



KRAN

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



KENT REFUGEE ACTION NETWORK



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CHAIR REPORT by Ann Whitbourn

The year 2019 has been a year when KRAN has continued to consolidate, develop and review its work and the progress made according to our 3 year Strategic Plan and using the review and consultations held with our key stake holders, staff, trustees and young people we are now in the final stages of the development of a 5 year Strategic Plan for 2020 to 2025.

I will leave our Chief Executive Officer to tell you how we have risen to new challenges and, with the Project Managers, to describe all that has been achieved in their areas this year and the many activities that have been undertaken.

The Board of Trustees has continued to work hard during the year to build on the progress and support the work being done. All the board members have given very generously of their time and energies during 2019 both in the main board meetings as well as advising and participating in various sub groups and other activities essential to the day to day running of KRAN enabling us to face the, still uncertain, future with confidence.

The Board has been particularly pleased on how the work in the Trainee Project has developed during 2019 and the resultant rapid growth in the importance of the Youth Forum and the opportunities it presents for the voice of the young people to be heard not only in KRAN but increasingly in the wider world.

At the beginning of 2019 we were delighted to welcome Salome Legesse-Dunn as a co-opted trustee to the board. Salome has considerable

financial expertise and her advice and insight is already proving invaluable. We shall be putting her forward to the meeting later at our AGM to have her appointment ratified

During 2019 we have continued to benefit greatly from the work of our Chief Executive Officer, Razia Shariff. Her insight and experience have enabled us to make considerable progress on the restructure of KRAN and to put in place the processes that are needed to support our staff and volunteers in the demanding work that they are doing for the young refugees who come to us for help and advice. She has also worked hard with the funding committee in exploring new avenues of funding as well as obtaining continuation funding for existing work. As a result of the success of their funding efforts we were able to continue to expand and consolidate work begun last year in 2019.

In January we were joined by a new Complex Case Worker, Paul Cossali, who has been doing great work supporting our young people in crisis. During the year the growth in demand for our services made it necessary to recruit new and former staff to help in the Learning for Life and Women's groups in Canterbury, Folkestone and Ashford.

Razia has given more detailed information about these appointments in her report but I would like to welcome them all to the KRAN family.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all our Trustees, our CEO, senior managers, their staff and all our volunteers for their leadership, enthusiasm, passion and sheer hard work that has enabled us during 2019 to



Ann accepts the Kent Volunteering Award 2019

support and encourage the young people with whom we work. All their varying and valuable contributions have enabled these young people to grow in confidence and understanding and given them the opportunity to take their lives forward in a positive direction.

I would also like to thank all of those individuals and local organisations, who alongside our major funders, have supported us so generously this year by their very valued donations – the amazing total of which appears further on in the report.

CEO REPORT

The year 2019 has been a year when KKRAN has continued to consolidate, develop and review its work and the progress made according to our 3 year 2019 has been a year of changes and

our 3 year 2019 has been a year of changes and



Colyer-Ferguson Charity Awards 2019

challenges. From our offices in Canterbury making over thanks to volunteers, staff and trainees and moving to new premises in Folkestone, supporting increasing numbers of young asylum seekers being places in other parts of Kent such as Ashford, Maidstone and Deal and a huge increase in media interest because of the Dover boat arrivals of Kurdish refugees. We also welcomed Refugee Council into our Canterbury offices, and held our 15th Year Anniversary celebrations

during Nawruz. We have been reviewing our last 3 years Strategic Plan, consulting with key stakeholders and using their insights to develop a 5 year Strategic Plan for 2020 – 2025 with help of consultant from Lloyds

Foundation.

We welcomed the support of an Impact consultant from the Third Sector Research Centre, as part of Esmee Fairbairn Grant Enhance program to help KKRAN improve the way we measure and demonstrate the impact of our work. During

the year, the number of new arrivals has increased and regularly hit the media headlines because some are now arriving on boats into Dover.

The total number is now over 300 whereas over the past few years it has remained under 250. Although this is above the 0.07% threshold to reapply the National Transfer Scheme, the previous experience of this voluntary scheme and the time and resources needed to organise it has meant that it has not been reintroduced.

As a result, our class sizes have increased and we have introduced new provision in Ashford two mornings a week, in response to where new arrivals are being placed.

We have also had an increase in the number of young people turning 18; over 900 in Kent now. This is a critical time as they learn if they will be given refugee status and if they can appeal.

There has been a large increase over the year of young people from Afghanistan who have become Appeals Rights Exhausted (ARE) and have become destitute. KKRAN has been working with Duncan Lewis Solicitors to challenge the house evictions by KCC and the Home Office Country Guidance Note on Afghanistan that states that there is 'no risk on return to Kabul'.

Our traineeship scheme for those who gain refugee status has gone from strength to strength and has helped launch a vibrant youth forum. In addition to residential training and EU training courses in Finland and Croatia, they have also had the opportunity to gain work experience with our new Social Corporate Responsibility partners Cummins.

In the first quarter of 2019, we were successful in securing funding from Aviva for IT, budgeting and job club activities and the Coop Foundation for a pilot to combat loneliness.

