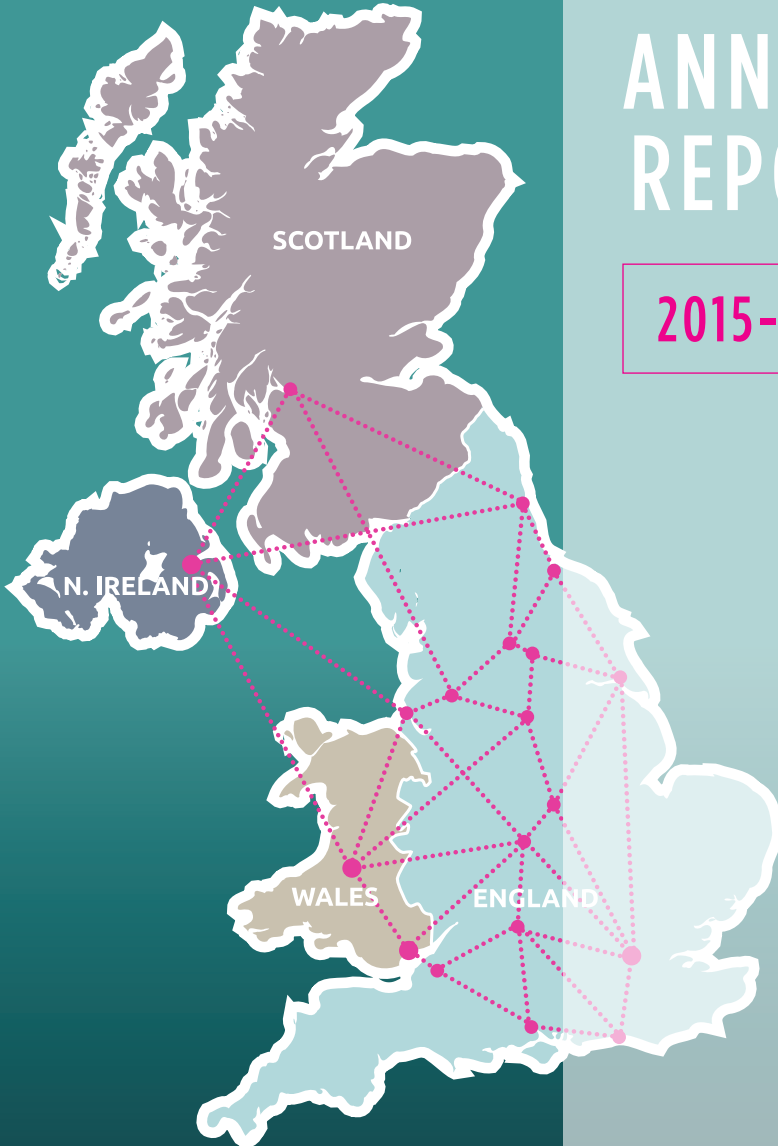


NACCOM

THE NO ACCOMMODATION NETWORK

CIO no 1162434



ANNUAL REPORT

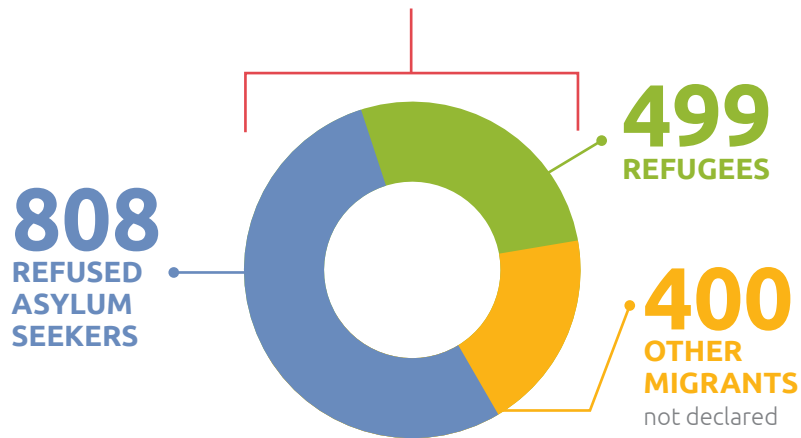
2015-2016

HEADLINE ACCOMMODATION FIGURES 2016

TAKEN FROM 2016 ACCOMMODATION SURVEY
(FOR FULL ANALYSIS SEE PAGES 9-11)

