

**4
October
2025**



RASH

Refugees & Asylum Seekers
Health course

**Emmanuel
City Centre,
Bristol**

God calls us to care for the stranger in our midst, to protect orphans and widows, to ‘act justly and love mercy’. (Micah 6:8) How does this translate to the way we care today?

Over the past 20 years, hundreds of thousands of refugees have come to the UK, with many seeking asylum. The ‘Refugees and Asylum Seekers Health Course’ (RASH) aims to equip Christian healthcare practitioners and others to:

- Improve knowledge of the healthcare needs, responses and challenges for refugees and asylum seekers in the UK
- Hear examples of good practice
- Foster a dialogue among those working with refugees and asylum seekers for mutual encouragement and support
- Inspire creative ways to engage with health systems for better provision, support, and care

The programme is an interactive learning experience led both by those who have been refugees and those who are healthcare professionals in this field. Local charities or churches working with refugees and asylum seekers will also find this day useful. If you encounter people from outside the UK in your everyday practice, then this is the day for you.

For more details or enquiries, contact the Global Coordinator:

T: 020 7234 9669
E: globalcoordinator@cmf.org.uk
<https://cmf.li/RASH25>

Saturday 4 Oct

- 10:00 Arrival & Coffee
- 10:30 Welcome & introduction to the day
Fi McLachlan
- 10:35 Are we called to be ‘Good Samaritans’?
Fi McLachlan
- 10:45 A chance to shape the day
- 11:00 Commonly presenting problems
Jess Keeble
- 11:30 Common stress factors, short-term and long-term psychopathology among refugees, and efficient approaches
Bert Nanninga
- 12:00 Small Groups
- 12:10 Women and children come first?
Jess Keeble
- 12:40 Trafficking and Trauma
Laura Wood
- 13:10 Q&A session
- 13:15 Lunch
- 14:00 Seminar Session 1. Choose from:
 - A. Arrival in the UK - Our complex and changing asylum system
Elinor Harris
 - B. The faith journey of an asylum seeker
Paul Mehdi
- 14:45 Seminar Session 2. Choose from:
 - C. Housing issues when in the asylum system
Laura Chester
 - D. Experiences of accessing health services including ‘Helping refugees and Asylum Seekers navigate healthcare in the UK’
Hannah Condry
- 15:30 Open discussion/questions
- 16:30 Close

CONTRIBUTORS

Fi McLachlan

is head of CMF Global, with a background of involvement in healthcare management and mission.

Bert Nanninga

is a transcultural psychiatrist who specialises in psychotrauma and migration. As a former long-term tropical practitioner, he now works with refugees and migrants with mental health problems in The Netherlands.

Paul Mehdi

is a refugee from Iran living in the UK. He is passionate about sharing the good news of Jesus and has worked for several Christian organisations.

Jess Keeble

is a GP at Bevan Healthcare in Bradford, and Training Programme Director for the Bradford GP Specialty Training Scheme.

Laura Wood

is a Forensic Paediatrician, Churchill Fellow and a Director of VITA Foundation with special interest in human trafficking, exploitation and trauma recovery.

Hannah Condry

works at Wellspring to improve primary care access through Safe Surgeries.

Laura Chester

works at Bristol Hospitality Network, a small charity who welcome refused asylum seekers made destitute. BHN offers safe accommodation, support to resolve asylum status, a busy vibrant welcome centre community plus referrals for all other needs.

Elinor Harris

has been working with people seeking asylum for over 30 years, and in housing, homelessness and advice services with marginalised people. She believes that knowledge which can support excluded people should be shared as widely as possible.

GENERAL INFORMATION

VENUE

Emmanuel City Centre Church
Narrow Lewins Mead,
Bristol
BS1 2NN

TRAVEL

See Emmanuel City Centre Church website:
<https://emmanuelbristol.org.uk/> for full venue location and details.

By car

- There are 16 free car parking spaces around the church. There are also few NCP car parks very close (NCP Bristol Rupert Street, NCP Bristol Nelson Street), and paid street parking around the area, though this may be more difficult to find on a Saturday.

By train

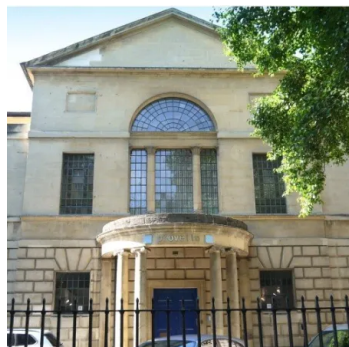
- Temple Meads railway station is a 20 minute walk or a 15 minute bus ride (number 70 or 73)

By bus

- 5 minute walk from the central Bristol bus station.
- It is a short walk from any bus stopping at stations c1-c12 in the centre of town.

By air

- 30-40 minute bus (airport flyer) from Bristol airport



Book online:
<https://cmf.li/RASH25>



**Bookings close on Wednesday,
1 October 2025**

All bookings are based on available spaces, please book early to avoid disappointment.

If the event is cancelled you will be eligible for a refund. No refunds will be given for cancellations less than two weeks before the course except under exceptional circumstances.

LOCAL ORGANISER

*For local enquiries, contact Tina Grant
via catrionagrants16@gmail.com.*

*For general enquiries, contact the Global
Coordinator:
globalcoordinator@cmf.org.uk*

COST

The cost for the day includes the full day conference, lunch and refreshments on Saturday 4th October. Ensure you outline any dietary requirements you may have when booking.

Booking Options:	£
Charity Workers:	20.00
Charity Workers PM Only/Non-medical Church Members:	10.00
Foundation Year and Retired:	25.00
Nurses and Midwives:	25.00
Qualified Doctors:	40.00
Unwaged and Students:	10.00