The Coop pilot of a Saturday Club was co-designed, co-delivered and evaluated with the Trainees and was very successful offering opportunities for our young people to experience cultural activities that local young people do all the time.

Our football activities are now in Folkestone, Ashford and Canterbury (with the kind support of St Edmunds School who allow us to use their pitch) in response to the demands of young people. We have secured funding from Acts For Change to further build on our Listening Fund work and take the Youth Forum to the next level. Kent Community Foundation continues to add support to our work for the women's group and vocational pathway training. We are constantly invited to give talks and presentations to other community partners: I have speed dated with 150 third year criminology students at Canterbury Christ Church University as part of their meet the employer morning; given school talks to 90 enthusiastic 10 year old students in their classes as they are studying the topic of refugees; and been invited to give a presentation at the Samaritans AGM surrounded by positive, committed, dedicated volunteers who are

there for people in their darkest moments.

I have also been invited to join St the Children in Need Grants Panel for the South East, and asked to be a reviewer for two Journals on articles relating to refugees and asylum seekers. KLAN was the winner of the prestigious 'Turning Lives Around' Award celebrating

(Canterbury), Fatima Nourrice (Canterbury) and Chris Jessop (Folkestone) have been supporting our Learning for Life provision and women's groups, and we welcome their proactive role in preparing our young people for life in the UK.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Bridget



St Edmund's School Canterbury

the 50th Anniversary of Colyer-Fergusson.

In addition our Chair Anne Whitbourn has been recognised for her great work by the Lord Lieutenant of Kent and KM Kent Volunteering Awards 2019. This year we have been joined by a new Complex Case Worker Paul Cossali who started in January and has been doing a sterling job supporting our young people in crisis. Also Ola Odeyemi (Ashford and Folkestone), Sarah Hagues (Folkestone), Kate Brown (Canterbury and Ashford), Shara Dizeeye

Chapman for taking on the additional work of media lead and ensuring that there is a pro-refugee viewpoint aired in the media, and IMIX who have been offering their guidance and support.

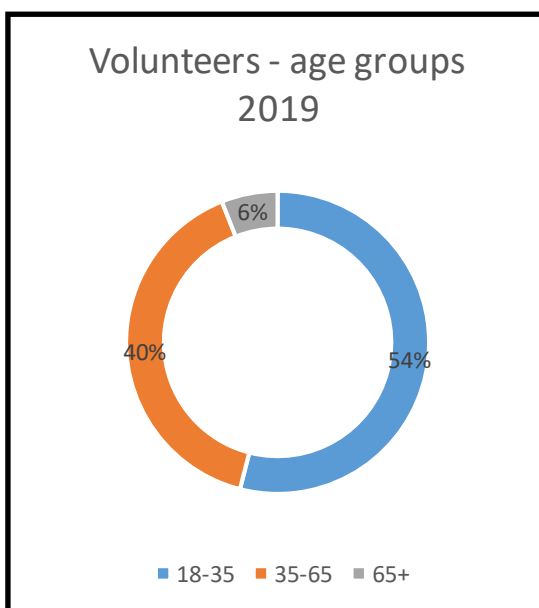
As always, our work would not be possible without our network of volunteers, mentors and supporters to whom we are grateful, and to our young people who repeatedly surprise us with how they are resilient and achieve against the odds.

Razia

VOLUNTEERS

We have had many volunteers giving their time across KRAN this year doing many different things to support our young people and they come from many different occupations such as students, an acupuncturist, researchers, retired professionals, teachers, a copy writer, artist, filmmaker, company director and instrument maker to

name but a few. Their hobbies and interests are as broad and varied including music, books, reading, gardening, walking, cooking, cycling, languages, and yoga and wreck scuba diving!



Special thanks to...

Henri – for producing lunches with the young people at KRAN Canterbury every Wednesday (290 hrs)

Mary - for producing lunches with the young people at KRAN Ashford every Thursday (290 hrs)

Jim – going above and beyond the call of duty to finish the painting of the Canterbury Hub (lost count!!)

Volunteers from SAP Concur who painted most of the Canterbury Hub in a day

The Ramblers who walked miles on Boxing Day raising money for KRAN.

FEEDBACK:

Gwen

"I really loved my experience with KRAN and wish I could have stayed longer. I was able to create strong bonds with the young people and I hope that I was able to help them in different ways. The time I spent there was very varied with different activities (art, cooking, Drama, Kent University), talks from charities and organizations (Red Cross, NHS, etc.), administrative work (sorting the policy folders). The team working at KRAN were all lovely and very welcoming. Gwen was extremely helpful and kind. She would always take the time to explain things that I did not necessarily understand. My experience at KRAN taught me a lot and has influenced my thoughts on future careers as I would love to work with refugees again."

"I didn't know much about KRAN originally, but after doing some research I was very interested in the work they do and wanted to be a part of it. I think living in Kent, where we hear almost daily about refugees arriving, made me want to help in some way, by making them feel welcome and helping them adapt to life in the UK. I think KRAN, which represents a safe space for the young people, was the perfect place to do so."