 **x 1,707 ACCOMMODATED**

in 2016 (estimated) (up 28.5% from 2015)



789 PEOPLE ACCOMMODATED ON AN AVERAGE NIGHT

(up 34% from 2015)



165 HOUSES



18 FLATS



9 CHURCH PROPERTIES



6 NIGHT SHELTERS
2 x permanent
4 x winter only



21 HOSTING SCHEMES



X 309 ACTIVE HOSTS



X 153 CURRENT GUESTS



209,250 NIGHTS OF ACCOMMODATION
over 12 months (estimated)

63 DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES

Main ones are: 100 Eritreans, 83 Sudanese, 71 Iranians, 37 Syrians, 31 Nigerians, 30 Zimbabweans



FEMALE



MALE



36 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

with an accommodation project that includes destitute refused asylum seekers

FOREWORD

CHAIR OF TRUSTEES

Over the last year NACCOM's membership has continued to grow as new projects providing supported accommodation to those with No Recourse to Public Funds join the network. However, with NACCOM's support, existing members have also grown their capacity so collectively the number of bed spaces available at a time has risen by an impressive 34% to 789 beds. This is a remarkable achievement amid a very challenging environment and I am constantly impressed by the resourcefulness and creativity of our members to respond to destitution in their communities.

However, the need for their (and therefore our) services also continues to grow as Government is increasingly making it difficult for asylum seekers to have a fair hearing in their quest to gain the right to remain in the UK, despite trying to deliver on their commitment to resettle 20,000 Vulnerable Syrian Refugees by 2020. This is creating a divisive two tier system of support giving the appearance of deserving and undeserving refugees, which many in our sector are very concerned about.

We continue to have a significant input to the Strategic Alliance on Migrant Destitution both at a local and national level, bringing our members expertise and experience of alleviating destitution to this important initiative.

In order to be able to increasingly support our members to be able to do more and use their experience to collectively campaign for changes in policy to end destitution, the NACCOM board has reviewed our vision and strategy for the next 4 years, as seen on page 4 of this report.

However, to be able to deliver on these objectives, we need to increase our staff capacity and therefore we are currently raising the funds required to recruit a National Director and increase the capacity of our other two part-time staff. This will enable us to be able to support our diverse range of member organisations more in a way that is tailored to their needs, keeping the essence of what makes NACCOM unique at the core of what we do, whilst also increasing our effectiveness and impact.



Julian Prior

Finally, I would like to thank everyone involved with NACCOM for their hard work, determination and for the generosity of funders, partners, member organisations, my fellow trustees and particularly our two staff, Dave and Lucy. Thank you all for your continued support as we enter this next phase of NACCOM's journey to increasingly resource, equip and encourage those who alleviate the suffering of so many asylum seekers and to ultimately seek to end destitution.

NACCOM 2020 VISION AND STRATEGY

NACCOM is committed to bringing an end to destitution amongst asylum seekers, refugees and migrants with no recourse to public funds living in the UK. We exist to promote best practice in and support the establishment of accommodation projects that reduce destitution amongst asylum seekers. In addition, they may also support migrants with no recourse to public funds (NRPF) and/or refugees facing barriers to accessing affordable housing.

