy day she came for her therapy appointment at Freedom from Torture wearing thin flip flops. They were the only shoes she had. LCRF's grant allowed FFT to give her the cash to buy sturdier shoes.

Could you spare:

- * £10 for a pair of cheap shoes from the market
- * or the cost of your own favourite pair of shoes to help someone like C?

Better still, take out a monthly standing order so we can help many people like her.

Tuesday 16th June: Imagine you are penniless and the government is wrongly demanding money from you

D is an asylum seeker who lives in a hostel and has multiple serious health conditions. Her £35 per week living allowance was cancelled in error and she had to borrow from fellow tenants in order to eat; and then she was wrongly charged for her prescriptions (which should have been free) and charged penalty fines because she couldn't pay. LCRF's grant allowed Action for Refugees in Lewisham to help her buy food while getting the errors sorted out.

Could you spare:

- * £10 to keep a destitute person going for a couple of days?
- * £25 so someone like D can eat for a week?



Image: CCO licence

[Donate](#)

Or please consider setting up a monthly standing order so we can help many people like D.

Wednesday 17th June: Imagine being a family of five cooped up in a single room



A newly-arrived refugee family with a boy of 12 and twin girls of 9 are cooped up in a single room; the children are not yet enrolled in school. A volunteer brings them to Croydon Refugee Centre, where they find space and a range of activities like an art table. An LCRF grant pays for their fares, which the family couldn't otherwise afford.

Could you spare:

- * £9 for the family to visit the refugee centre once
- * £36 for four stress-busting visits

[Donate](#)

Or might you take out a monthly standing order so we can help many families like this one?

Have you seen our 2019 annual report, from which these case studies are taken? If not, and you'd like to know more about them and about our work, you can download it or read it online at www.help4refugees.co.uk/annual-report-2019. Or contact us for a printed copy.

Thursday 18th June: Imagine feeling that you are sponging off really nice people

R is a victim of trafficking who was held in domestic servitude and sexually abused; she is lucky enough to receive hosting from a member of her church. BUT she has absolutely no resources of her own and is desperate to contribute towards her own food and transport. Our grant to Hackney Migrant Centre allowed them to give her £20 to relieve R's dependency for a short time while they work towards longer term solutions.

- * **Could you spare** £20 to buy food and transport for someone like R?
- * Or do you have a spare room where someone could live for a time? See housingjustice.org.uk/what-we-do/hosting-project



[Donate](#)

If you'd like to give a small amount regularly, you can set up a monthly standing order so we can help many people for whom even a few pounds makes a huge difference.

Friday 19th June: Imagine being homeless, alone, traumatised and pregnant in a foreign country



Pregnant, M had been held by a violent ex-partner. She was still not in permanent accommodation and at times was homeless on the streets. An LCRF grant allowed Praxis, while they progressed her asylum claim, to give her some money for fares and also a small grant for new-baby expenses.

Could you spare:

- * £21.20 for a weekly bus pass?
- * Or whatever you spent on your last gift for a new baby?

[Donate](#)

Better still, take out a monthly standing order so we can help other pregnant mothers like M

There's loads of information about refugees and asylum seekers and about the work we do to help them on our website at www.help4refugees.co.uk where you can also sign up for regular updates. 'Follow' us on Facebook @RefugeeFundLondon or on Twitter @LCR_Fund. Or you can contact us by emailing info@help4refugees.co.uk. However you do it, stay in touch!

Saturday 20th June: Imagine trying to reunite your family while sleeping in a night shelter



Mr X had to split from his wife and three children after his application for asylum was refused and they became homeless; he was sleeping in a night shelter but trying to reunite them. The African Refugee Centre helped him make a fresh claim (which was successful), and find family accommodation. Meanwhile, LCRF's grant allowed ARC to help him with food, fares, warm clothing and essential toiletries.

Could you spare:

- * £10 for gloves and a scarf?
- * £20 for a hygiene pack? or both?

[Donate](#)

Monthly giving by standing order would enable us to help many more families like his.

Sunday 21st June: Imagine not being able to phone home at Christmas



A has no financial support and is not allowed to work. The most distressing thing is that he can't afford to call his family members back home. He is helped by the Jesuit Refugee Service. LCRF's grant to them allowed JRS to give him top-up vouchers at Christmas. A says: "Whenever I get a chance to speak to one of my family, it gives me the patience and strength to keep moving forward."

Could you spare:

[Donate](#)

* £10 to top up A's phone

* Or what you spent on one Christmas present last year?

Best of all, take out a monthly standing order so we can help many people like A, not just at Christmas but all through the year.

How to Donate

To donate online now, please go to www.help4refugees.co.uk/donate and click on the Paypal "Donate" button (you do not need a Paypal account)

For details of our bank account, so you can donate by BACS, email davebond144@hotmail.co.uk

For postal donations, make cheques payable to "London Churches Refugee Fund" and send to the Treasurer, LCRF, 144 Ladywell Road, London SE13 7HU

A Standing Order and Gift Aid form can also be downloaded from www.help4refugees.co.uk/donate and sent by post

And if you are unable to use any of those methods, or need further help or information, please email info@help4refugees.co.uk or contact the Treasurer at the address above.

Thank you!