

Role Description: Host Derby

Upbeat is a charity that exists to help refugees settle and rebuild their lives in the UK. We work across Derbyshire and want to see 'strangers become neighbours'. Host Derby is run by Upbeat Communities in partnership with The British Red Cross, Derby Refugee Advice Centre, Metropolitan Housing, Derby City Mission and Derby City of Sanctuary. We are looking for enthusiastic, caring and compassionate individuals to join the Upbeat volunteer team.



Responsible to: Eimir Cooper (Head of Delivery and Host Derby Coordinator)

Location: Upbeat is based at Trinity Baptist Church, Green Ln, Derby, DE1 1RT. Supervision and training may happen here. You would be hosting guests in your home.

Your Commitment

We require a 1-year commitment from all our volunteers. Host volunteers will provide accommodation for a defined and agreed length of time. There will be an introductory trial period of one week and this will be extended with the agreement of the host. We ask hosts to commit, where possible, for a minimum of one month per guest. Hosts will also be expected to attend review meetings with the Host Derby Coordinator. The time and frequency of these sessions will depend on the needs of the host and the guest.

Responsibilities

- Provide a warm, supportive, and safe environment for the guest.
- Provide a bedroom, clean bedding, and towels as well as laundry and bathroom facilities.
- Inform the coordinator of any concerns.
- Be available for placement reviews with the coordinator.
- Follow Host Derby's guidance and procedures.
- Maintain confidentiality – both of the organisation and guests.
- Prioritise attending support and training opportunities.
- Provide confirmation of appropriate house insurance.

Qualities Needed

Volunteers will need to be:

- Empathetic and understanding towards the problems facing asylum seekers and refugees, particularly those experiencing homelessness and destitution.
- Welcoming and accommodating of someone in your home who is from a different cultural background.
- Able to maintain safe boundaries.
- Supportive and empower the guest to make their own decisions and choices, and to live independently within the boundaries set by the house rules agreement.
- A good listener and be able to provide emotional support.
- Able to cope with stressful situations.

Why Volunteer as a Befriender?

It is a privilege to come alongside such inspiring people from around the world. Whilst it is a serious commitment, this is an extremely rewarding opportunity to provide emergency accommodation for those without a place to live. With the support of an experienced team, not only will you be providing safety and security by opening your home, but you will also be helping individuals to integrate into the local community where they can belong and begin to flourish.