



together  
now



## **Annual report 2019/20**

Our core principle is that all families should be able to live together if they chose.

*"Our future plan in the UK is to fund a family, get back to our respective professions, spend lovely time together and do everything we can for this nation which is giving us safety and freedom.*

*I would say thank you for your assistance and everything you are doing for people in need you are the best."*



*"We are together now finally"*

## **Highlights**

July 2020 marked our 10th year of operation. Since then we have provided travel assistance for 185 families and supported another 114, directly benefiting 870 people.

Our organisational values have remained since 2010 and we continue to; treat our clients as individuals, be collaborative and be driven by need.

Whilst these values have remained the same the work we do has continued to be flexible in response to changes in context and we have expanded to take on more cases as our income has allowed.



*"We just wanted to see mum and we were so happy you helped us with the flight."*

## **Income and expenditure**

Total income: £13,123

Total expenditure: £19,076

Income breakdown:

- Fundraising: £821
- Personal donations: £3,843
- Grants: £8,340
- Other: £120

Expenditure breakdown:

- All case costs: £11,937
- Development: £7,139

All development costs have been met by a grant specific to that purpose. We continue to be able to commit to spending 100% of fundraising and personal donations on the families we support.



*"At the airport I was full of tears of joy. I did not believe I was seeing my son, alive and grown up, as I left a small boy of nine years old. It was too emotional for both of us. He also cried a lot as he did not believe he would see his mother again. In conclusion this was an amazing day for both of us."*

## **Context**

We continue to receive a high level of demand for our service, particularly around financial support through the reunion process.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the families we support; there have been further barriers to reunion, for example negative PCR tests being required to enter airports, and reduced support offers on arrival.

In the coming year we are reassessing the service we offer to better meet the needs of clients and ensure we are doing what we can to offer additional support where needed.



*"He is 'excited and very happy' to have come to live with me in England. He says 'life was hard before' and this was the first time he'd travelled by air."*

## **Our work**

We supported 85 families over the year. Assistance to these families comprised of:

- 70 families received international flights bringing families to the UK, 62 of these travelled with a Miles4Migrants booking
- 13 clients received grants for the costs of obtaining a visa for their family. These include covering costs such as getting identity documents, travel to appointments, TB testing and Covid testing to facilitate travel
- 12 families received help with travel to and from the airport
- 12 families received arrival grants to help them with the transition period when they reached the UK

With funding from LUSH we have carried out research into the costs of family reunion compiling a checklist for families to use as they begin the process.



*"I am very happy to be back with my husband and to start a new stage in our life together. I will never stop thanking you for making this meeting possible. Thank you very much."*

## **Thanks**

To Miles4Migrants for their commitment to helping refugees in the UK and continued support. It has been a more difficult year than ever to operate and many families would still be apart without your support.

Everyone who has taken time to offer support for our clients, those that have negotiated difficult check ins for unaccompanied minors, advocated for clients, offered guidance as fellow passengers and taken time out of the working day to go the extra mile. All of this has been made more difficult by the pandemic and we appreciate this support more than ever.

Our grant funders, donors and supporters.