We do this by:

- Providing networking opportunities to encourage, empower and connect members
- Sharing knowledge and promoting best practice to provide pathways out of destitution
- Working with others (including those with lived experience) to raise awareness of destitution and campaign for a just and humane asylum system
- Gathering and disseminating data on the scale of destitution and positive outcomes achieved by members

OBJECTIVES 2017 – 2020:

- Enable members' capacity to increase in order to accommodate more clients and encourage growth of NACCOM membership, particularly in dispersal areas where there are no NACCOM members. We aim for members to be collectively housing 1,000 refused asylum seekers with no recourse to public funds (NRPF) a year by 2020 and a total of 2,250 homeless asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants with NRPF a year by 2020.
- Develop support to member organisations, to become more sustainable and professional, by encouraging and sharing good practice promoting and supporting partnership working.
- Improve data gathering from members to provide key stakeholders, influencers and decision makers information that highlights the extent and effects of destitution as well as the success of NACCOM members in achieving routes out of destitution.
- Empower members' clients to tell their story so that, working in partnership with other organisations, the human face and consequences of destitution has a raised profile.

For a full copy of our 2020 Vision and Strategy please contact us.

TREASURER'S REPORT



Paul Catterall

NACCOM became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in June 2015 having set up our own bank account in April 2015. Previously our accounts were managed through the Boaz Trust's bank account as restricted funds, however, the financial administration of NACCOM was taken over by Paul Catterall (Treasurer) in April 2016. Our first year's accounts, which are outlined below and detailed fully in our independently examined accounts, cover the period 26th June 2015 – 30th June 2016 which will now become our financial year.

In 2015 for the first time we received start-up funds from one Charitable Trust to distribute to new member organisations to help them build some capacity in the early stages of their development. It was also the first year that we charged a membership fee. This has been introduced on a sliding scale to ensure that it is not a barrier to new smaller organisations joining but will start to generate some unrestricted income from members.

We are very grateful to all our supporters large and small and look forward to attracting some larger funds in the future to enable us to transition to a larger organisation with a more stable and longer-term financial position to be able to deliver on our 2020 Vision.

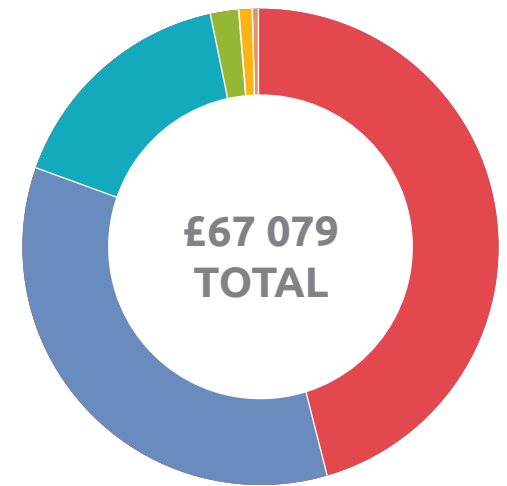
In the reporting period, NACCOM has been supported by the following charitable trusts and foundations (excluding membership fees/donations):



We also now have an online donation facility through Give.net, details of which are accessible on our website (www.naccomm.org.uk)

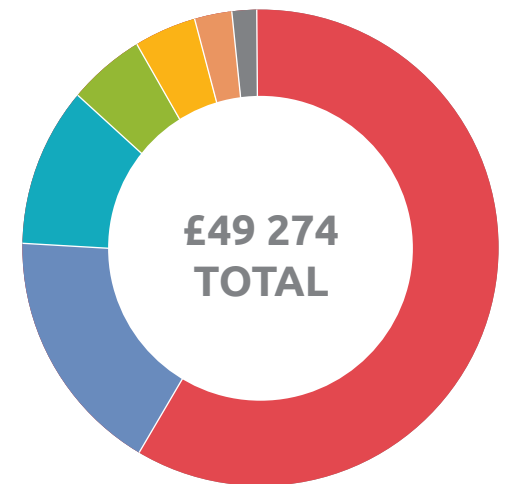
INCOME 2015-16

- **£30 000** Grants to give to member organisations
- **£22 500** Restricted grants
- **£12 000** Unrestricted grants / donations
- **£1735** Membership fees
- **£815** Annual conference fees
- **£29** Bank interest



EXPENDITURE 2015-16

- **£29 000** Grants to member organisations
- **£8432** Staff wage (including NI and pension)
- **£4161** Freelance consultant (Communications and advocacy)
- **£2810** Annual conference and networking events
- **£2529** Staff, consultant and trustees expenses (mainly travel)
- **£1440** Marketing and communications
- **£902** Support costs (insurance, accountant, telephone)



