

## Case study of Global Link Drop in for Refugees & Asylum-Seekers

Global Link offers a weekly Drop in at the YMCA in which we are housed. Every week money is given to an asylum-seeker to purchase and prepare food to share at the Drop in. Each week we are eating food from Iran, Sudan, Iraq, Syria, Nigeria, Ethiopia or Eritrea. It gives people pleasure to share their food and their culture.

Despite the trauma many are experiencing, the Drop in is a joyous and sociable space, where local people are also welcome to meet and befriend asylum-seekers.

Most weeks Global Link and other voluntary sector partners run a workshop relating to Life and Work in Britain; themes range from equalities and hate crime, to accessing health services and universal credit, to CV writing and setting up your own business.

Some of the refugees run workshops and teacher training with Global Link education workers in schools. This has greatly enhanced our work in schools, with children and teachers meeting refugees, the first step to overcoming 'Other' thinking.

Victoria serving food at the Drop in



Iranian pasta salad YMCA