**NACCOM Action Groups**

**Information sheet**

**1. What is NACCOM?**

NACCOM is the UK-wide No Accommodation Network, a small charity preventing destitution amongst asylum seekers, refugees and other vulnerable migrants.

The network started in 2006 and became a registered charity in 2015. We support member projects (currently 44 across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) to develop the support offered to those who would be otherwise homeless, providing advice, training and awareness-raising to bring an end to destitution.

We want to see better treatment for all who come to the UK, and think this is possible if we can talk about the problem of destitution with decision-makers (e.g. politicians, local councillors) and share stories and experiences (e.g. with the general public and media).

For this, we need your help!

**2. What are NACCOM Action Groups?**

This year we are launching two Action Groups for NACCOM Members; ***Advisors*** and ***Activists***.

**a) Advisors** is for people with *lived experience of destitution*; asylum seekers, refugees or migrants who are either currently destitute, or who have been destitute before, and have been supported by a NACCOM project in recent years.

The group will be for people who want to share their experiences, and who think communicating with the media and general public is important to promote understanding and improve the experiences of those who settle here. It is for people who are happy to take part in public speaking and media enquiries, or those who like sharing stories creatively, and can help others to do the same.

Working with Lucy Smith, NACCOM’s Communications, Media and Advocacy Worker, the group will meet every 3-4 months (locations TBC), and travel expenses will be paid.

**b) Activists** is for people *from all backgrounds across NACCOM projects* who want to engage with decision-makers and get more involved in campaigning for change.

The group will be for people who are passionate about campaigning and who want to learn more about what is going on elsewhere/nationally. It is for people who are keen to contribute both practically and strategically, e.g. compiling case studies, finding data to evidence need, contributing to consultations, writing letters to MPs, and encouraging others to do the same.

Working with Lucy Smith, NACCOM’s Communications, Media and Advocacy Worker, the group will primarily meet through webinars and discussions on the members forum, with regional meetings planned once or twice a year (TBC) with travel expenses paid.

**3. Want to be involved?**

If you are interested please fill out the relevant *expression of interest form* and email it to comms@naccom.org.uk. We will be in contact to discuss the next steps.

**Please note:**

* **There are limited spaces available and we may need to turn down applications if we reach our funding capacity.**
* **References for all applicants will be requested from the Member organisations you are connected with.**
* **Only one application from each member organisation is permitted.**
* **We regret that there is not sufficient funding at this stage to allow for interpreters, therefore participants will need to be able to communicate in English. If you wish to discuss this in more detail please get in touch.**