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## Day Centre / Post-detention Volunteer: Vietnamese Speaker

### JRS mission and work

The Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) is an international Catholic organisation, at work in 50 countries with a mission to accompany, serve and advocate on behalf of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons. JRS in the UK has a special ministry to those who find themselves destitute as a consequence of government policies and those detained for the administration of immigration procedures. JRS UK runs a day centre, activities and hosting scheme (*At Home*) for destitute asylum seekers, detention outreach services to Heathrow IRC and has recently begun a legal advice service. We work to raise awareness of the situation facing refugees we accompany and serve by enabling their story to be heard.

### Volunteer role: Day Centre / Post-detention Volunteer (Vietnamese Speaker)

Every Thursday JRS UK run a day centre where we welcome destitute refugees into a warm and friendly environment. Our Day Centre volunteers help in a number of ways throughout the day and ensure that our refugee friends are greeted by a friendly face and have a listening ear. For some of our refugee friends who do not yet speak English, even the simplest tasks can become daunting, and feelings of isolation and loneliness are often overwhelming.

For this reason, we are currently looking for volunteers who are available to accompany our Vietnamese-speaking friends who have recently been released from detention, supporting them while they are improving their English. In addition to helping with general tasks of the Thursday Day Centre, this role will include opportunities to spend time getting to know our refugee friends.

**This role will require a regular commitment of a minimum of 3 months every Thursday, 09:45 – 16:00 at JRS UK's Day Centre, The Hurtado Jesuit Centre.**

### Person specification

- Sympathy and congruence with the values of JRS and enthusiasm for JRS' mission of accompaniment, service and advocacy on behalf of refugees.
- Highly developed listening skills and empathy for one-on-one work.
- High levels of personal resilience and emotional maturity for working closely with people in distress.
- Discretion, tact and sensitivity.
- Ability to work individually and in team.
- Native/fluent in Vietnamese and English, written and spoken. Other languages an asset.
- Good IT literacy.

- Commitment to reporting regularly to the Detention Outreach Manager and the Destitution Services Manager and attending volunteer team meetings as directed.
- Previous experience of supporting refugees or vulnerable migrants would be beneficial, but is not essential.

Training and on-going support will be provided. As part of this role a DBS check may be required.