



International Volunteering with the British Red Cross

Refusing to ignore people in crisis

What we're looking for

For all of our projects, we're looking for volunteers who are:

- **Motivated**
- Strong communicators
- Flexible and willing to learn
- **Understanding of the challenges our vulnerable service users face**
- Open-minded
- **Able to communicate comfortably in English**
- Positive!
- **Committed to Red Cross principles***

*Humanity, impartiality, neutrality, voluntary service, unity, universality, independence



Inspiring Active Communities

January 2018 – August 2020

- > 106 volunteers aged between 18-30
- > 70 on Red Cross projects in the UK,
- > 36 on Red Cross projects in France, Germany, Portugal and Iceland (tbc)
- > 2 core objectives

OBJECTIVE 1

Support activities to promote better integration among groups at risk of isolation (incl. refugees / elderly)

OBJECTIVE 2

Promote volunteering as a means of increasing individual and community resilience

BRITISH RED CROSS REFUGEE SERVICES



As a Refugee Services volunteer, you'll be able to take on a range of responsibilities – from triage at drop-in centres and helping with casework, to supporting refugees and vulnerable migrants to access services, or running workshops and planning events for Refugee Week in June.

These placements are ideal for volunteers who:

- are interested in refugee issues
- have a good level of English, and can communicate and listen well
- are emotionally resilient and empathetic
- are flexible and keen to learn
- are open-minded and compassionate
- can speak French, Arabic, Urdu or other common refugee languages (*not a requirement)
- are excited about working with people from many different backgrounds and cultures!



BRITISH RED CROSS INTERNATIONAL FAMILY TRACING

(Sheffield, Leeds,
Nottingham, London)



Volunteering with our International Family Tracing team can be an incredibly inspiring experience! This team aims to help refugees and migrants find family members they have become separated from as a result of conflict or natural disaster. We also help refugees to exercise their right to family reunion – helping to bring their family members to the UK to join them!

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BRITISH RED CROSS INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES AND MOBILITY AIDS



As part of the ILS team, you'll have a really varied role helping to directly support people at risk of crisis— by carrying out risk assessments, home visits, helping with practical tasks such as food shopping, and supporting the team with casework and admin tasks, as well as getting more volunteers involved in the service!

These placements would suit you if you are:

- Caring and empathetic
- A good communicator
- Confident about working with vulnerable people, particularly the elderly and infirm
- Emotionally resilient – able to deal with difficult situations involving beneficiaries
- Flexible and willing to get involved!



BRITISH RED CROSS – FUNDRAISING TEAM (Sheffield & Liverpool)



Volunteering with the fundraising team is really exciting and fast-paced! You'll be focussing on finding ways to secure funding for Refugee Support and Independent Living Services; including building links between fundraising and front-line services.

This role is perfect for someone who is

- Creative and innovative
- Flexible
- A good communicator
- Open to new ideas
- A good organiser
- Excited about working with people from lots of different backgrounds!



BRITISH RED CROSS ANTI-TRAFFICKING TEAM (London HQ)



As a volunteer in this team, you will help with research and information gathering to help ensure our materials are up to date; help with developing new projects, get involved in writing funding proposals, support with communication and advocacy work to raise public awareness about human trafficking; and be involved in networking with other organisations.

A perfect role for someone who is:

- interested in research and project development
- has great IT skills
- a strong communicator, with **a very good level of English**
- interested in working in the migration field
- able to work independently and in a team
- looking for a more office-based role



BRITISH RED CROSS YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

(Nottingham and Glasgow
(TBC))



This placement puts you right at the heart of the British Red Cross! You'll support us with an exciting range of projects designed to increase opportunities for young people within the Red Cross!

This is a great role for someone who is:

- Creative and keen to bring in their own ideas
- A great teamworker – but also able to work independently
- Outgoing & sociable
- A good communicator
- Confident, positive and adaptable



THE PRACTICAL BITS...

Money money money

- ❖ Basic allowance is 122 EUR per month (around £108)
- ❖ Food and living allowance of £150
- ❖ Monthly travel card or bike

Accommodation

- ❖ Shared house or flat with other volunteers
- ❖ Private bedroom, shared bathroom and living space – so you are expected to be considerate!
- ❖ All accommodation costs and utility bills* are paid for by the British Red Cross.

**be sensible in usage – if utility costs are unreasonable we will ask why!*

Holidays

- ❖ 2 days holiday per month of service (total 24 days + bank holidays – but we ask you to save 8 days to use in August to sort yourself out for going home after final seminar. That means 16 days of holiday to take through your placement,)

Travel

- ❖ Return journey to and from the UK paid for by Red Cross

Cigna insurance

- ❖ Comprehensive health insurance, but not personal belongings. You need to make sure you have an EHIC card; and you usually need to keep your policy with your provider in your home country also. You need to get your own travel insurance!

