

St Luke's Charity for October 2020

Refugee Action

The advent of Covid-19 in 2020 has made the plight of refugees even worse than in recent years and I hope that fact will increase the support for this charity by us at St Luke's.

Refugees number millions of families who have been forced out of their home countries to avoid discrimination and aggression by the local warring factions. In most instances the movement is a matter of survival and not for economic improvement.

Refugee Action's vision is to help refugees who have had to move their homes to recognised camps, by providing basic support to enable them to live with dignity in those camps and if possible later to live safe, happy and productive lives in the UK. The charity's Services include giving help and support to refugees mainly by:

- 1) resettling them in the UK under a variety of resettlement schemes
- 2) showing them how to access available support and the asylum process
- 3) support those struggling with poverty and homelessness, and
- 4) improving the practices of partnering organisations working with refugees.

In addition to supporting the charity financially, the Refugee Action website describes various ways we at St Luke's could make a difference to the lives of refugees such as:

- Campaign for their rights
- Welcome them to our community
- Amplify their voices and get the facts about them
- Donate clothing or goods
- Volunteer and find out about hosting
- Help resettlement (i.e. Sevenoaks Welcomes Refugees)

If you wish to find out more or volunteer, go to their website www.refugee-action.org.uk where you can also donate on-line. If you want more details about St. Luke's involvement or to suggest ways how St Luke's might support Refugee Action, speak to Rev. Anne Bourne or Peter Ashwell (461087).