
Senior Fundraising and Communications Officer

About the Jesuit Refugee Service

The Jesuit Refugee Service UK is part of an international Catholic organisation, working in more than 50 countries to accompany, serve and advocate for the rights of refugees and other forcibly displaced people.

In the UK we have a special mission to people who are made destitute by the asylum system and people held in immigration detention. We believe in the intrinsic dignity of every person and work with refugees from across the world regardless of their race, gender, religion, or politics.

Our holistic services are co-produced with our refugee friends, shaped by their experiences and grounded in restoring dignity and agency to people rebuilding their lives here.

Every year, JRS UK works with over 300 refugee friends from more than 80 different countries. Our work includes:

- **Practical support**, providing free food and toiletries, financial assistance, and mobile credit
- **Advice and casework** for people experiencing destitution, including support to access healthcare and other services
- **Classes and activities** such as English lessons, music & drama sessions, prayer groups, and our social drop-in, a safe space where refugee friends can come for a hot meal
- **Accommodation** for refugees who are homeless; this includes our *At Home* hosting scheme, which matches refugee friends with individuals, families, and parishes, as well as two houses for longer-term accommodation
- **A legal advice service**, helping people progress their asylum case and find a long-term resolution to their situation
- **Detention outreach**, assisting people in immigration detention with casework and practical support
- **Research and advocacy**, raising awareness of policy issues that shape refugees' lives and experiences

Senior Fundraising and Communications Officer

JRS UK is recruiting a full-time Senior Fundraising and Communications Officer, responsible for helping to build our support base, especially among the Catholic community.

This is a senior role, reporting to the Head of Communications, Fundraising and Advocacy and working closely with the Fundraising and Communications Manager. It will involve developing and delivering our strategy for recruiting supporters in parishes and other settings, as well as delivering a range of fundraising initiatives including our challenge events programme.

We are seeking someone with a proven track-record in fundraising and community outreach, as well as a good understanding of the Catholic community in the UK.

You'll be part of a mission that restores dignity, hope, and agency to people rebuilding their lives after displacement. Whether you're introducing our mission to parishes, representing us at national events, or recruiting participants for our challenge events, your work will have real impact. If you're passionate about justice, have a strong knowledge of fundraising and want a role that improves the lives of people seeking sanctuary, this is your chance to make a difference every single day.

Job description

1. Developing and leading JRS UK's parish engagement plan:

- Strategic development of JRS UK's long-term approach towards engaging parishes in our mission
- Arranging and delivering fundraising appeals, talks, and engagement with parish groups
- Ensuring that parishes supporting our mission are kept up to date with our work and opportunities to get involved
- Building sustainable relationships with at least 20 parishes annually by year two

2. Expanding JRS UK's outreach in the Catholic and wider Christian community:

- Identifying and delivering opportunities to share our mission with others and involve them in our work including:
 - i. representing JRS UK at national events
 - ii. leading our engagement with other Jesuit organisations and Catholic organisations such as the National Justice and Peace Network
 - iii. Producing resources tailored to different audiences such as Catholic youth groups, Justice and Peace groups, and non-churchgoing Catholics

3. Leading recruitment of regular donors:

- Utilising the opportunities outlined here to engage new regular/committed supporters
- Recruiting at least 120 new regular supporters annually by year 2
- Working with the Fundraising and Communications Manager on our process for welcoming and stewarding regular supporters

4. Leading our challenge events programme:

- Recruiting and stewarding our teams for the TCS London Marathon, London Landmarks Half Marathon, and Vitaly 10k ensuring all participants are supported, equipped, and celebrated

- Keeping past participants up to date with our work and the impact of their support
- Promoting opportunities for supporters to undertake their own fundraising events
- Raising a net income of £20,000 annually through challenge events by year 2

Other responsibilities

- Working with the Fundraising and Communications Manager on our schools and universities engagement plan
- Ensuring good quality supporter records are kept in compliance with data processing requirements
- Periodic management of interns or volunteers
- Other duties as required by the Head of Communications, Fundraising and Advocacy

Person specification

Essential

- A passion for improving the lives of people seeking sanctuary in the UK
- A proven track record of fundraising and community outreach in the charity sector
- A strong understanding of the Catholic community in the UK
- Excellent interpersonal and supporter-care skills
- Demonstrable experience of meeting concurrent deadlines in a dynamic environment

Desirable

- An understanding of the challenges faced by refugees in the UK
- Familiarity with Salesforce or a similar CRM platform
- Experience of designing supporter engagement resources

Hours: Full-time (37.5 hours); weekend and evening work will be required as part of this role, with time off in lieu

Duration: Permanent

Location: JRS UK Office, Hurtado Jesuit Centre, Wapping, London E1W 2QT with the opportunity for hybrid working; outreach in parishes and schools will be required as part of this role

Salary: £35,000

Pension: Additional 10% employer's contribution

Application deadline: Friday 5 June

Interviews: Monday 22 or Tuesday 23 June

We particularly encourage applications from people who have first-hand experience of the UK asylum or immigration system.

You must be permitted to work in the UK. JRS UK is not able to obtain a work visa for this post.

To apply please send your completed application form to liam.allmark@jrs.net