COORDINATOR'S REPORT



Dave Smith

GROWTH AND IMPACT

In 2015-16 we welcomed thirteen new members into NACCOM:

- Host Oxford
- NICRAS (Belfast)
- Reading Refugee Support Group
- International Care Network (Bournemouth)
- Refugees at Home
- Embrace (Northern Ireland)
- King's Arms (Bedford)
- ODILS (Plymouth)
- St. Augustine's Centre (Halifax)
- Green Pastures Housing
- Sanctus (Stoke-on-Trent)
- Night Stop North East
- Fatima House (Birmingham)

Additionally, one has joined since July 2016: **Warm Hut (Salford)**

Those already accommodating destitute asylum seekers or setting up new projects are Full Members: the others are Associate Members. For a full list of our current members see page 16 of this report or visit our website.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

As pressure on housing increases across the UK, housing providers like Serco and G4S are increasingly looking at new areas of cheaper housing to provide asylum accommodation. Smaller towns that have traditionally not been part of the dispersal scheme are now finding that they have newly arrived asylum seekers in their midst. Lancashire, for example, now has pockets of asylum seekers in towns like Preston, Burnley and Skelmersdale. While that is a challenge, in that there will be no existing support structures, it is also an opportunity for local communities to engage with and support the new arrivals from day one. Although it will not be immediate, these smaller towns will, after a few months, start to encounter their first refused asylum seekers, with no recourse to public funds, homeless and destitute. Some of the larger NACCOM members are beginning to reach out beyond their cities into neighbouring towns. Other new dispersal towns will need to start their own accommodation projects.

VISION AND SOLUTION

The vision of NACCOM is to end asylum destitution. Although the ultimate solution can only be through statutory provision, part of the interim solution is to ensure that every dispersal area has an NACCOM project for those who are destitute. Over the next year we aim to target every dispersal area where there are more than 100 asylum seekers to see if they can set up an appropriate accommodation project for those made destitute.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This year our 9th Annual Conference took place in Bradford. Over 60 attended, from 22 NACCOM members and 10 other organisations, and feedback from participants was very positive, with most respondents rating it as 'excellent' or 'very good'. Our thanks to Will Sutcliffe and the team in Bradford, and to all who attended and contributed to the day.

Highlights included a speech from the founding Chair of BEACON and Bradford's new Lord Mayor, Councillor Geoff Reid, a presentation from Patrick Duce on the Strategic Alliance on Migrant Destitution and updates from several NACCOM Projects. Eight workshops were also offered on a range of topics with networking opportunities encouraged throughout the day.



What delegates said...

'Very informative' - **Night Stop North East**

'Felt inspired by people's stories' - **Host Nottingham**

'Has led to ongoing conversations with others bringing new opportunities for sharing and learning, thus improving what we offer' - **Sanctus St Marks**

'Really valuable to meet together with others'
- **Boaz Trust**



FOCUS GROUPS

In the last year we have held 3 meetings, tackling issues of concern amongst members. This year has seen major legislative and policy changes through the implementation of the Immigration Act and nationwide roll-out of the 'Right To Rent' scheme, so these formed the focus of our first meeting, held in Birmingham in March. Our particular thanks to Gina Clayton and Sue Lukes for their input to this session and for Shari Brown for helping organise the day.

Following the rise in hosting schemes this year, we decided to run two hosting conferences in 2016 (Leeds and London, in July and August respectively) which saw over 40 attendances from 14 member projects and several other organisations or prospective members. Our thanks to LASSN and Housing Justice for helping organise these events and to all who contributed.

What members said...



