



**SAFR**  
Scottish  
Action for  
Refugees

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2019 - 2020**

[scottishactionforrefugees.org](http://scottishactionforrefugees.org)

Charity no: SCO46974



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# SCOTTISH ACTION FOR REFUGEES

We believe in a world that is SAFR for everyone

## VISION

Our vision is that all people seeking refuge are treated with kindness, compassion and respect and are empowered to thrive.

## MISSION

SAFR believe that to be treated with respect and dignity is a fundamental human right. The organisation's purpose is:

- to provide practical assistance, both in the UK and abroad, to persons fleeing their home country, due to reasons of war, famine, persecution or poverty.
- to provide advice and assistance to individuals and groups wishing to provide practical assistance, both in the UK and abroad, to persons fleeing their home country due to reasons of war, famine, persecution or poverty.

## VALUES

- Volunteers are the core of all SAFR activity.
- Empathy is the bridge that connects us.
- We treat all people with dignity and kindness.
- We are inclusive and consider the needs of everyone who reaches out to us or who wants to be involved in our work.
- We recognise that collaboration and partnership are the keys to our success.

# TRUSTEES

The trustees at November 2020 are:

Claire Macaulay  
Chair



Batool Hasan  
Secretary



Alex Short  
Treasurer



Ellanor King



Fiona Noble



We were delighted to welcome Fiona Noble who became a trustee at the 2019 AGM. Fiona has been involved with SAFR from the outset and in recent years has taken the lead in organising the annual collections. It's great to have her on board.

During 2020, Luran King resigned as a trustee due to other commitments. Luran was one of the founding members of SAFR and although we were incredibly sad to see Luran leave the trustee group, she will still be involved in all our work and continues to take one of the lead fundraising roles which very much includes the famous SAFR quiz. Thank you, Luran, for all your hard work and the fun you've brought with you, we're so glad you're not escaping too far!



# REPORT

**DECEMBER 2019 – NOVEMBER 2020**

## BACKGROUND

SAFR was set up in August 2015 and registered as a charity in November 2016. During that time we have sent five shipping containers along with several pallets of aid to Syria, Greece and France. We have built shelters in the jungle, decorated and stocked a caravan to send to Calais to shelter unaccompanied minors and sent volunteers on various occasions to Europe. In Glasgow we have supported local organisations and, for almost three years, ran a community hub in Govan.

We are run entirely by volunteers, including trustees, subgroup members, regular volunteers, event helpers and people providing specialist input. We cannot express how much we appreciate the efforts people go to and the commitment they have shown over these years.

## ACTIVITIES

In 2019, SAFR developed a strategy with the following aims:

- To continue to provide support to refugees in countries outside the UK
- To continue to provide support to refugees in Glasgow
- To make best use of the resources available to us
- To be a credible and trusted organisation

Early in 2020 we started the planning process to put these into action. We planned ways of linking into local organisations, explored more robust systems for co-ordinating volunteers and considered our best methods of communication and public presence. We started to organise our Love from Scotland 2020 campaign and launched in early March. But just then the world ground to a halt.

The global pandemic affected all aspects of life and with restrictions making any activities difficult, ports blocking shipments of secondhand clothes and the drastically changed commitments of trustees and volunteers, it was felt the safest option was to postpone the campaign. Unfortunately, as the situation evolved, a collection to the scale we normally saw was proving impossible.

However, we did manage to provide some local assistance within the Scottish Covid guidance:

- Clothing was bought and donated to **Glasgow Night Shelter**
- Personal radios, hair oil and adult colouring books and pencils were bought and donated to **Asylum Health Bridging Team**
- Board games, adult colouring books, pens and pencils were bought and donated to **Refuweegee**

As always, the items needed were identified by the organisations themselves, paid for by SAFR funds and delivered by our trusty volunteers.



Later in the year, a campaign was run to send newly knitted items to **Hand in Hand for Aid and Development** in Birmingham to add to their container. Our amazing supporters filled 25 boxes of knitting! Alongside this we ran a “Donate a Woolly” campaign. All donations made were matched by existing funds and added to by individual fundraisers. As a result, enough fleeces, hats, gloves, snoods and socks for 60 men, 60 women and 60 children were ordered and sent to join the knitting in the container in Birmingham to be shipped to Syria.



# FINANCE

Due to the restrictions over the year fundraising was limited, however our amazing supporters have continued to contribute and there were some particularly significant events and donations. The largest of these was from the Green Brigade who raised over £15,000 in an appeal in 2019, half of which they very kindly donated to SAFR. We appreciate every single donation made as every penny counts but would like to give a particular mention to Ian Talloch who raised over £1000 through his birthday fundraiser and SAFR's very own Richard Curran who ran 150 km in 28 days and raised £625.

We also managed to squeeze in our Annual Quiz in January, held at the Rum Shack with the fantastic Tom Urie hosting. As always it was a great night and raised £376.01.



The opening balance on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019 was £6546.18 and the closing balance on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 was £15,241.91. A summary of income and expenditure is as follows:

Income		Expenditure	
SAFR Quiz	£376.01	Night Shelter	£387.00
Green Brigade donation	£7578.47	AHBT	£419.46
Supporters fundraisers	£2237.20	Refuweege	£254.77
Bank donations	£1139.00	Donate a Woolly	£3548.98
Paypal donations	£1920.79	Courier	£228.00
Facebook donations	£412.35	Insurance	£590.84
Donate a Woolly	£223.50	SAFR Space final bills	£39.54
Cash for Clothes	£277.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£14,164.32</b>		<b>£5468.59</b>

# **THANK YOU**

SAFR has always relied on people's generosity with funds, time and hard work. Even through what has been an unusual and often trying year for us all, our supporters have never failed to back any initiative we have suggested. We have had new people interested in volunteering and all our loyal helpers ready for action. We are looking at some ideas for activities we may be able to take forward within the current situation and will keep you posted.

A big thank you to you all and we are feeling hopeful that we may see you in person at some point this year.