We also have many people who come and volunteer on a short-term basis these include:

Canterbury Christchurch University (CCU)

Alternative Learning Experience placements X3 (270 hrs)

International Relations & French 2nd year student (100 hrs)

Masters Research student (30hrs)

Health Promotion degree student (36 hours)

Occupational Therapy Students (ongoing)

University of Kent at Canterbury (UKC)

3rd year Politics & International relations Student (ongoing)

3rd year Law & Sociology Kent Platinum Award for Volunteering Student (30hrs)

Course Placements from various organisations

University of East Anglia : 2nd year International Development student (6 weeks = 150 hrs)

2 & 4 day Diversity Placements for trainee Police Officers from Kent Police regularly throughout the year.

Work experience Placements from Schools

Folkestone School for Girls x2 (24 hrs)

Kent College x1 (75 hrs)

LEARNING FOR LIFE CANTERBURY



Tuesday lesson at University of Kent

The Learning for Life class in KRAN runs from Monday to Thursday from 10:00 to 1 p.m. We currently have 32 unaccompanied asylum seeking young people on roll. Our former students who now attend college or school also join us when they are free. The class size usually ranges from 25 to 32. As numbers are large, we have recently started to use a room downstairs to provide a Maths class on Wednesdays with Jack, and an IT/Maths word problems class on Mondays and Thursdays with Fatima. The young people join these sessions on a rota basis. We are also fortunate to receive excellent support from our volunteers including

Anthony, Nicky and Henri. Themes covered so far since the summer include: 'Education and your future', 'Looking after yourself' and 'Your community'.

We had a very enjoyable summer programme this year. We took a group of 25 young people to London on a beautiful summer's day in August. The coach dropped us in Greenwich and we took the boat to the Embankment. We enjoyed a buffet lunch and walked to Buckingham Palace via the Houses of Parliament. Other trips this year have included bowling in Margate, sports at St Edmund's School, a visit to St Martin's Church, a trip to St Augustine's Abbey and the Beaney Museum, a trip to Walmer Castle and regular visits to Canterbury Cathedral. The young people have also enjoyed art with Rhiannon and football with our coach Milyon during school holidays. Speakers from the police, health service and fire service have also led workshops in class which supports our work on life skills.



Day out in Canterbury

Gloria Chamorro and her team from the University of Kent continue to work on the very popular ESOL computer project with the young people on Tuesdays. Shara takes 25 plus young people there every week. I teach the Women's Group at KRAN during this time.



Play at The Gulbenkian

Cooking takes place on Wednesdays and our volunteer Henri shops and cooks with two young people each week and we always enjoy an excellent lunch together after midday. Many of our young people also go with Shara to Drama Club which is held every Monday at 5:00 at Canterbury College. Shara also regularly takes the young people to performances at local theatres.

During the summer months, St Edmund's School allowed us to use their football facilities and Milyon coached the young people each Friday evening. This was a very popular event with 30 or more young people attending.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported the young people in class this year.

Anne and Shara

LEARNING FOR LIFE FOLKESTONE

This year's theme seems to have been travel and transport including hiring a very large van in May to move us from Folkestone Business Hub to our new venue. We are now settled in our new classroom back at the Shed on its new site and want to thank Ruth Tyler of Folkestone Youth Project for extending her building to accommodate us and decorating it so beautifully.

In 2019 so far we have worked with 92 young people in our teaching sessions. Folkestone sessions run Mondays to Thursdays but in Ashford in March we added a second session and now work there on Mondays and Thursdays. This was made possible due to the generous donation of hall and kitchen space by Ashford Baptist Church. This was to accommodate a number of young people who were travelling from Maidstone to access our services as well as a large number of young people who had been moved into Ashford and the surrounding area. In order to give these young people a full week's teaching we also started to fund train travel to Folkestone from Ashford to make the long journey practicable.



Rotary Champions Award 2019

6 members of staff now teach part time during the week. Kate and Ola in Ashford and Sandra, Bridget, Wendy and Sarah in Folkestone as well as Chris who runs the women's group – some of whom volunteer with the young people to improve their own English (and cook some great lunches). Coordinating this can be a bit tricky so we have introduced a LFL Planning procedure whereby Folkestone and Ashford staff use the LFL Canterbury Lesson Plans created by Anne. This means that we coordinate what subjects are taught for all the young people and staff can plan for different days knowing what has already been covered. We thank Anne for her hard work and expertise on this.

Wendy and Bridget continue to organise events and outreach, manage safeguarding, coordinate volunteers, oversee day-to-day office administration and run the drop in from the Folkestone base assisted by other KRAN staff some of whom also spend a day a week to help with staff cover and get to know the young people.



KRAN Art Session mosaics in Folkestone

Higher Level maths, cooking, art and craft, conversation and wellbeing. Several have or are about to move on to mentoring as well this year and we thank them all for their support and generosity in 2019.

This year we have welcomed on board number of KRAN trainees who work with us 7 hours per week. Daniel and Rahil have now moved on to University in London and a new job in Manchester but we now have Amani, Shafi, Grmalem and Faisal who are doing a great job and are bringing many new skills and talents to the work in Folkestone and Ashford. Our committed volunteers assist in the classroom Monday to Wednesday and work with the young people to give them extra support with English at all levels,

We are enjoying our new hub at The Shed in Folkestone. We now share an extended kitchen so cooking is regularly back on the curriculum and now have a new volunteer Diane who is leading the cooking sessions. We receive free food donations from Fareshare (Folkestone Tesco Express and now ASDA), Dockers Bread and the Kent Gleaners.

