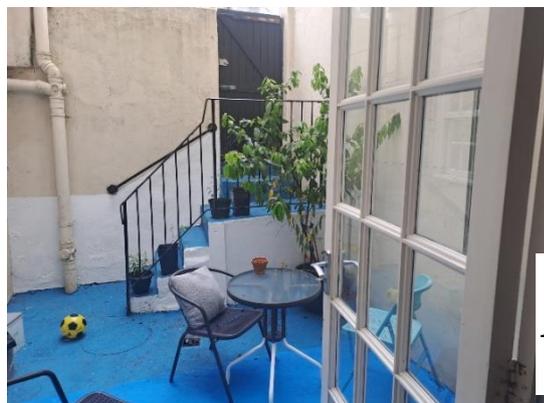


# Thousand 4 £1000 Annual Report April—December 2022



*One of our flats—  
freshly decorated  
by a resident*



*Our proud student nurse.*



*Bikes for all  
...generously  
donated*



*A fundraising Ceilidh*



*Supporting the Jollof Cafe*



### Foreword by Jacob

We faced numerous challenges in 2022. The pandemic seemed to have created a kind of hangover for the Home Office. There is an enormous backlog to be dealt with. Whilst waiting for your asylum claim to be heard, you have to live somewhere. Despite the constant pressure from civil society, the one thing that did not give was the hostile environment. Families, single women and men were housed across three hotels in Brighton and Hove. And the world was not becoming a friendlier place. The Taliban retook Kabul and the refugees who were abandoned to their fate began to arrive in the UK, along with desperate Ukrainians.

However, we rose to the challenges. The Jollof Café buzzed with people from the hotels building a social space for themselves, welcoming in their new neighbours. Together we found lawyers and provided emotional and financial support. We raised money to house people and found local hosts. The very existence of this project is a challenge to the politics of hate. The beauty of your collective action is living proof that another way is possible. It turns the slogan “refugees welcome” into practical solidarity. If you have to cross a border because you need to rebuild your life, we have a project that will bring you home.

### Local Refugees Supporting our NHS

Several of our ex-beneficiaries are now bringing their talents and experience to filling workforce gaps and supporting the NHS.

They include two young women from Sudan. They had to wait well over two years for a Home Office decision on being granted refugee status. They used that time to perfect their English and take their professional exams so that one of them was able to hit the ground running as a hospital doctor as soon as they were granted their Leave to Remain visas, whilst her sister will soon be able to resume her career as a dentist when she acquires professional recognition from the General Dental Council.

A qualified nurse who is also the mother of two young girls from Iran, was reunited with her husband last year. She is working as a nursing assistant in a hospital while bringing her English up to the requisite standard for her qualifications to be recognised.

In addition, a mother of three young children is now in her first year studying for a nursing degree at Brighton University. Even though she has Leave to Remain and is entitled to work and claim benefits, she is not entitled to a student loan. Therefore, her first year’s fees and other studying costs have been paid for by a crowdfunding appeal supported by incredibly generous members of the Brighton community.

The women described above are just a few examples of how beneficiaries are eager to contribute to our society and reciprocate the kindness and generosity they have received.

## *A Flat in Time (homage to David Olusoga)*

*Six years of sanctuary: ten lives enhanced*

*Six years ago two Brightonians who owned a “nest-egg” flat in the city centre were appalled when they learnt how hard it was for destitute migrants to get a roof over their heads. They approached T4k and offered us the two-bedroom flat for half its market-value rent, to be made available to those in most desperate need. Their generous act has resulted over the years in ten sanctuary-seekers gaining the peace and refuge which they needed in order to progress their claims and then move on to more independent living.*

*The first residents were a Kurdish father and his small son, refugees needing peace to recover from a nightmare journey across Europe, whilst trying to reunite their family of four. A year later this was achieved, and the family continued living in the limited space, saving hard until they could afford a flat where the two children, almost teenagers, could have their own rooms.*

*Subsequent residents have come from all corners of Africa, but all fleeing regimes which prevent them from ever returning home to their families. They have made this flat their haven.*

