

## **NDRC Mission**

Notre Dame Refugee Centre has for mission to support and accompany refugees and asylum-seekers in their search for a just and equitable place in our society.

## **Other things you can do with NDRC**

- ◆ Donate good quality second-hand clothing that we re-distribute to vulnerable refugees.
- ◆ Collect and send us unwanted old mobile phones and used printer cartridges that we sell to fundraise for our work.
- ◆ Share the information on this leaflet with family, friends, colleagues and others. Please write and ask for further copies!

**NOTRE DAME  
REFUGEE CENTRE**

**Supermarket  
Vouchers  
Exchange**

## How would you cope if you had no cash?

Where do you do your weekly shopping? How do you choose which supermarket to go to: proximity, price, or range of goods? How much of your weekly shopping do you buy in small shops or in markets?



Vouchers received by Asylum seekers

How would you cope if you had no cash? How would you manage if you could only buy things in one named supermarket? It would be more difficult if the nearest branch were a long way off. Even more difficult if you haven't the bus fare to get there.

This is the situation of those asylum seekers who receive support from the government under section 4. Section 4 support arises when asylum seekers :

- have either got a judicial review in their case pending;
- have been able to introduce a fresh asylum application and so have a new case;
- or have agreed to return to their country of origin and are supported in this way in the meantime.

They receive £35 in supermarket vouchers per week and they rarely have the choice of which vouchers they receive.

## Encouragement to unscrupulous individuals

The result is that asylum seekers often sell their vouchers for much less than face value, so that they can buy bus tickets to attend college, to report at immigration reporting centres or to attend medical and legal appointments. The going rate for the vouchers from unscrupulous individuals locally is £20 cash.

## You can stop this with us

At NDRC we exchange these vouchers for cash at face value, usually once a month, to enable asylum seekers to buy other things that they need.

You too can help – and at the same time show solidarity with asylum seekers. If you shop at ASDA, Tesco or Sainsbury consider exchanging vouchers through NDRC. It costs nothing but the postage and can make a real difference to people's lives. ASDA and Tesco vouchers come as gift cards. These hold any unspent money on the card. Bearing in mind the range of toys, books, DVDs and so on now available in supermarkets these vouchers could make ideal gifts. Sainsbury gift vouchers are of paper. There is no change with these so they are less convenient especially for asylum seekers.

## What do you have to do?

Join our network of individuals and communities who are willing to regularly or occasionally buy the gift vouchers from the asylum seekers via our office. Fill the sign-up form on the right hand side choosing among the different option the one you prefer and send it back to NDRC.

## Supermarket Exchange Registration form

1) Please indicate the number of vouchers you wish to receive for the appropriate supermarket:

	ASDA	TESCO	SAINSBURY
£35 voucher			
<b>Total</b>			

Amount Enclosed for Vouchers (cheque payable to Notre Dame Refugee Centre ): £\_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would also like to make a donation for admin costs of this scheme. Donation amount : £\_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I am a UK taxpayer and would like to gift aid my donation to NDRC (worth a further 28p for every £1 given)

2) Please indicate at which frequency. I wish to exchange vouchers against cash every :

Month	Fortnight	Week	

If you wish to pay by card or standing order please contact Christine by phone or email.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email and phone \_\_\_\_\_

3) Please return the registration form and a cheque to :

Notre Dame Refugee Centre  
5 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX  
Tel: 020 7440 2660/61 Fax: 020 7437 3848  
Email: drop-in@notredamerc.org.uk