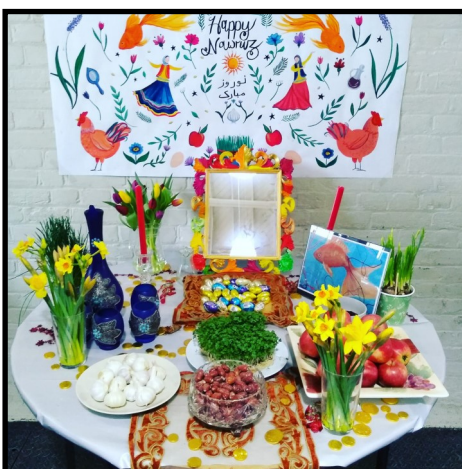
Events, projects and activities this year: 3 trips to London, 2 footballing trips to Canterbury, 3 DJ sessions, Tennis and Cricket Day funded by the Tennis Foundation at Three Hills Sports Park joined by a group of asylum seeking and refugee young people from Hackney, A visit from Folkestone Mayor (who also came to the Nowruz party) and Channel Rotar, visits to Folkestone Museum, pop Up Cafe at the Quarterhouse Theatre for Profound Sound Festival, Ten Pin Bowling in Ashford, Sessions with Police Community Liaison, Red Cross First Aid, KCC Crime Prevention (at Canterbury College), A bluebell walk at Kingswood, Challock and Beacons Project Treasure Hunt around Folkestone and End of Project Light Event at Sunny Sands, art sessions and a project with Walmer Castle on display was the map they had made in collaboration with local artist Charlotte Chapman using prints and drawings made by the young people inspired by visits to the castle in 2018 and 2019.

We are currently involved in the organisation of an evening for the Folkestone Living Advent Calendar. Our "door" will be opened on 19th December at 6pm. All are invited to come along.



Sunny walk in Folkestone

Wendy and Bridget continue to work with the newly arrived young people at the Millbank Residential Centre by providing cooking sessions on site in their training kitchen. These sessions enable the young people to meet KRAN staff and learn a little more about what is out there in the community. On the back of this young people from Millbank have been invited to KRAN activities such as the pop up cafe and football and we are happy to be able to support Millbank staff in providing extra opportunities for the young people while they wait to move into the community. It is also good to meet familiar faces when the young people meet us again at KRAN sessions.



Nowruz table at our Anniversary party

Wendy has worked with Rotary Clubs and the Rotary South East District Governor on the same project and to raise awareness about KRAN services. She was proud to accept on behalf of KRAN, a Rotary Great Britain and Ireland Community Champion Award at an evening in Nottingham in May which was also attended by the President of Rotary International. This was a great opportunity to raise awareness of the work of KRAN.

The culmination of KRAN's anniversary year was a party at the beautiful Westgate Hall in Canterbury. The young people made decorations at sessions in Canterbury and Folkestone and a team of volunteers provided a hot buffet of foods from different countries. We even purchased smart new KRAN aprons which have been used many time since.

Wendy

CASEWORK

Casework continues to be a significant part of KРАН’s remit. Support is offered at both Canterbury and Folkestone hubs on a drop in and on an appointment basis. We have also provided outreach support and general advice sessions at Canterbury College, and when needed, in other community forums.

Accessing quality legal representation for our young people has remained a challenge. Constraints on legal aid funding has meant there is often limited motivation and capacity to take on the more complex cases.

The situation is compounded by the very modest number of law firms in Kent with immigration and asylum legal aid contracts. Securing appropriate legal advice and representation has been a focus this year. We are fortunate to be able to call on the Kent Law clinic for

their timely input on all asylum and immigration issues. We have also confirmed that a team from an established firm of immigration solicitors in London are committed to pro bono surgeries at our hubs.

We have had some notable successes in 2019 securing legal representation for young people with very complex asylum and immigration situations. Advocacy and representation around housing and benefits has been another major area of casework. Social housing remains in very short supply around Kent, particularly in the Canterbury area.

Support for young people trying to get private rented accommodation while negotiating the Universal Credit minefield has often proved to be lacking. Sadly too many of our young people have found themselves in significant

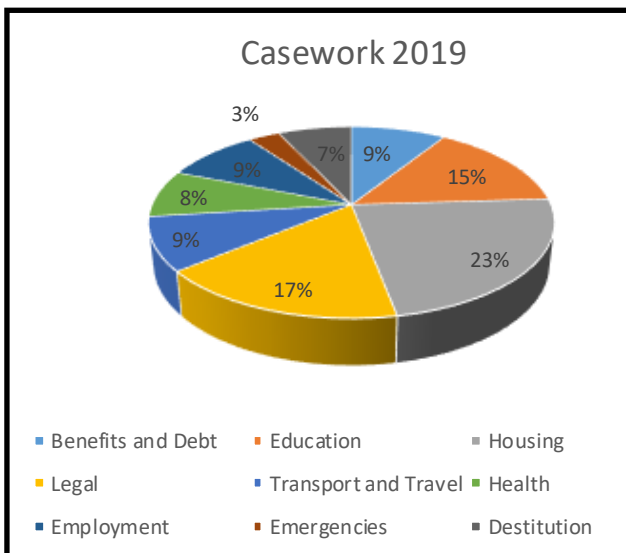
Appeals Rights Exhausted (ARE) young people are disproportionately represented in KРАН’s caseload. Inevitably ARE young people present with a range of needs; somewhere to sleep, money to survive and support on all things legal.

