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| **Post title** | **Family Caseworker** |
| **Salary** | **£150 per day** |
| **Hours of work** | **1 day per week (8 hours and can be delivered flexibly)** |
| **Contract length** | **Initial 20 days then dependent on funding** |
| **Location** | **Home based, limited travel within UK** |
| **Reporting to** | **Casework lead** |
| **Closing date** | **5pm 19 July 2023** |

We are working to improve the service we offer to newly reunited refugee families. Clients tell us that the weeks and months after arriving in the UK can be difficult and we want to do more to prepare families and offer ongoing support.

The purpose of this post is to work through issues with families and offer them advice, information and advocacy.

We welcome applications from people with lived experience of migration, and/or the UK asylum system to support Together Now in our next stage of our development.

This post will report to the trustee with responsibility for overseeing casework. Together Now work entirely remotely and the post holder will be expected to work from home independently with some travel to meetings.

We believe this role will suit someone enthusiastic about the opportunity to have a significant impact for families and is passionate about improving the lives of refugees in the UK.

Duties will include:

* Provide casework for families with a focus on their lives in the UK to include housing, benefits advice and access to statutory services.
* Liaise and negotiate with other statutory and voluntary organisations to ensure progress to meet the needs of family members.
* Develop relationships with those working in and around the refugee and migrant sector to promote understanding of family reunion and grow offers to those going through the family reunion process.
* Seek out and share good practice to inform service development.

**Skills and experience**

*Essential*

* NVQ Level 3 in Information Advice and Guidance or equivalent experience.
* Evidence of commitment to training and development.
* Experience of delivering welfare rights-based advice or advocacy work ideally with refugee or migrant communities.
* Ability to prioritise and plan effectively and work under own initiative.
* Experience of keeping accurate records and filing.
* Ability to communicate effectively in written and spoken English with an emphasis on general correspondence.
* An ordered approach to casework and a willingness to follow policies and procedures.
* Experience being home based and managed remotely.
* Good IT skills including use of Microsoft Office and online research.
* An understanding of the issues facing refugees in the UK.
* Lived experience of UK immigration system or migration.

Desirable

* Proficiency in a language relevant to our client group (Arabic, Farsi, Tigrinya, Amharic)
* Lived experience of refugee family reunion.

**About Together Now**

We believe that all families should be able to live together, if they choose, and facilitate family reunion for refugees living in the UK.

We recognise that every family is different, and every case is different. We recognise the unique situation of each client, treating them and their families as individuals at all times. We respect our clients as being independent, equal and empowered in their own decisions and lives.

We work in partnership with our clients and partners at every stage throughout the family reunion process. We aim to fill the gaps left in the current system and, wherever possible, use partners’ systems and paperwork to reduce the impact on our clients and speed up processing times.

As a volunteer-run charity, we work together, relying on different skillsets and varied viewpoints to be a professional and effective charity.

We are the last resort for our clients, providing what they need to reunite with their families and only providing what is absolutely essential.

Our current offer includes.

* Costs of maintaining relationships prior to the family reunion process being initiated,
* Travel to a visa appointment in extraordinary circumstances,
* DNA and TB testing to support applications or appeals,
* Cost of travel to a departure airport,
* Exit costs including visas or vaccination certificates,
* Flight costs, or access to free flights, and
* Arrival grants.

We only cover what cannot be self-funded or funded by other organisations.

Looking ahead, we expect that demand for our services at all stages will increase in the medium term, particularly with the backlog in asylum claims, increasing major climate events, restrictions from other funders and the cost of living crisis. Across the next three years, we will strive to remain focussed on covering only those costs that cannot be funded elsewhere, and ensuring we only cover what is necessary, so that we can support as many families to reunite as possible.

We recognise our own role as part of a community of refugee charities in addressing and challenging misconceptions and promoting understanding of the realities of being a refugee going through the family reunion process.

Over the last few years, we have been quick to respond to the changing operational context and are now emerging with a stronger focus on advocacy and influencing policy change. A key goal is that this advocacy and our future direction is led by those with lived experience of family reunion.

**Further information**

To apply please send a CV and covering letter (no longer than three pages) outlining how you meet the requirements of the role to enquiries@togethernow.org.uk.

We would welcome potential applicants getting in touch for an informal conversation about the role before applying. Please contact us on the email above to arrange this.

We are happy to be flexible about IT arrangements and will discuss with interested candidates use of their own devices or our supplying these.