“Useful to network with other hosting scheme staff.” - *London Hosting*

“There is so much experience from NACCOM Members- can only be helpful for other organisations to tap into this knowledge and experience.” - *Host Nottingham*

“Incredibly helpful.” - *Action Foundation*

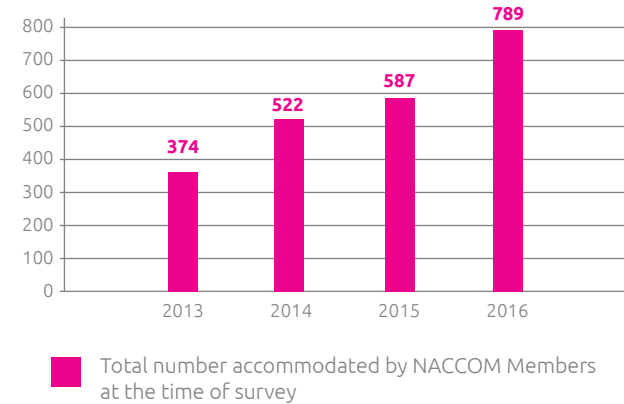
“NACCOM has been an invaluable source of support, advice and friendship in an often isolating environment.” - *BEACON*

ANNUAL SURVEY

In the summer of 2016 we conducted the fourth annual survey of NACCOM accommodation projects. Many thanks to Ambreen Masud, who volunteered to do a lot of the hard work collecting and collating the data, and for everyone who completed the difficult task of filling in the forms. It isn't easy devising a survey that properly reflects the huge variety of projects within NACCOM and produce easily decipherable and meaningful statistics.

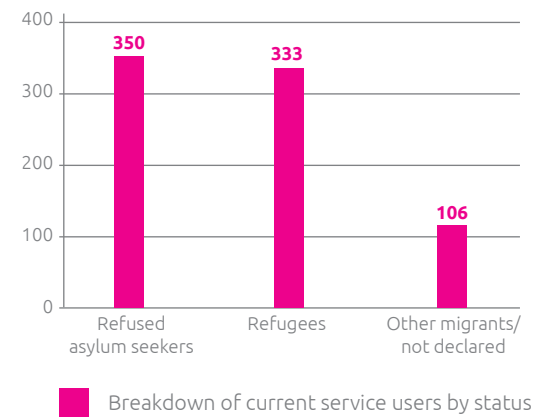
In total 36 projects filled in the survey, some in full, and some less so, depending on their data collecting capacity. There was only one significant omission, caused by staffing problems, but even there we were able to extrapolate some accurate figures over the phone. While there is still a huge amount to be done to bring destitution to an end, NACCOM members are making an increasing impact. This year the estimated total accommodated over the year came to 1,707, an increase of 28.5% since 2015. Of these, 808 were destitute asylum seekers and 499 were refugees with leave to remain in the UK.

The inaugural survey in 2013 was completed by 20 projects, which were accommodating 374 people at the time, around 270 of whom were destitute, refused asylum seekers. Year on year the number of projects has increased, and with that the number of people being accommodated at a time. The 2015-16 survey again showed rising capacity, with member projects accommodating 789 at the time of the survey, an increase of 34% in the last year.



As expected, there was a large growth in refugee accommodation again. This was partly due to the increasing difficulty that newly granted refugees have in finding a home within the four weeks they have to leave their asylum accommodation, but also because the income from refugee housing helps offset the cost of housing the destitute.