The stress of destitution impacts significantly on mental and emotional health. KРАН has signposted many ARE clients to housing solicitors who have had a 100% success rate in thwarting attempts by the Local Authority housing provider to enforce evictions. KРАН continues to refer homeless young people to the charities Refugees at Home and Room for Refugees.

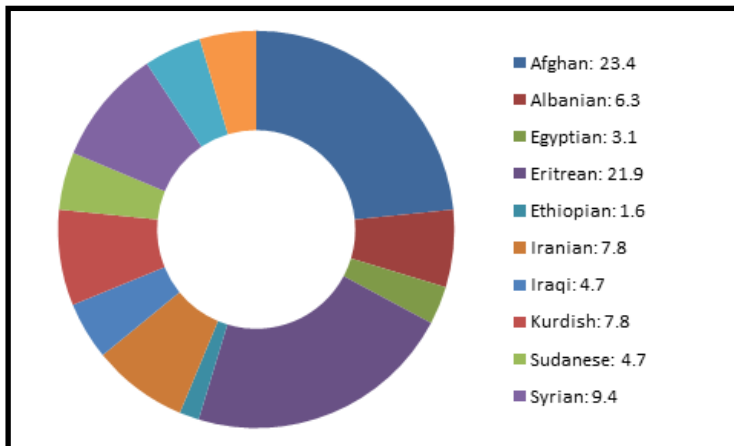
It’s very rare that resolution and management of casework can be achieved by a single individual. Many of our young people would recognize the efforts made by all KРАН staff and trainees in addressing the issues they raise - whether these are routine or have been complex. And KРАН staff and trainees would in turn confirm that successful complexities of casework is nearly always the result of effective networking and partnership an area where working. We aim to ensure that empowerment of young people informs the casework and function.

networks.

Paul C.



FINANCE



KРАН Income 2018/2019	
Grants	337,761
Donations	21,840
Statutory Educational Funding	13,889
Other Income	13,043
	<hr/>
	386,532

MENTORING

It has been a busy year with mentoring. It is important that as an organisation, we meet the needs of the young people and recently we have had a number of referrals for mentors in the Maidstone area. Initially we reached out to other organisations in that area however they were unable to assist, therefore we have taken the steps of facilitating partnerships there as KРАН.

In addition to expanding the area we cover, we now have over 45 partnerships with over 40 mentors waiting for training, checks or to

be matched. There is also around 40 plus young people waiting to be matched with mentors. Therefore, we expect an increase in the number of partnerships next year.

In a recent survey to the mentees about the mentoring programme, all of them said that the partnerships had had a positive impact on their lives and they would recommend it to their friends. We are very pleased with this response. We also canvassed the mentors, who were able to feedback to us what they felt was working and how we could improve. A big thank you to all those who responded. With the Youth Forum and the new Youth Ambassador role, we expect young people to be more involved than ever in the work that we do. Currently, trainees support the coordinator with administrative work, engaging young people into mentoring and delivering training. In the future, we hope that they will be able to take to the lead in a peer-mentoring scheme.

Following discussions with mentors, KРАН has implemented a 'peer support' option for all mentors. This is when two mentors would be matched to give each other support around their mentoring partnerships. The mentor coordinator will continue to facilitate meetings for mentors to discuss their partnerships, and will follow up on any issues of concern that KРАН or any other body are concerned with, but this will provide more informal and emotional support. It was developed to support mentors that worked with young people with high needs, particularly around poor mental fitness. Over the last year, we have provided some training opportunities – Understanding sleep dysregulation, Mental Health First Aid training, Mental Health Awareness Training (Level 2), online course provided by Skills Network. Over the next year we aim to provide more interesting training opportunities.



Gareth

YOUTH SUPPORT & ADVOCACY

The **Youth Forum** has brought together 15 young people to identify issues that constrain them and to start to address these.

Local schools and institutions have been visited through the year to **raise awareness and build bridges** between refugee youth and Kent communities.

Ongoing support has been provided to our young people to help them secure places in college, do college assignments, apply for jobs and become employment ready. With the Aviva Community Fund, we have prepared a Budget Course to help young people manage their money. We have engaged in several **events** to build skills and awareness around refugee issues.



Zip-lining in Kingswood, Ashford

The Youth Forum has met each month to explore difficult issues that confront refugee youth. At the start of the year, we met with Hon. Rosie Duffield, the MP for Canterbury who spent time with Youth Forum members discussing asylum issues and concerns. She received a written request to lift harmful restrictions and speed up asylum processes.

