





# 2023 REVIEW







# KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:





Service expansion: New advice and advocacy support drop-ins in **Goldthorpe** and **Rotherham** in addition to **Leeds**, **Doncaster** and **Barnsley**.

More awareness of Migrant Action's services: a **27% increase** in the number of people accessing our services. We saw **449 people** in 2023, and had **681 visits** (not including remote provision).

Growth in our organisational capacity: we have gone from having two part-time members of staff to **two full-time**. We now have **12 volunteers**, up from four in 2022.

Partnership in Doncaster. This is a collaboration of grassroots organisations to enhance support for migrants and strategic voice / influence, and builds upon the success of the Migration Partnership in Barnsley.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

Consolidated existing funding partnerships and secured new long-term funding ensuring **resilience**, **quality and sustainability**.

Developed **new strategic partnerships** with local authorities, Unions, universities, migration organisations and migrant led community groups, working collaboratively to ensure systemic justice and social change.

There has been **more positive recognition** of the need and impact of our services from beneficiaries, partners, collaborators and volunteers.

Re-Imagining Volunteering Future

The work we do
would not be
possible without the
commitment,
compassion and
energy from our
team of volunteers.

This is a shoutout to every volunteer who made our 2023 achievements possible!





### **OUR IMPACT:**

### Rehena, Client



I am so happy with the help I got from Babita regarding the Universal Credit. You were very kind and I felt so relaxed talking to you and your advice made the complicated things seem so easy to me. You helped me with the Universal Credit application for me and my husband and I was happy.



Migrant Action, helped me a lot with so many issues I had and I am so thankful to you. It means so much to me. I am so happy to receive such an excellent service from you. You are such a kind and patient person, always ready to help with everything. Every letter and documents I have received you read them and consulted them with me because, as you know, I am blind.

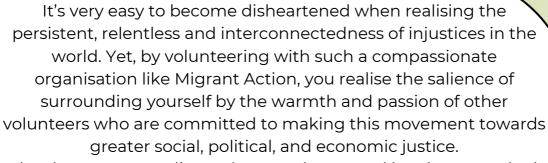




### Ali, Client



I feel so happy with all the help I received from you, Babita. I came here with my wife and my children and you applied for EU Settlement. You also helped me with some issues I had regarding some Electricity Bills. You are still on the process of registering my children to school and you are in touch with the school Admissions and I am sure you will resolve it in the same way as you helped me with the other issues.



It has been so rewarding to become immersed in Migrant Action's happy synergy of knowledge, kindness, and teamwork.



**Erica,**Volunteer



# KEY CHALLENGES:



More State hostility: The 'hostile environment' policy remains the most significant threat to Migration Justice. We continue to see the effects of a policy architecture designed to deter 'undesirable' migration. The harmful manifestations of these policies are expressed in the stories and needs of people reaching out to Migrant Action and others for justice.

**Media hostility:** The hostility of state packaged through policies is accentuated by sections of the media through negative narratives and discourses on migration which is helping to condition the mindset with which people visualise and interact with migrants.

More Support Needs: Covid-19, cost-of-living crisis and protracted austerity continues to adversely impact migrant communities. The growing demand far outweighs the limited capacity / resources of the organisation. In response, we are developing creative strategies.

**Fewer Services:** Due to the difficult economic environment and cuts to mainstream services, more long-term migrants are turning to Migrant Action for support. This problem is compounded by an increasingly limited access to legal advice.

More multiple and complex needs: Migration is intersecting with a wide range of issues / needs resulting in more complex case work and client support. This is highlighting gaps in specialist support within the organisation and accessibility of such support externally. Migrant Action is seeking to develop specialist provision in community organising, legal advice / practical assistance, education and employability support.

No Recourse to Public Funds & Destitution



## STRATEGIC THINKING FRAMEWORK

In 2023, we established our new Strategic Thinking Framework to underpin our **theory of change** for the next **five** years.

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#### Our Priorities:

- Provide a consistently high-quality service for individual migrants whilst promoting impactful collaboration for migration justice.
- 2 Ensure that Migrant Action remains healthy and 'fit for purpose', demonstrating organisational and community resilience and centring people and our values of care, equity, collaboration and kindness.
- 3 Develop both a local and global **awareness** of migration hostility and migration justice.
- Tackle injustice in immigration and the immigration system and facilitate migration justice.
- Prevent systemic exploitation and enable community resilience for migrants to thrive and influence change.
- Developing collaborative infrastructures and cultures for systemic justice and transformative social change.



FEED FORWARD 2024 In 2024 we will continue advocating for migration justice, humane migration and a liberating future for migrants.

# GET INVOLVED!





Illustration by Georgia Hawthorne

Migrant Action's volunteers operate in five key areas with plenty of overlap between each area. Our volunteering is structured like this to ensure we are working towards our priorities and overall theory of change for the next five years.

**Engage**: Through community outreach and a continued online presence we develop awareness of migration hostility and injustice.

**Bridges**: Forging strategic partnerships enables us to enhance the quality of our service provision and develop collaborative infrastructures that challenge systemic injustice.

**Transform & Impact:** We challenge systemic injustice and influence system change through exciting research opportunities and innovative knowledge production.

**Living our values:** We are welcome, inclusive, anti-racism, and intersectional - it is paramount we centre our values in our work.

**Welcome & Support:** Enabling anyone who comes to Migrant Action to feel welcome, listened to and supported with dignity

If you want more information about working with us, you can contact us here:

Telephone: 01138330991 or 07787744993 Email: info@migrantaction.org.uk

### SUPPORT OUR WORK:

#### Become a Volunteer!

Volunteers are invaluable to Migrant Action and the work we do. Your passion, selfless sacrifice and range of skills, experiences and talent would undoubtedly make a positive difference to the organisation and the people we work with and support.

### Become a 'Friend' of Migrant Action!

If you share our values and are passionate about our work, we would love for you to become a 'Friend' of Migrant Action and to help promote our work. There is no financial obligation for this!

Make sure you keep up to date with our channels:

migrantaction.org.uk
Instagram: migrant\_action\_
X: MigrantAction

#### Donate to us!

You can also support our work through one off or regular donations. There is a 'Donate' button at the top of our website homepage. We are a member of the Leeds Christian Community Trust - they handle donations and Gift Aid for us, but we operate as an independent project.

If you want more information about working with us, or if you are a migrant in need of support, you can contact us here:

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