*Two single asylum seekers moved in and were supported by T4k as they worked on their claims. When one moved on to join a partner in another city, a young pregnant woman gained sanctuary during the difficult final weeks before she gave birth and was then housed by the local authority. Her room was then occupied by a young asylum-seeker fleeing forced marriage and with significant health problems.*

*Most recently two residents from very different parts of Africa have moved in. One is very creative and has started giving the property a face-lift: his painting is livening up the small patio area and enhancing this space to relax in the fresh-air and grow plants. Our marvellous landlords have been consistently attentive and have willingly come to our aid with the occasional domestic issue. But most of our residents have been resourceful and keen to solve any small problems themselves, or with a handy T4k volunteer.*

*If you know anyone who has a flat, or studio flat, which they would loan to us at reduced rent, we guarantee that we will select and support residents with care; monitor their progress to ensure that the property is put to best possible use; and see that it is well cared for at all times. This flat has been a life-saver: a six-year thank you to our loyal donors!*

## Financial Management

Firstly, we must express a huge thank you to our many hundreds of donors. Most of the income which sustains all our activities derives from many hundreds of monthly donations as well as regular larger 'one-off' donations.

These include in the last financial year, a donation of £5000 by Maude Casey in memory of her brother, Tony. Thank you Maude!

This year's accounts are based on 9 months' transactions due the changing of our financial year to match the calendar year.

Our reserves policy has been amended and we now maintain a balance of £7,500 in an account at Wave Community Bank. This constitutes approximately 12 weeks running costs.

Our fundraising and administrative costs were kept to around 1% of our overall spending.

We continue to work closely with the Sussex Refugees & Migrants Self Support Group with whom we run the weekly Jolloff Cafe. However in the next financial year the Group will have their own bank account up and running so our financial relationship will conclude.

T4k was awarded a grant by NAACOM in 2018 for the purpose of making loans to refugees and migrants seeking leave to remain. The loans are managed by Wave Community Bank (formerly known as East Sussex Credit Union). At the start of the financial period 5.4.22-31.12.22, six of these loans were outstanding and being repaid, while two had been written down as bad debts in the previous year. Two of the six remaining loans were paid off during the financial period and two new ones were made. The two direct loans to long-standing beneficiaries which were made during the previous financial period continued to be repaid, and one of them was topped up by an additional loan during the year. There is no reason to believe that the outstanding loans will not be repaid.

## Accounts

| Income   | Expenditure                      |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Donations.....£47,821                            | Rent.....£43,876                 |
| Fundraising activities.....£19,038               | Subsistence.....£19,228          |
| Grants.....£2,880                                | Utilities.....£8,689             |
| Payments from residents.....£19,232              | Travel.....£431                  |
| Refunds.....£442                                 | Legal & other fees.....£2,405    |
| Sundries.....£180                                | Clothing.....£65                 |
| <b>Total.....£89,593</b>                         | Household.....£1274              |
|  | Training.....£22                 |
| <b>Funds at end of year</b>                      | Publicity.....£36                |
| Current account.....£15,627                      | Education.....£10,250            |
| Reserves.....£7,500                              | Cleaning.....£280                |
| NAACOM loan fund end of year.....£4,212          | Admin.....£973                   |
| <b>Total.....£27,340</b>                         | Healthcare.....£230              |
|  | Holidays & Social.....£328       |
| <b>Loans</b>                                     | Repairs & Maintenance.....£1,170 |
| Loans made this year.....£5,804                  | <b>Total.....£89,257</b>         |
| Loans repayment.....£3,766.99                    |                                  |
| Balance of loans still outstanding.....£9,368.17 |                                  |

