

# Poverty and People seeking asylum and refuge: Experiences, successes and what more can be done in Scotland

Pinar Aksu

Human Rights and Advocacy Coordinator

Maryhill Integration Network



# Maryhill Integration Network

- MIN was established to bring **asylum seekers**, **refugees**, migrants and the settled inhabitants of **Glasgow** together.
- Since **2001**, MIN have been developing projects which support **positive social change** by investing in **communities** and providing a welcoming - and much-needed - **safe** and **inclusive** space with opportunities for collaboration and connection, where difference is not only welcomed, but also celebrated.

- User-led, weekly programme of activities which runs alongside regular advice clinics, learning opportunities, community events and outreach partnership
- **1. HUMAN RIGHTS & CITIZENSHIP**
- **2. WELLBEING & SAFETY**
- **3. ARTS & CULTURE**

**EDUCATION**

- EXPERIENCE

**CULTURE**

- LANGUAGE

**SUPPORT**

- ART

**NEW  
SKILLS**

**SHARING**

# Activities at MIN

- Family Nest
- Min Voices
- Oasis Women's Group
- Men's Group
- Joyous Choir
- Garden Club
- Art group
- Outreach, Advocacy and Support
- Scottish Refugee Integration Service
- ESOL classes + Conversation CLub
- More!



# Covid-19 and the asylum community

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Food Poverty

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Digital poverty

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Hotel Accommodation / Detention

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Mother and Baby Unit

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No Recourse to Public Fund

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Dawn Raid

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<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/may/14/a-special-day-how-glasgow-community-halted-immigration-raid>

## **Hotel Accommodations**

16 hotels in Scotland

Moved

Weekly support £8.86

## **No Right to Work**

Dependent on asylum support

Need to rely on charities

## **Limited Access to Education**

## **Housing: Mears**

Concerns

Nationality and Borders Act 2022

Illegal Migration Act 2023

Rwanda Bill



# MIN Voices

MIN Voices, advocacy and peer-support group is for people to have their voices heard. A participatory platform through which members can share information, be creative, campaign, access training and volunteering opportunities.



# LIFT THE BAN - RIGHT TO WORK

MARYHILL INTEGRATION NETWORK

- Currently people who are in the asylum process are banned from working
- Can only apply to Shortage Occupation
- Teachers, chefs, artists, HR, accountants and many more





Hundreds of people who have made Scotland their home are unable to access funding for education as a result of their immigration status.

Help us advocate for change.



SCAN ME FOR  
MORE INFO



# OUR GRADES, NOT VISAS - ACCESS TO EDUCATION

Survey and campaign to understand how many people in Scotland are facing barriers to accessing funding for higher education in Scotland because of their immigration status.



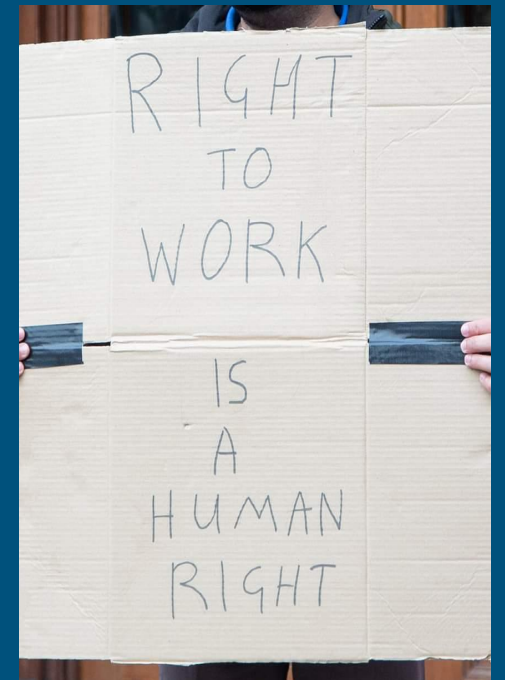
# On-going concerns

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- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Abject Poverty
- Discrimination and racism
- Hotel Accommodations
- Asylum Support



FREE BUS TRAVEL



# Thank you

Email:

[pinar@maryhillintegration.org.uk](mailto:pinar@maryhillintegration.org.uk)

@Maryhill\_IN