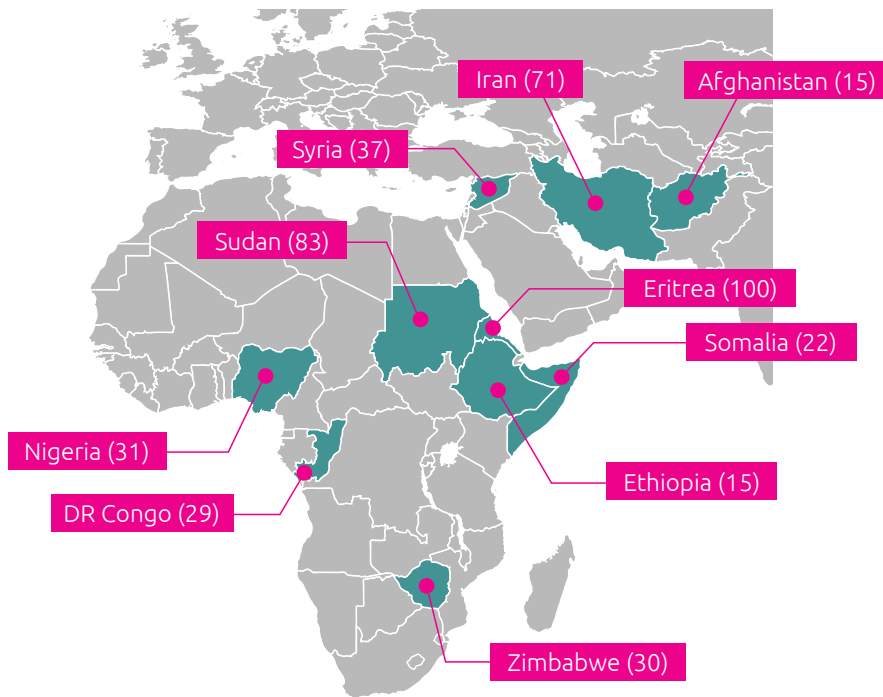
The effect of this was to increase sustainability in projects, thus also contributing to a rise in accommodation for refused asylum seekers. This was further aided by new hosting projects that emerged on the back of public sympathy engendered by the refugee crisis in Europe.



There was a slight increase in the percentage of female clients accommodated from 31% to 33%, possibly because of the increasing risk of women becoming street homeless as support services are cut. Some projects also began to focus more on schemes for vulnerable women. Ages tended to reflect the general asylum population, although the percentage of those under 18 is mainly made up of accompanied children in refugee housing rather than unaccompanied minors, who will be eligible for statutory support.

In total 63 nationalities were represented in NACCOM accommodation: as expected, most came from the primary refugee producing countries in the Middle East and Africa. The number of Afghans (15) and Bangladeshis (2) was surprisingly low, whereas the number of Sudanese (83) had unsurprisingly increased by 150%.

TOP 10 COUNTRIES



Once again the main regions of conflict in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa produced by far the greatest numbers.

MORE THAN NUMBERS

Of course, there is much more to impact than mere numbers. How can you measure improved mental health, resurgence of hope, a new outlook on life, and life-changing friendships? These are some of the many outcomes that come from the support of caring individuals within well-run projects. Many who have been accommodated by NACCOM organisations testify that they have come to see their helpers not just as another support group, but more as a family. That's why you will find some of their comments dotted around this annual report: their words speak louder than any statistics.

THE YEAR AHEAD

In the past decade we have learned that there is no one-size-fits-all system or scheme for NACCOM members. The diversity and ingenuity of members is exactly what makes NACCOM unique. At the same time, the challenge of properly recording the achievements of member organisations is huge – yet it is precisely this that demonstrates added value and impact to potential supporters and funders. That's why we are aiming to introduce a new data recording system for members in the next year.

STRATEGIC ALLIANCE ON MIGRANT DESTITUTION

In the last year we have continued to play an active role in the Strategic Alliance on Migrant Destitution, which is funded by Joseph Rowntree Foundation and hosted by Homeless Link.

Other organisations involved include British Red Cross, Housing Justice, Migrant Rights Network, Refugee Action and Refugee Council.

The Strategic Alliance aims to bring together representatives from both the homelessness and refugee sectors in order to share good practice and facilitate change. Regional events have been taking place over the last year in key locations around the UK and the Homeless Link website now includes some great resources on migrant destitution.

Patrick Duce, Innovation and Good Practice Project Manager at Homeless Link and coordinator of the Strategic Alliance, wrote about NACCOM's input: "NACCOM's members have taken part in the national work of the Alliance, and work closely with the SAMD to share good practice and develop their profile. NACCOM's involvement in the SAMD has brought innovative learning and sharing of good practice with homelessness and housing agencies across England."