The Youth Forum has explored possibilities around 4 big issues, namely dealing with young refugee mental health, expanding permission for refugee employment, reducing police harassment and campaigning for changes. These topics have formed the basis for Action Learning Sets. To get a better sense of the different perspectives around these issues, the Youth Forum has engaged other stakeholders.

KРАН has worked to develop the capability of young refugees through the Youth Forum. This has involved training and

planning sessions.

To better portray refugee youth, we have learned how to engage and use the media and have explored the essential elements of running an effective campaign.

We hosted training on small enterprise development with the Social and Economic Integration of Refugees through Education and Self Employment initiative of the University of Greenwich and has engaged with the Institute of Development Studies to learn how to map critical stakeholders that affect young refugee access to public spaces.

As KРАН has sought to develop strong youth leadership within its work, the Youth Forum has participated in a review on KРАН impact and shaping the strategic plan for the next 5 years.

Much of this work has been funded by the Listening Fund who have engaged to help KРАН build youth voice and agency and enhance youth inclusion and representation within its operations. The Youth Forum has led ways to ensure that all KРАН's young people are heard through a confidential survey.

The annual Youth Forum retreat was held in March at the Landmark Trust's Sackville House in West Sussex.



Youth Forum in Sackville House

This was made available through the Landmark Trust. The retreat enabled the Youth Forum to build team relationships, review the issues and conduct training.

Four Youth Forum members participated in a week-long EU Funded youth exchange visit in Finland. In collaboration with Erasmus+, Step Europe and the Council of Europe. Young people from across Europe explored human rights, migration and integration and learned about poverty, sustainability, discrimination and beliefs.

With support from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, eight trainees were engaged on a KРАН work experience scheme, with two of these assigned to assist in the work of the Youth Forum. With support from the Act for Change Fund, we have further undertaken to hire two part-time Youth Ambassadors to offer outreach support and guidance to younger Refugees and Asylum Seekers (RAS), amplify the voices of young RAS through the local community, service providers and the media and enable the Youth Forum to catalyse better services in Kent that reflect the changing needs of young RAS.

In July, we held our annual barbecue at the Canterbury Quakers Friends Meeting House and our young people enjoyed an afternoon of good company and food.

The Youth Forum has now become an established group within KРАН. Our trainees have become active in helping to shape KРАН's work, and we have taken steps towards dealing with some important issues. Our young people have developed much more confidence, voice and agency.

Youth Outreach work has visited primary and secondary schools in Kent and the National Citizens Service to talk to other young people about refugee issues. Schools visited include Lenham School, St Edmund's School in Canterbury, etc.

Events

During the year there have been several events with which the Youth Outreach group has engaged.

In February YP spent weekend at the Kingswood Grosvenor Hall in Ashford. On 21st March, KРАН celebrated the Persian New Year, "Naw Roz" and KРАН's 15th Anniversary with a party.

In September, eight refugee women participated in the Accelerating Women's Enterprise Workshop held at the University of Essex in Southend. In October, KРАН staff and one trainee participated in the "Rebuilding with Refugees" event in Chatham. In October, YF presented on "health challenges faced by unaccompanied young people" at the Level 4 training day for Looked after Children's health specialists.

Three young people spent one week with Cummins, the engine makers. They shadowed Cummins staff to experience the workplace within engineering, finance, new technology and presentation.



Fawzia and Rishan with Rosie Duffield

On 4th of December three members of the Youth Forum attended The Question Time with politicians in the Westgate Hall in Canterbury. KРАН's question for candidates was "When should the government end the hostile environment for refugees?".

Fawzia

WELLBEING & ACTIVITIES

The Drama Group is still running on Mondays at Canterbury College from 5pm. At the moment we have an average of 15 young people attending sessions. Shara is supporting this group and we especially appreciate her Kurdish language skills.



Football at St Edmund's School Canterbury

The Women's Group is strong and running now two times a week. Lessons are covering different topics and at the request of attendees, it is preparing them for the Life in the UK test.

From January to October we played football at St Edmunds School, Canterbury on Friday evenings. Over 25 YP attends every week and from December we will play on Saturdays from 6.30pm. Special thanks to our coach Milyon who keeps everything under control at the sessions. This was important for us as our YP played with local and international students, made friends and socialised.

Art sessions are run every Thursday afternoon from 1.45pm at the Canterbury Hub by Rhiannon, and we have started Maths sessions and welcomed back Jack for regular sessions on Wednesdays at 2pm.

