



YOUNGROOTS

2023/2024

Corporate Partnership Pack

Working with young refugees and asylum seekers
to improve their wellbeing and fulfil their potential



Dear Supporter

Thank you for choosing to support Young Roots.

Your support will help ensure we can continue working for and with young refugees to support their wellbeing, to achieve their goals, and to resolve the many complex challenges they face in their daily lives. It will also show your commitment to making refugees welcome within our communities.

It is never easy to flee the only life you have ever known. With your help, we can reach many more young refugees, at the earliest opportunity.

We are delighted that you are interested in partnering with us and supporting our mission.

Within this pack, you will find out more about our work, how you can support us and the ways we can work together. You will also find a few stories from the young people we work with, so you can see the powerful and positive impact you can contribute to.

On behalf of all the staff, volunteers, trustees and young people we work with, thank you, and we look forward to creating a mutually beneficial partnership with you.

With very best wishes,

Tamsin MacDonald
Head of Fundraising & Development



"I had a dream about coming to the UK - a dream for a better life and future. But it has been a struggle for the years that I have been here. I have had some terrible experiences. Young Roots have helped me get over some of those experiences and to look forward."

- a young person we support

Our Work



Who we are

Founded in 2004, Young Roots works with young refugees aged 11-25 in London. We support young people to improve their wellbeing, fulfil their potential and access their rights. While our services are centred in Brent, Croydon and King's Cross we support young refugees from across London.

What we do

Our aims are to support young refugees to:

- Understand and access their rights and entitlements
- Reduce their social isolation
- Improve their mental health and wellbeing
- Increase their confidence, communication and leadership skills.

We do this through youth and sporting activities, one-to-one intensive Casework support, access to English language mentoring and to specialist legal and therapeutic support through our expert partners. Our Youth Welfare project also supports newly arrived young refugees in asylum hotels to access vital services and activities.

In 2023...

888 young people accessed our youth activities

541 accessed our one-to-one Casework service

110 accessed legal and therapeutic support

Why do we need your help?

The young refugees we work with face daily challenges, exacerbated by the hostile environment. In the pursuit of safety, many have had to leave behind families and their support networks, and would have had to navigate the UK's confusing legal and social care system on their own. The impact on their mental health is considerable, with many suffering from PTSD, severe anxiety, and increased stress.

Your support, whether financial, or through employee volunteering or raising awareness, will help support our vital work. It can also help us shift attitudes towards young refugees, a new area of work for Young Roots - we are now utilising our years of frontline work and deep understanding of the challenges faced by young refugees and asylum seekers for policy influencing and campaigning, to bring about positive change.

"Being listened to by the staff has helped me a lot. There were so many times, I felt so overwhelmed and needed to someone just to listen to me."

- a young person we support



Corporate Support

Collaboration and partnership working, to achieve the best outcomes for young people, is central to Young Roots' values. We are looking to grow our corporate partnerships with those who share our vision of a world where all young refugees and asylum seekers realise their rights and fulfil their potential.

How can my business support Young Roots?

Make us your chosen charity. It's a great way to boost staff engagement and morale, to enhance team working skills, and raise important funds – and awareness – for young refugees.

Corporate Donations

Donations will help Young Roots to plan and to scale our impact. We will keep you informed so you know how you are supporting our work and positively impacting the lives of young refugees.

Workplace Giving

Employees can donate to their chosen charities through Payroll Giving, a simple, tax-efficient scheme. As well as showing your commitment to supporting good causes, it's also a great way to meet your CSR objectives and to drive employee engagement.

Volunteer time & skills

Young Roots has a committed bank of volunteers and regularly advertises new opportunities. While we focus on roles that build up trusting relationships with young people over time, such as language mentoring or volunteering at our youth activities, we can also offer volunteering opportunities within our Fundraising & Development team to engage more of your staff directly with our charity and cause.

Messages of Support

Young refugees have often experienced long, dangerous lonely journeys in search of safety and to rebuild their lives as part of our communities. You can directly welcome young people through our Messages of Support. Refugee Week in June each year is a particularly good time to encourage staff to do this.

Pro-Bono Work

We have established partnerships with a number of respected legal firms and are looking to grow this important network to ensure young people have the best legal representation and advice. You might have other expertise to offer such as Marketing & Comms or IT support and development.



Corporate Support

Employee Fundraising

Young Roots can work with you to plan engaging employee fundraising activities. Whether it's bike rides, virtual walks, hikes or head shaves, staff fundraising can be fun, motivating, straightforward and sociable. By supporting your staff's endeavours, you will build motivated and engaged teams and develop their personal and professional skills. Why not match-fund their efforts to show your support?

