



RASH

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.

"If the course is on again, I will be telling colleagues to come" - RASH, Bristol attendee

Programme

Saturday 10 Jan

- 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 Andy Lephard
- 11:30 Common stress factors, short-term & long-term psychopathology among refugees, and efficient approaches Bert Nanninga
- 12:00 Small Groups
- 12:10 Women and children come first? Andy Lephard
- 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 TBC
 - 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

TBC

- D. Experiences of accessing health services including 'Helping refugees and Asylum Seekers navigate healthcare in the UK' Janet Bolaji
- 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.

Andy Lephard

is a General Practitioner based in Bradford with a special interest in refugee and asylum seeker health.

Laura Wood

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

Janet Bolaii

is a General Practitioner based in England.



BOOKING

The cost for the day includes the full day conference, lunch and refreshments on Saturday 10th January. 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 |
| | |

Book online: cmf.li/rashlondon

Bookings close on Wednesday 7 January 2026



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.

GETTING THERE

The Christian Medical Fellowship 6 Marshalsea Road, Borough, SE1 1HL



By Underground

Borough Station (Northern Line) - 2 minutes' walk.

London Bridge Station (Northern & Jubilee Lines + National Rail) - 7-10 minutes' walk.

By Bus

Routes serving Borough High Street include 21, 35, 40, 133, 343, 344, 381.



For more details or enquiries, contact the Global Coordinator:

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