Highlights from short-term activities this year:

- Three trainees went to Croatia, accompanied by staff, on a Youth Exchange program in July for 10 days. We all learned about political systems in different European countries and how to motivate young people to engage in political activities
- We had a summer drama workshop with White Slate Theatre in August, where 10 young people created a play called "Brainstorm" and performed it in the Marlowe Theatre with over 30 people in the audience
- We had a workshop with a poet from London where we created a group poem that was performed at "Flotsam" exhibition in Margate in late November, poem written by Arian can be found on the back cover of this report
- Over 15 young people went to the Gulbenkian to watch plays and concerts on few occasions and visited one theatre in London
- 14 young people went to the residential trip at Kingswood in Ashford in February - fun weekend filled with different activities such as fencing and archery
- KRAN is back to Canterbury College with Culture Club sessions where we engage young people into sessions about the asylum-seeking process, healthy relationships, communication, etc. We deliver sessions in collaboration with Rising Sun to 4 groups of 15 students
- During March this year KRAN was open, and "Saturdays at KRAN" were filled with playing board games, music, watching movies, creating a short video about Mother Languages Day and just spending time together to combat loneliness among our young people
- Group of Afghan YP went to watch a cricket match and to meet Mohammad Nabi. This was organised by our trustee Ruth, who is always extra supportive of all the activities we do!



Drama performance at Marlowe

FOLKESTONE SPORTS ACTIVITIES

The last year have been active in supporting the young people to access various sporting activities in their local communities – the most popular by far being football.

There is a demand for gym-based training, running, wrestling, cricket, swimming, skateboarding and boxing, with enquiries about volleyball and badminton. 12 young people in Ashford were able to have a 6-week free gym membership. We have volunteers assisting in Folkestone, Ashford and Canterbury and have organised support for KRAN young people in running clubs in Folkestone and Ashford. Often young people coming to KRAN have had a significant break from any form of sustained exercise and need help from qualified coaches to build up their fitness.

Over the summer KRAN funded 6 weeks of swimming lessons at the Stour Centre in Ashford for young people who were beginners or non-confident swimmers. Many young people have had traumatic experiences in the water so we had to be sensitive to their fears. However, this is a skill that could save their lives, so we were extremely pleased when the Stour

Centre decided to carry on funding these lessons and they have continued throughout the autumn term. 5 young women and 9 young men have accessed the lessons.

We are still supporting several young people to access local boxing clubs. In the summer we supported 28 young people to attend a sports day at Three Hills Sports Park organised by the Tennis Foundation in partnership with Shepway Sports Trust where they were joined by a group of young refugees from Hackney and played tennis and cricket games.

We continue to participate in the Folkestone Soccer Sixes League on Wednesday evenings and we entered two teams in the Ashford 6-a-Side League. Both sessions start with training with our coach Milyon and then the young people decide who is going to play. 6-a side offers a chance for all students to take part in the matches and the young people play opposite local teams. On Mondays we are now joined by a group of newly arrived young people from the Millbank Residential Centre.

Some notable achievements this year were: We are represented as KRAN nationally at the Refugee

Football group at the FA where we get information, support and opportunities.

3 young people from the Folkestone sessions are now part of Hawkinge United Team who get league matches

We have found deaf and disability football for a number of young people that need it and have strong links with the Folkestone Invicta Disability side

KRAN footballers have participated in a National Children's Football Association Peace Match and have visited Dartford to watch and meet Millwall Lionesses Women's Team .

The young people are making friendships and integrating with local teams who are supporting them and asking them to join when short of players. They are smiling, relaxed and engage with conversation after football.

Sport (football) is a powerful tool. It brings people together and aids learning. Often those who are the least engaged and attend lessons less frequently are brought into education and working with KRAN through the football.

Paul G.

MEDIA REPORT

It has been a very busy year for us on the media front!

Around Christmas last year the Channel crossings started. Once parliament went into recession, we went into press silly season where the media were looking for exciting stories to fill the gap. Against the background of Brexit, and the often toxic debate on immigration, the story of people making the dramatic crossing over one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world had real momentum.

The story could go two ways. Either these were illegal immigrants 'invading' the country or they were vulnerable people pushed to take extreme measures to gain the sanctuary they were entitled to under international law. As really the only refugee organization working on the ground in Kent that was in a position to comment we started to get a lot of media enquiries.

After much discussion between our CEO and myself, we decided that we did need to comment. If we weren't making a positive intervention on behalf of our client group then who would? In addition, we were concerned that if we did not comment the media would fill that void with commentary from people and organizations that would inflame rather than moderate the situation.

The Christmas period was particularly busy and we dealt with a huge number of media requests.



Bridget on ITV News

On the busiest day, we did around 40 interviews - 30 of them with BBC local radio stations, which was an excellent way to get balanced, factual information about what was really happening into people's homes.

Once we were on the media radar, so to speak, the interest in what we had to say on various issues continued and over the past year, we have done numerous interviews for local, national and international press. These have been on radio TV and in print. We have spoken to BBC Radio 4, 5 Live, LBC and Talk Radio. BBC News, Sky News and Channel 4 News. The Guardian, The Independent, Metro and Huffington Post. And many others.

Around March, we started working with IMIX who are a news agency set up specifically to try to change the conversation about migration and asylum. They work to make positive interventions in the media placing good news stories and making appropriate balanced and factual responses to media hype around this issue. They work with Care4Calais, Help Refugees and Refugee Action among others.

While we think it's important to talk to the press and make the case for a positive view on asylum issues, what is even better is when refugees and asylum seekers are given the skills and the confidence to talk to the media and get their voices heard. This is a big ask for anyone, especially when those conversations can reopen previous trauma. Which is why we are working with IMIX to give our trainees the skills and the confidence that they need to be able to have those conversations in a way that keeps them safe. We hope that this coming year they will be able to put those skills to use and look forward to reporting on their progress.

