

## GLASGOW NIGHT SHELTER FOR DESTITUTE ASYLUM SEEKERS

<https://glasgownightshelter.org>

Glasgow Night Shelter for Destitute Asylum Seekers (GNS) exists to protect people who are not only homeless but who have no support network in the form of friends or relatives and are without recourse to public funds. Since 2011, the charity (SC047169) has provided somewhere safe and warm for destitute asylum seekers to stay overnight, 365 nights a year. It is estimated that more than one hundred individuals are rendered destitute by the asylum system in Glasgow each year. The need to break this cycle of destitution, disappearance and detention is clear and urgent.

The shelter currently provides emergency accommodation to some of the city's most vulnerable men. Asylum seekers, who because of their current immigration status cannot access other homelessness services, are provided with a warm evening meal and a safe place to stay the night. The shelter is staffed by experienced workers who help signpost the guests to health and legal services. The staff team are in turn supported by a large and committed pool of volunteers.

In partnership with other refugee, asylum and homelessness organisations, GNS received a generous National Lottery Community Fund grant to support the development and implementation of a new pilot accommodation pathway and a central one-stop hub for destitute asylum seekers to access information and advice. This new post is the key to ensuring that asylum seekers are at the heart of the delivery of this project. **GNS is particularly keen to hear from applicants for this post with lived experience of seeking asylum in the UK.**

**JOB TITLE:** Participation Manager

**LOCATION:** Glasgow

**HOURS:** Full time is 39h per week (job share will be considered). Some evening and weekend working will be required, with time off in lieu.

**TERM:** FIXED TERM TO MARCH 2021. An extension may be possible, subject to funding.

**SALARY:** £28,000 FTE

**HOLIDAYS:** 33 days inclusive of public holidays (pro rata for job share/part-time)

**JOB PURPOSE:** To ensure destitute asylum seekers are actively and meaningfully involved in the design and delivery of accommodation and services that aim to prevent homelessness in this population

**LINE MANAGER:** Glasgow Night Shelter Project Director

**KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Work with Glasgow Night Shelter guests, former guests and other asylum seekers in the city to develop and review plans for accommodation options and services for homeless asylum seekers

Take a lead role and work closely with the Project Director, stakeholders and partners, especially people with lived experience of the asylum system, on the establishment and co-production of a multi-agency hub through which destitute asylum seekers can access services that aim to prevent homelessness.

Work closely with the existing peer-led groups in Glasgow (eg BRC Voices, MIN Voices, Govan Community Project etc) so as to complement not replicate existing structures

Advocate with and for destitute asylum seekers to ensure that decisions affecting their accommodation and services are guided by their needs and experience

Establish an action research methodology that captures evidence from destitute asylum seekers so that it can be applied to the development of accommodation and services in the city.

Work with partners such as University staff and students to ensure learning from the project is documented and can be used as robust evidence

Develop and manage a team of advocacy/case workers and volunteers who will enable destitute asylum seekers to have agency and direct the services that allow them to make positive decisions about their futures.

## PERSON SPECIFICATION

	Essential	Desirable
Lived experience of the UK asylum system		✓
Knowledge of the principles of community engagement and experience of engaging people in decisions that affect them	✓	
Understanding/empathy for facing people who are seeking asylum and homeless	✓	
Experience of working in settings where the key issues involved in homelessness, asylum and destitution are evident		✓
Excellent organisational and administrative skills including ability to use IT tools including Microsoft 365, Gsuite etc	✓	
Experience of line management and development of staff and volunteers	✓	
Confident and persuasive communicator, with ability to work effectively with a range of people, in person and in writing	✓	
Strong project management skills and ability to manage a project budget	✓	

Ability to work as part of a team, as well as on own initiative	✓	
Excellent knowledge of the refugee and asylum sector and skills to support and develop collaboration between partners	✓	
Knowledge of how to organise communication in languages other than English		✓
Ability to adhere to and implement Health & Safety regulations, personnel and operational procedures	✓	
Demonstrable commitment to equalities and inclusion	✓	



**February 2020**