

**To: All members via Branch Leaders/contacts, Deanery Chairs and other Diocesan contacts:**

Dear friends,

Supporting refugees - from Ukraine and elsewhere

We continue to be horrified about the situation in Ukraine and many of you want to help. Although there is a willingness and generosity in the charitable collection of toys, clothes and bedding, the advice, I have received, is to avoid this approach as it is often inappropriate and not what is most needed on the ground. Therefore, what can we do?

Firstly, we must never underestimate the power of prayer!

The next single most productive thing we can do is donate money to the charities that are already on the ground in Ukraine and bordering states:

<https://donation.dec.org.uk/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>

[www.uspg.org.uk/ukraine](http://www.uspg.org.uk/ukraine)

We can also continue to support Carriers of Hope, Clothing Coventry and Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre by checking out their Facebook page to see what is needed.

**Below is the toolkit for churches responding to the crisis in Ukraine.**

[www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2022-04/Ukraine%20toolkit%20draft%208.pdf](http://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2022-04/Ukraine%20toolkit%20draft%208.pdf)

Hope Coventry (city churches working together) has kindly provided the following useful links for anyone considering hosting a refugee or person seeking asylum in their home or anyone wanting to gain knowledge on hosting 'good practice':

[https://naccom.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/NACCOM-Hosting-Good-Practice-Guide-2022\\_PART-1-FINAL.pdf](https://naccom.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/NACCOM-Hosting-Good-Practice-Guide-2022_PART-1-FINAL.pdf)

[www.coventry.gov.uk/ukrainianguests](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/ukrainianguests)

[www.ukrainewelcome.org](http://www.ukrainewelcome.org)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6EyZ7wiaD6s>

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[www.facebook.com/groups/337506334853044](https://www.facebook.com/groups/337506334853044)

Vita Training offers training on supporting trauma survivors [www.vita-training.com](http://www.vita-training.com)

Please drop me a line, if you or someone you know would like information on the following:

- Refugees at Home - extracts from their host checklist
- Meeting action notes & contact details of some key local people
- Personal preparation for guest arrival checklist for use with a hosted refugee
- A template house rules guide for use with a hosted refugee
- A template house welcome pack for use with a hosted refugee
- A template recycling bin guide for use with a hosted refugee

I know many of you will already be reaching out via your church to look for practical ways to support refugees from Ukraine and elsewhere within your own community setting. Thank you!

'Do the little things' is the deep wisdom that Saint David of Wales reminds us of. Every moment is an opportunity to serve God, to meet God and to be drawn closer to the God who loves us so deeply.

With my love and prayers,

Karen