TRAINING SEMINARS

British Red Cross On-Arrival Seminar

- ❖ On arrival in UK (September)
- ❖ Meet the other volunteers
- ❖ Team building
- ❖ BRC Foundation Training
- ❖ Find out more about your projects and what to expect from your year

British Red Cross Mid-Way Seminar

- ❖ Middle of the year (usually April)
- ❖ Further skills training and share experiences so far with other volunteers

British Red Cross Final Seminar

- ❖ End of your year (August)
- ❖ Reflect on your year as a volunteer
- ❖ Celebrate your achievements and look towards your future steps

Alongside your BRC training seminars you will also attend seminars run for all EVS volunteers based in the UK run by the British national agency



Erasmus+

SUPPORT

You have many sources of support as a British Red Cross volunteer so you are never alone!

❖ **Host project supervisor**

This person acts as your line manager and can help you with day to day project specific needs.

❖ **Mentor**

Your mentor is a more informal support person who also works at your host project.

❖ **British Red Cross Coordinator**

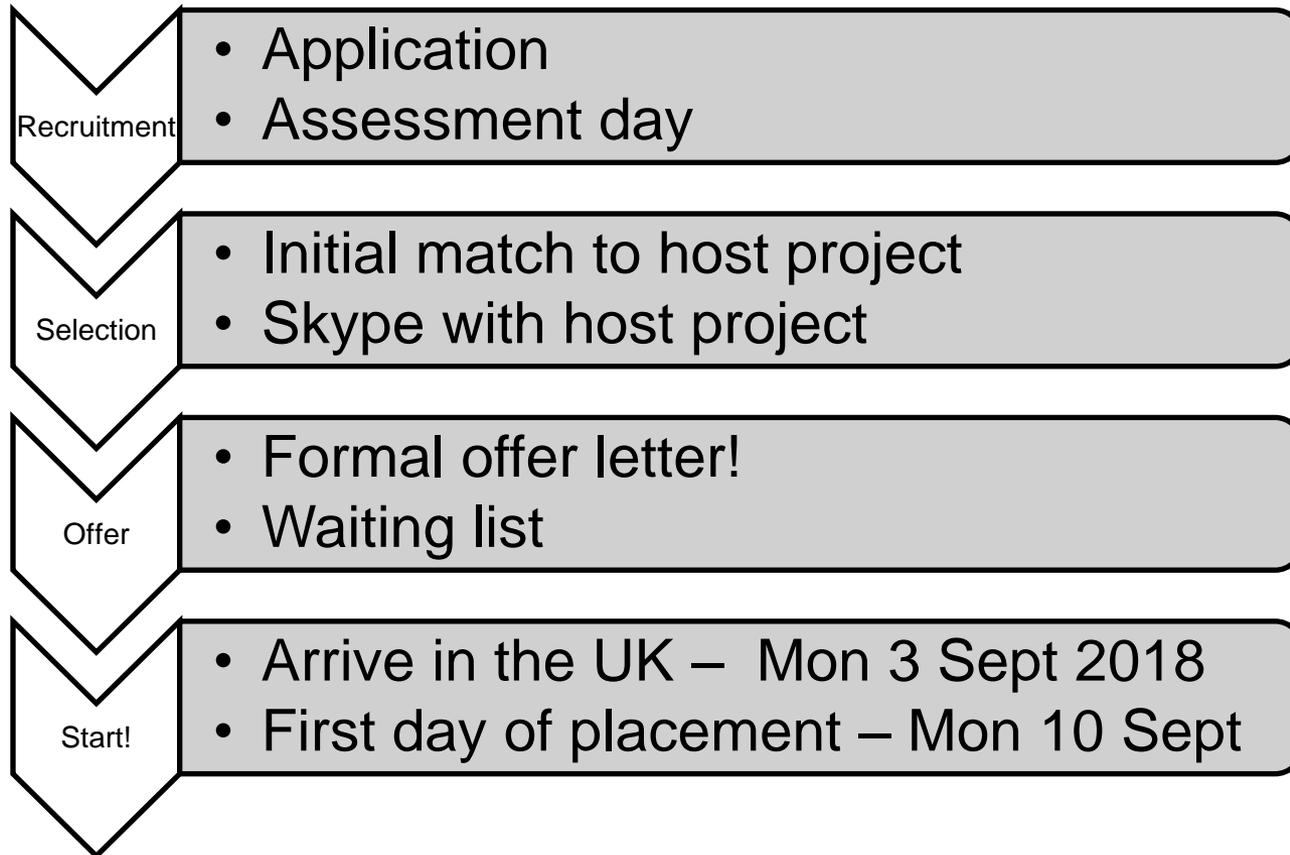
Your programme coordinator is based in London and contactable by email and phone whenever needed (within reason!).

❖ **Sending organisation**

The volunteer coordinator in your own country is another support contact .



What's next?





GOOD LUCK! 😊