



Autumn 2023 Update – an invitation to prayer

This update comes with some great news – and also an invitation. Louth Churches for Refugees works as part of the national “Community Sponsorship” scheme which recently passed the milestone of welcoming the 1000th person to the UK as part of the programme. You can read more about this achievement at <https://resetuk.org/news-and-campaigns/news/1000-people-welcomed>. We’re also delighted to let you know that the eldest son in one of the families we support here in Louth has secured a university place to study engineering starting this Autumn. Having arrived in the UK with minimal English in early 2020, this is a fantastic personal accomplishment and a great story about the positive impact of Community Sponsorship.

It is now just over 12 months since Louth Churches for Refugees welcomed a second resettled family to Louth. We are continuing to provide active support for the family and we have an on-going responsibility while they get established. We remain very grateful to all our supporters and friends for your continued help - through financial donations, practical assistance, and prayer.

Louth Churches for Refugees been involved in Community Sponsorship for more than six years. This means that it is time to think about our future. This is also the time we need your assistance.

As we consider the future should we plan to welcome another family to this area? Is there a house which will be suitable for the next family? Where can we find sufficient volunteers to help another family? How can we raise the necessary funds to finance such a plan? Can we share our hopes and resources with more refugee families? With the invasion of Ukraine in mind, are we right to maintain our involvement in the Community Sponsorship programme, which primarily supports refugees from countries like Syria and Afghanistan?

The trustees of Louth Churches for Refugees ask you to pray for us - and for the two families we currently support. We invite you to remember these questions in your prayers so that we will go into the future with God's guidance. You may wish to use this prayer, attributed to St Benedict:

**Gracious and holy Father,
give us wisdom to perceive you, diligence to seek you,
patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you,
a heart to meditate upon you, and a life to proclaim you;
through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen

Thank you for your interest in and support for Louth Churches for Refugees. Our website has further information and we post regular updates on Facebook. Please follow us and let your friends, family and neighbours know about our work. You can get in touch by using the contact form on our website.