

New Year Update 2024

Happy New Year from Louth Churches for Refugees. In our last supporter communication, we let you know that the eldest son (Nour) in one of the families we support here in Louth had secured a university place to study engineering starting last September. In further good news, just before Christmas Nour received the Headmasters' Award from his former school, the King Edward VI Grammar School in Louth.

Here, members of Louth Churches for Refugees are pictured receiving the award on Nour's behalf, during a ceremony held in St James's Church in December 2023.



Louth Churches for Refugees works as part of the national "Community Sponsorship" scheme. At the end of 2023, we participated in a national evaluation of the scheme, run by the Home Office. This was a good opportunity to reflect on developments and achievements since our charity welcomed a second resettled family to Louth. We remain very grateful to all our supporters and friends for your continued help. Special thanks go to all who contributed to our recent 'virtual gifts' Christmas appeal, which generated nearly £300 in additional donations to our charity.

Louth Churches for Refugees encourages prayer, giving and action in support of refugees. The global refugee population has doubled within the last seven years. Reflecting on this horrifying statistic at the start of a new year, do you have friends, neighbours or family members you can speak to about our work and encourage them to become involved? Our Annual General Meeting this year will be held on Tuesday 19 March at 2pm.

Rev David Fidler stood down as a Trustee of Louth Churches for Refugees at the start of 2024. David has made a significant contribution within the activities of the charity, including a period in the role of Lead Sponsor. We send our sincere thanks to David for his work within our group and pray for God's continued blessings in his life. Over the coming months Louth Churches for Refugees will be looking to replace David in our trustee group. Please pray for us during this time, and for the families we support:

**Merciful God, whose son became a refugee and had no place to call his own;
look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger.
Bless those who work to bring them relief;
inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts;
and guide the nations of the world towards that day
when all will rejoice in your kingdom of justice and peace;
through 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 regularly on Facebook. You can get in touch via the contact form on our website.