Attending one of our events

Periodically, our supporters host events for us, including our Patrons. These can range from theatre productions to comedy events. By attending or promoting, you can showcase your connection to our charity, your support for young refugees and network with other supporters.

Sponsoring a youth activity or trip

17th-23rd June marks World Refugee Week, a time to celebrate the resilience and determination of those who have been forced to flee their homes in search of safety. To help us celebrate this with the young people we work with, you could sponsor a youth activity, trip or event during this week.

Pledging

Usually on Giving Tuesday, Young Roots runs a match-funded appeal through Big Give, which raises funds for an area of our work. Be it a pledge of £100 or £1000, it will be matched by a Big Give Champion. During the appeal week, you could get involved and double the donations from our supporters. Your pledge will inspire supporters to give more, knowing their donation will have double the , thanks to your support.

If you'd like recommendations on fundraisers, or have any other questions about the above activities, we would love to hear from you. Email us at fundraising@youngroots.org.uk

"The weekly Hubs create a safe space where young people know they can access vital support, be listened to, share their burdens, socialise with their peers, reduce their sense of isolation and stress, etc. Knowing that this type of space exists is so essential to their wellbeing and development, especially in an increasingly hostile environment towards asylum seekers and refugees."

- External stakeholder

WORKING TOGETHER



What we can do for you:

- We will commit to working with you in the most **mutually beneficial** way to build a successful and long lasting partnership.
- We will develop a partnership that is tailored to your **Corporate Social Responsibility objectives** and our joint values.
- We can offer **workplace presentations** in teams or over lunch to explain the different areas of our work and your support.
- We will provide **fundraising advice and support** to assist you and your staff.
- With your permission, we can **acknowledge your support** in our newsletters, website and social media.
- We can provide **fundraising materials**, which share young people's stories and experiences, and illustrate the difference you are making to the lives of young refugees.
- We will share **volunteering opportunities**.
- We can report on the impact of our partnership through **regular updates** and **presentations to your board**.



"I have been engaging in things more than before. I still feel stressed and PTSD remains an issue for me, but because of the help of Young Roots I am moving towards 'normal'. Young Roots are always there for helping me and now I understand what support is available."

- a young person we support



HEAR FROM A YOUNG WOMAN WE SUPPORT



When I first arrived in the UK, I was overwhelmed with anxiety. I could not communicate with others and had no understanding of the systems. I felt a strong sense of hopelessness, isolation and recall constantly worrying about where I would go and whether I was able to access the support I required.

Attending the Young Roots Hub greatly improved my confidence in my language skills. I was also appointed as a Young Leader, a role which involved raising awareness on the issues that matter to asylum seekers and advising on the activities that should be run at the Hub. The element of the Hub I enjoyed the most was the weekly communal cooking and preparing dinner for everyone. At a time where I didn't feel like I had a home, it brought me a sense of comfort and community.

My Caseworker always ensures that I understand what is happening in my case, and as a result I am more aware of my rights and how to navigate specific systems. What I am most grateful for, however, is our conversations and the way in which they make me feel heard, supported, and cared for.



Compared to when I first arrived in the UK, things are very different now. I have recently been granted refugee status – a month before giving birth to my new-born daughter! I feel much more stable, I no longer fear returning to my country of origin and **can focus on building a future in the UK.** The asylum process has been lengthy and difficult, however, attending university and working to provide for myself and my daughter **now seems achievable.**

How your fundraising can support young refugees

£50

could provide vital 1:1 Casework support and advocacy to young refugees, as they navigate the complex UK legal, social care, education, housing and welfare systems.

£150

could provide 2 nights emergency accommodation for a young refugee while our Caseworkers identify longer-term solutions.

£500

could fund a day trip, planned by young refugees, introducing them to new opportunities and experiences.

£1000

could enable 20 young refugees to access expert Casework support and advocacy at a critical time.

£5000

could provide 15-20 young refugees with the transformative opportunity of a week's residential.

£10,000

could fund resources, refreshments and facilitators at one of our weekly youth clubs, for a year, providing a safe space and sense of community to young refugees in London.



Thank You and Good Luck from Young Roots!

At Young Roots, we welcome all young refugees from anywhere in the world, irrespective of religion, sexual orientation, disability, gender, race and belief. We believe young people seeking safety should be supported to rebuild their lives and futures as part of our communities.

Your fundraising helps us achieve this goal.

To find out more about how your fundraising can make a difference, visit www.youngroots.org.uk.

We're here to help!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at **fundraising@youngroots.org.uk**. Our team is committed to supporting you on your fundraising journey and ensuring a successful partnership.