

Guidance for Community referrals

Our support

The Community project supports migrant women affected by insecure immigration status, involvement with the criminal justice system, and survivors of gender-based violence and trafficking.

We provide practical advice, emotional support and a range of educational and skills training workshops:

- Women-centred casework support on matters including education, housing, immigration, welfare benefits, contact with family, life in the UK
- Assistance in determining clients rights and entitlements
- Skill and education training, including basic literacy (delivered by qualified ESOL teacher) and IT classes
- Signposting and referral to other specialist and mainstream agencies including housing departments, pro bono lawyers and Job Centre Plus
- Working in partnership with other agencies, for example Birth Companions, PACT and Women in Prison
- Interpretation and translation
- Support with establishing family contact
- Pro bono legal immigration clinics

Please note: We are not a crisis service and are unable to provide housing or emergency funds. If the woman you are referring is currently homeless, in mental health crisis or there is an immediate risk to her safety, please contact the relevant emergency services or Local Authority.

Referral eligibility criteria

We consider referrals for migrant women who:

- have insecure immigration status
- have been affected by the criminal justice system (CJS)
- are being/have recently been released from prison or immigration detention
- are survivors of human trafficking who are not eligible for other sources of support

All referrals must be 18+ years old, identify as women (including trans women), and live in Greater London.

We have limited capacity so will review referrals on a case-by-case basis and prioritise those in highest need. Please include as much detail as possible in the referral form so we can accurately assess her case.

We aim to contact referrers within 7 days, if you have not heard from us after this time, please call the Community team on 020 7697 4120 to follow up.

Referrals from probation: Please note, women who are currently under probation supervision are eligible for Hibiscus' support through the London-wide women's wraparound service and should be referred via the R&M system. Contact pan.london@hibiscus.cjsm.net for more information.

If you have any queries, please contact the Community team on **020 7697 4120**.