$$12 \times 9 = 108$$

$$(x + y) \times (a + b) = ???$$

$$52 - 24 = 28$$

### **Maths tuition**

*Following my joining T4K I was asked whether I might be interested in tutoring 11 year old A since he was behind in Maths and it was felt it would be very beneficial for him to have 1 on 1 support. In January 2022 I began visiting his house and tutoring for around 45-60 minutes weekly, during the summer holidays we took a break but have resumed since the start of the school year in September. In the earlier sessions we focused a lot on getting comfortable with timetables and division to try to build his confidence. Since the beginning of the new school year we have been using a revision book to focus on subjects that the school will be tackling this year. We also go through the homework he has been given each week to make sure he has understood everything and feel comfortable with what he has learnt this week. I feel as though A finds the sessions really helpful and he'll often gain better understanding into what he has been taught. He is still lacking confidence in his ability and will often second guess an answer or provide an answer that is 1 digit wrong.*

*Sam*

### **A number of members don't get a big enough mention:**

*Peter – an extremely willing and very handy member of the “Fixers and Menders” team always ready to mend stuff, like broken furniture and door locks, or try to find out how things work, or why they don't work, like boiler timers, room thermostats and “smart” meters – saving us loads of money in the process.*

*Derek – a great resource for anything legal like tenancy agreements and landlord / tenant relationships – again, saving us loads of money.*

*And of course.....amazing Jim, who, as well as being a very practical “fixer of broken things”, battles on continuously with the unenviable task of keeping the very complicated accounts, nagging us for all important paperwork and generally ensuring that as a charity we obey the rules and uphold charity law.*

## Care and Support Group

“Darn it! We’re good!” I often say to myself about T4K and what we manage to achieve. Looking back through the minutes of our meetings, it really is pretty amazing the number of people we’ve supported and sometimes even prevented falling into destitution, with all their different circumstances and complex situations. It wasn’t all plain sailing, and we encountered a couple of less-than-honest characters, which caused us a lot of stress and heart-ache, but human beings are human beings, and we still take everyone at face value and treat them with the trust we’d like to enjoy ourselves.

So, this is just a taste of our activities over the last 9 months:

- Helped several people with the almost-impossible task of finding a new home and moving house.
- Continued to support the residents living in the NASS houses by: providing essential wifi (not deemed essential by the Home Office); helping with medical appointments; reporting issues to the private company running the houses on behalf of the residents.
- Supported a traumatised asylum seeker with severe physical and mental health problems, abandoned by the Home Office in totally unsuitable accommodation.
- Assisted a number of people with finding NHS dental treatment.
- Found a host family for a homeless asylum seeker through Rooms for Refugees.
- Distributed £5000 to a number of our beneficiaries to help with the cost-of-living crisis.
- Continued to support the Jollof Café, which is run by and for refugees and asylum seekers, where 40 - 50 delicious lunches are served every week and acts as an important meeting point for greeting new people. Vital information and help is given in relation to asylum claims, we assess people for ongoing financial support from T4K and homeless migrants can come for practical support and advice.
- Helped residents placed in the family hotel to get access to housing lawyers and subsequently a move out of the hotel and also found lawyers for their asylum claims.
- Accommodated and supported a seriously ill young woman and helped her in her battle to access the NHS treatment she is entitled to.

*Sue Williams – Coordinator of the Care and Support Group*

## Our trustees:

Jacob Berkson

Anne Feltham

Sally Griffin

Paul Humpoletz

Jenny Priestman

Sue Williams

The Trustees confirm that they have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

## Our donors:

A huge thank you for their extremely generous donations to:

Maude Casey (in memory of her brother Tony Casey) and Rob Silverstone

And also to our other very generous donors:

Carol Houghton, Chris Randall, LOSRAS, the General Services Association, Clive Baker, Barbara Richardson, the Guesthouse Storytellers, Pebbles Sangha, Refugee Radio, Much Loved and Benevity.

And we mustn't forget our two very kind and supportive landlords, who have let us rent their beautiful flat at well below the market rate for several years and where, over the last 9 months, 5 people have had the opportunity to enjoy living in a real home and find their feet.

[www.thousand4thousand.org.uk](http://www.thousand4thousand.org.uk)

Thousand 4 £1000

CIO Registered charity no. 1171590

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