Bridget

TRUSTEES AND STAFF TEAM

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Outreach Worker

Bridget Chapman – Learning and Project
Coordinator/Media Lead

Ola Odeyemi – Teaching Assistant
Ashford/Folkestone (until September)

Paul Cossali – Complex Case Worker

Tanja Odobasic – Wellbeing and Activities
Advocate

Shara Dizeeze – Teaching Assistant
Canterbury

Razia Shariff – CEO

Suzi Glaiser-Creed – Finance and
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Gwen Wilkinson – Safeguarding and
Volunteer Manager

Paul Goodwin – Youth and Sport Advocate

Sandra Gravenor – Teaching Assistant
Folkestone

Additional Support Staff

Rhiannon Archard – Artist in Residence

Sarah Hagues–Lifeskills Teacher

Milyon Nagash – Football Coach

Fatima Nourrice – Teaching Assistant

Chris Jessop – Women’s Group Teacher

Trainees

Safiqullah Ahmadzai, Akaba Alsoufi,
Amani Arab, Ijaz Bakakhail, Michael
Fisahatsion, Daniel Habte, Faisal Hakimi,
Zulfeqar Ali Karimi, Grmalem Kasa, Rahil
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Hampstead College of Fine Arts
Kent College
Custom Folkestone
The Alan Jenkin Stokes Memorial Trust
Folkestone Quaker Meeting
Funding for All
SAGE Publishing
Community of the Presentation Trust

Many individual donations have also been gratefully received

THANK YOU

Aida Silvestri – Local artist	Folkestone Fringe	RKB Law
Ashford Baptist Church	Folkestone Living Advent Calendar	Room for Refugees
Asphaleia	Folkestone Mosque	Rotary South East District
Barham Primary School	Folkestone Museum	Shepway Sports Trust
Beacons Project and team	Folkestone Primary Academy	Simon Langton Girl School
Beaney Museum	Folkestone Quarterhouse and the Creative Foundation	St Edmund’s School Canterbury
Brewers painting & decorating specialists	Folkestone Wholefoods and Dockers Bread	St Luke’s Methodist Church
British Red Cross	Fort Pitt Grammar School	St Martin’s Church
Canterbury Academy	Hot Salvation Records	South Foreland Rotary
Canterbury Cathedral	IMIX	Surround Sound Festival
Canterbury Christ Church University	ITV Meridian Diversity Forum	Steve Bloom - photographer
Catching Lives	John Ashman – DJ	Steve Marsh Design
Carol Future Skills	Kent Community Health NHS	Sunflower House
Channel Rotary	Kent Coastal Volunteer Bureau	Sunvil Holidays
Charlotte Chapman, Community Artist	Kent Fire and Rescue Service	Tennis Foundation
Cllr Ann Berry - The former Mayor of Folkestone	Kent Kindness Maidstone and Kent Kindness	The Diocese of Canterbury
Cllr Liz Wright – Ashford Town Council	Kent Law Clinic	The Gulbenkian
Creative Folkestone	Kent Police and Community Liaison Officers	The Shed Youth Project Folkestone
Cummins	Kent Social Services	Third Sector Research Centre
Dover District Volunteer Bureau	Landmark Trust	Touchbase Care
Dr Legumes	Lawn Tennis Association	University of Essex
Duncan Lewis Solicitors (Immigration and Housing Teams)	Lenham School	University of Kent, Canterbury
East Kent Colleges and Ashford College	Lewis Carpets Canterbury	Valley Invicta Primary School at Kings Hill
English Heritage, Walmer and Dover Castle	Lloyd's Bank Foundation	Virtual School Kent
Fat Lady Opera/Invisible Opera House	Newington Primary School	Volunteer Centre Canterbury/ Herne Bay and Thanet
Fareshare – Folkestone ASDA and Tesco Express	NHS	White Slate Theatre
	Red Cross Family Tracing	Whitstable Calais Solidarity Group
	Refugee Council and Refugee Council Children’s Panel	Young Lives Advocacy Service
	Refugees at Home	Young Lives Foundation
	Rising Sun	

I'm going back mom.
I'll tell you about the moment when I took my bag in the morning
and lost my home.

I will tell you about the cold nights in Istanbul,
the fears of the border, the sad evenings of Athena.

I will tell you when the Sea gets angry,
how it shows its anger with its waves to the seaside and refugees.

I will tell you about the cold lonely nights in Rome,
the frozen gardens near Eiffel Tower, how tragic is this story.

I will come back mom.
I will tell you about the desperate mornings,
The cold evenings and lonely nights.
I will explain to you how my heart become cotton candy
in foreign country and how it melts down to sugar hundred times per day.

I will tell you how the birds sing sadly in the morning here.
How broken heart, sunset here and how lonelier is the rain here.

I will tell you how the sky is lower here,
how lighter is the ground and how linger is the winter night here.

Now I dream that you are still alive,
waiting for my success and freedom of our country

I will come back mom.

I will come back mom.

Arian (16)

Written in Kurdish, translated by Shara

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