

## Volunteering Opportunities with the Northern Ireland Refugee Resettlement Consortium

### 1. Storehouse North Down and Ards / Kiltonga Christian Centre, Bangor

Opportunity: maintaining the refugee storeroom, where the Consortium collate Starter Packs to give to newly arrived refugee families, sorting and displaying clothes throughout the warehouse, collating Starter Packs as part of a team.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Helen Sloan**

**Tel: 07748235009**

**Email: [helen.sloan@kiltongacc.co.uk](mailto:helen.sloan@kiltongacc.co.uk)**

**Website: <https://storehousenorthdown.com/>**

### 2. British Red Cross, Belfast

Opportunity: Refugee Support, admin support, Family Reunion Integration Service support, Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme support.

**For more information, please contact:**

***Lou McGowan***

**Email: [louisemcgowan@redcross.org.uk](mailto:louisemcgowan@redcross.org.uk)**

**Website: [www.redcross.org.uk](http://www.redcross.org.uk)**

### 3. Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre (BURC), Belfast and province wide

Opportunity: providing an ESOL programme for Progressors & Absolute Beginners in 4-6 Donegall Street Place, Belfast.

Monday to Thursday from 10.00 to 12.00 and from 2.00 to 4.00pm respectively.

We also offer Conversation classes for Intermediate learners on Wednesday from 6.00pm to 7.30pm.

For more information, please contact:

**Claudia Belloni**

**Tel: 029 9096 1111**

**Email: [ESOL@burc.org](mailto:ESOL@burc.org)**

**Website: [www.burc.org/](http://www.burc.org/)**

### ESOL NI

For further information on volunteering as an ESOL tutor, check out the following link:

<https://esolwebapp.azurewebsites.net/volunteer>. Submit your interest on the online

form and a BURC staff member will be in touch with guidance and information. The

'About Us' section of the ESOL NI website provides a full explanation on how the ESOL

volunteer programme works: <https://esolwebapp.azurewebsites.net/AboutUs>

ESOL classes are available all across Northern Ireland. A quick search on the ESOL NI website can show classes near you: <https://esolwebapp.azurewebsites.net/Default>

#### **4. Barnardo's NI, Belfast**

##### **Handy Person**

The purpose of the volunteer position is to do odd jobs and include things such as installing blind cords and stair gates, putting up shelves, building flat pack furniture, changing light bulbs, replacing batteries in smoke alarms and hanging curtains or blinds. It can often be difficult to find trades-people willing to do such minor jobs.

##### **Travel Buddy**

The purpose of the position is to provide the families with support to use public transport to reach appointments, accompany them to English language classes, job fayres or events throughout Northern Ireland. Arabic/ English resources will be provided to make the volunteer and family feel comfortable and capable to communicate if neither is proficient enough in English or Arabic.

##### **Playroom Volunteer**

Two welcome centres are held in Belfast over five days every eight weeks. We currently run a playroom in each welcome centre for children ages 0-12 to play and learn about what life in Northern Ireland will be like. We are looking for volunteers to support Play Leaders to deliver the sessions and welcome children in their first few days into Northern Ireland.

##### **Support, Supervision, Training**

Potential volunteers will be required to attend an interview to assess suitability and attend induction training prior to starting. This training will include a service induction including some basic Arabic. Induction training including safeguarding training and supervision will be provided by the service.

##### **What's in it for me?**

You can make a difference to a family's new life in Northern Ireland and be someone they will remember as having been a positive part of their journey in settling here.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Karen Scott**

**Tel: 07767440470**

**Email: [karen.scott3@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:karen.scott3@barnardos.org.uk)**

**Website: [www.barnardos.org.uk](http://www.barnardos.org.uk)**

## 5. SOS Bus NI, Belfast

Opportunity: SOS Bus works in partnership with other charities to deliver transport to vulnerable refugees arriving in NI. SOS NI utilise four mini-buses, working alongside partner organisations to welcome and transport newly arrived refugee families to their new homes. Volunteers are needed to drive the mini-buses in support of this and for additional projects with other charitable organisations in and around Belfast.

All applicants are required to complete compulsory training.

To become a Driver you must –

- be at least 25 years old
- have had a full driving license for at least 2 years
- have less than 3 points on your current license

You do not need any past experience to get involved in the driving of the mini-buses. Anyone without experience can book in for an assessment with Swift Transport Training.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Caitlin McCartney**

**Tel: 028 90664505**

**Email: [caitlin.mccartney@sosbusni.com](mailto:caitlin.mccartney@sosbusni.com)**

**Website: [www.sosbusni.com/](http://www.sosbusni.com/)**