MEMBER PROFILE

HOST OXFORD

Established: 2015

No. of accommodation nights provided since hosting started a year ago: 3,125



Wyon Stansfeld, Chair of the Host Oxford Coordinating Committee, writes:

'I started to learn more about NACCOM once we set up Oxford City of Sanctuary and decided to focus on housing homeless people. I have always been impressed with Dave Smith and his work and this was also an influence in wanting to join. Since setting up just over a year ago, we have hosted 20 different people and helped 10 others significantly. We are currently housing 12 people.

We have enjoyed two events run by NACCOM - one was a workshop at the Bristol City of Sanctuary event a couple of years ago - it was around sharing ideas/experience of different ways of providing accommodation for homeless migrants, the other was a meeting of hosting projects from the south [earlier in 2016]. Both were excellent - they allowed for a free exchange of ideas and information and were not too rigidly structured.

We were also glad to have Lucy come and interview a guest and host, material from which has been used for publicity and awareness-raising. Another benefit of NACCOM has been an online group for hosting coordinators which has also been helpful.

We are always after ideas and ways to progress Host Oxford further and NACCOM is a good resource to have. Through connections with NACCOM we were also able to access a grant via another organisation and this has come in very handy helping us to employ a member of staff.'

COMMUNICATIONS, MEDIA AND ADVOCACY REPORT

COMMUNICATIONS



Lucy Smith

Since our last report, NACCOM communications have developed through the website, newsletter and social media, as well as a phone line which has received over 200 enquiries since launching in May.

Since April we have also re-launched our website, which now includes a password-protected Members Area, Library and Project Directory. Our thanks to the team at Total for their work on this. The website now sees over 2,000 views per month and thanks to contributions from Members is becoming a worthwhile information source on topics such as setting up and developing accommodation schemes.

Our regular newsletter features contributions from different members giving updates on upcoming meetings and events, showcasing new or developing work and sharing stories from service users and partner agencies.

We also had a NACCOM stall at seven day conferences during the year (Oxford, Cardiff, Salford, London, Belfast, Liverpool and Manchester), and literature was also taken at thirteen other events, including other festivals where Dave was speaking.

In August 2016 we attended Greenbelt Festival in Kettering, where we ran an information stall that successfully engaged 250+ individuals and raised awareness about destitution, as well as promoting projects across the UK. Our particular thanks to Heath, part of the team at Open Door North East, for volunteering with us over the weekend.



MEDIA

In a year which has seen unprecedented coverage of refugees and migration, many NACCOM Members have worked hard to speak up about destitution and the right for all to seek asylum. We have also responded to a range of media enquiries and sought to share some of the positive stories from the network, as well as convey the urgent needs of those facing destitution.

Furthermore we have now built up a database of over 70 media contacts as well as a number of contacts within the network who are open to media engagement, and are in a stronger position to coordinate press releases and responses where appropriate.

In May we launched the first Storytelling workshop for NACCOM beneficiaries, with the aim of promoting confidence and communication skills as individuals share stories with different audiences.

We hope to see these workshops running across the country in the next year as we facilitate members to respond sensitively yet pro-actively to media and other communication requests. If you'd like us to arrange something locally please get in touch.

ADVOCACY

We remain committed to working with others to raise awareness of migrant destitution and in December 2015, Dave Smith spoke at the second annual Sanctuary in Parliament event organised by City of Sanctuary.

NACCOM Members continue to play an active role in advocating for change and as the network grows we are exploring ways to develop a more collective voice. In 2015, we accessed training from the Sheila McKechnie Foundation which has led to the formation of NACCOM action groups around campaigning and communications, which members are invited to join. For more on these please visit our website or get in touch.

Since June 2016, with support from Mike Kaye (Still Human Still Here) we encouraged NACCOM members to contact their local MPs to ask the new Home Secretary for a national integration strategy for all refugees, in response to our collective concern about the risks of a 'two-tier' system of support.

We also gathered information from projects in response to the call for submissions for the APPG Inquiry, 'Refugees Welcome?', whilst encouraging NACCOM Members to write their own submissions. We look forward to reporting on the outcome of these, and other, opportunities in the coming months.

”

What participants said:

'When I told my story I feel release'.

