



“Love your neighbour as yourself.”
Galatians 5:14



Mission Partner of the Month: July 2018

What is b.friend?

b.friend, a project of Bridges for Communities, enables volunteers to provide one to one social support to isolated asylum seekers and refugees in the Bristol area.

b.friend provides a thorough training programme and ongoing support to volunteers who commit to meeting up with their befriender once a week for a year.

b.friend also runs the Craft Collective, a friendly and nurturing sewing-based group based at Hamilton House on Saturday afternoons. Our latest project has been for volunteers and women to work together on a patchwork quilt.



Good News to Share

Two of our befriended have been granted refugee status - 5 years leave to remain with permission to work and claim benefits. The challenge now is they have 28 days to leave their current housing and find somewhere new to live, which can be tricky.

One of our befriended was recently joined by her 3 teenagers under family reunion. Sam raised money to give the family a pizza feast to celebrate. The befriended had also been part of the Craft Collective and we gave her some bunting we made for her home with the word, 'FAMILY' applied on. She was delighted.



Could you befriend an asylum seeker or refugee?



Which countries our befriendeds come from in 2017- 2018 (incl. 41 Syrians from Syrian Befriend)

Pray...

- Those befriended would feel supported and gain new confidence and trust.
- For the reunited family as they adjust to life here and together.
- For hope for befriendeds suffering from depression and PTSD.
- For ongoing funding for the project.
- Ask if God is prompting you to get involved by training to become a befriender.



More information from
www.bridgesforcommunities.com
Or contact Sam Sayer: sam@b-friend.org.uk
Chris Gane is the link person at St. Michaels.