'It gives me hope'.



MEMBERSHIP

NACCOM is a membership organisation with Full Membership status available to organisations operating an accommodation scheme on behalf of destitute asylum seekers. Organisations and individuals who are in sympathy with the aims of the charity may be Associate Members, which allows access to meetings and resources, but without voting rights. There is a sliding scale of suggested fees; for full details visit our website or get in touch. The aim is to enable everyone to take part, but at the same time recognise the value of membership.

NACCOM Full Members (39) :

Abigail Housing, Action Foundation, ASSIST Sheffield, Asylum Link Merseyside, Austin Smith House, BEACON Hosting, Brighton Voices in Exile, Bristol Hospitality Network, Birmingham Community Hosting Network (BIRCH), Boaz Trust, Communities and Asylum Seekers Together (CAST), Coventry Peace House, Coventry Refugee & Migrant Centre, Destitute Asylum Seekers Huddersfield (DASH), Destitute Asylum Seeker Service (DASS), Fatima House, Giuseppe Conlon House, Home4U, Hope Projects (West Midlands), Host Nottingham, Host Oxford, Just Homes, King's Arms Project, Leeds Asylum Seeker Support Network (LASSN), London Hosting, Northern Ireland Community of Refugees and Asylum Seekers (NICRAS), Nottingham Arimathea Trust, One Roof Leicester, Open Door North East, Open Doors Hull, Praxis Community Projects, Refugees at Home, Sanctus, Share Tawe, Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group, Spare Room, St Augustine's Centre, Upbeat Communities, Warm Hut.

NACCOM Associate Members (6) :

Embrace, Green Pastures Housing, International Care Network, Night Stop North East, Open Door International Language School, Reading Refugee Support Group.

MEMBER TESTIMONIALS



Nottingham Arimathea Trust (NAT)

On the benefits of being NACCOM members:

"We have gained ideas and support for developing our work by sharing of practice with similar organisations, attendance at conferences and network meetings."

A resident describing the support they've received from NAT:

"Because I have somewhere to live, I am protected from harsh conditions. No-one else could support me. I would not have been able to do absolutely anything without accommodation. Having shelter enables me to look at my case again. It gives me time. I have been protected from rape, from flare-ups of my health condition. I need to be warm, and not stressed in order to keep healthy. [Their] support... makes me feel better."

The Boaz Trust

On the benefits of being NACCOM members:

"It's good to network for information, encouragement, inspiration and knowledge and wisdom."

A resident describing the support they've received from Boaz:

"Life without Boaz would be like madness. I would be very down, desperate and depressed. I would have lots of sickness... I hope that one day the Home Office will believe me and they will agree that what I am saying is true. In the future, when I work, I want to help people. I am a survivor. Boaz house is my therapy."



Refugees at Home

On the benefits of being NACCOM members:

"We feel respectable as part of the NACCOM network and as if we are players who are taken seriously in spite of our relative youth as an organisation. It is reassuring to discover that we are not out on a limb in how we operate and that the way we have chosen to work is appreciated by our peers."

A resident describing the support they've received from Refugees at Home:

"I don't know how to thank you enough. I will never forget this. THANK YOU REFUGEES AT HOME & most especially I'm grateful that people like you exist. I will forever be thankful for all your help."





Thank you for reading.

Please get in touch via the contact details below if you want to find out more about our work, or would like to order any copies of this report.

If you would like to help us grow the network and resource our members more in the next year, you can make a donation by visiting our website (www.naccomm.org.uk).

Our thanks to Crisp Design for the publication of this report and to the Boaz Trust, Action Foundation, Open Door North East and Heather Petch for their support in kind over the last year.

NACCOM

Registered CIO No: 1162434

☎ 0161 7060185

✉ office@naccomm.org.uk

🌐 www.naccomm.org.uk

📘 @NACCOMnetwork

🐦 @naccommnetwork

📍 c/o 110 Oldham Road, Ancoats,
Manchester, M4 6AG

OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Paul Catterall (Treasurer)

Rachael Bee

Will Sutcliffe

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