

# ANNUAL REPORT



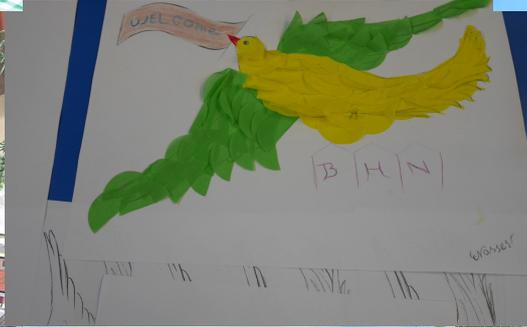
bristol hospitality network

solidarity · equality · mutual empowerment  
hospitality · integrity · creative resistance

*10 year anniversary*

APRIL 2017 -  
MARCH 2018

[www.bhn.org.uk](http://www.bhn.org.uk)





# 10 years of BHN

This year (April 2017- March 2018) has been the best yet for BHN. We have continued towards our vision of ending asylum destitution in Bristol through our accommodation and support, plus through campaigns and advocacy. We are constantly encouraged by acts of solidarity and love in BHN; members who encourage each other, volunteers who go the extra mile, hosts who support their guests with grace and empathy, our wonderful host team at the BHN house who have stuck with us through thick and thin and our supporters who make all this possible.

## **What has changed this year?**

It has been a year of growth for BHN. We welcomed Penny Gray to the role of HELP Team Manager and Laura Chester to the role of Hosting Manager. We also recruited Ari Cantwell to the role of Moveable Feast Coordinator. We had a really successful year of grant fundraising and increased our donations income too. We moved into our new permanent office in the Family Centre and in many other ways have continued to develop as an organisation during this year. We are now in a strong position and are looking to the future with great expectations. We want to continue to grow, both in numbers of people supported and in the quality of our support for members, hosts and volunteers.

We hope you will continue to journey with the 'BHN family' over the coming years.

Thank you



**Steve Watters, BHN Chair**  
**Rachael Bee, BHN Manager**



# hosting

## a host story



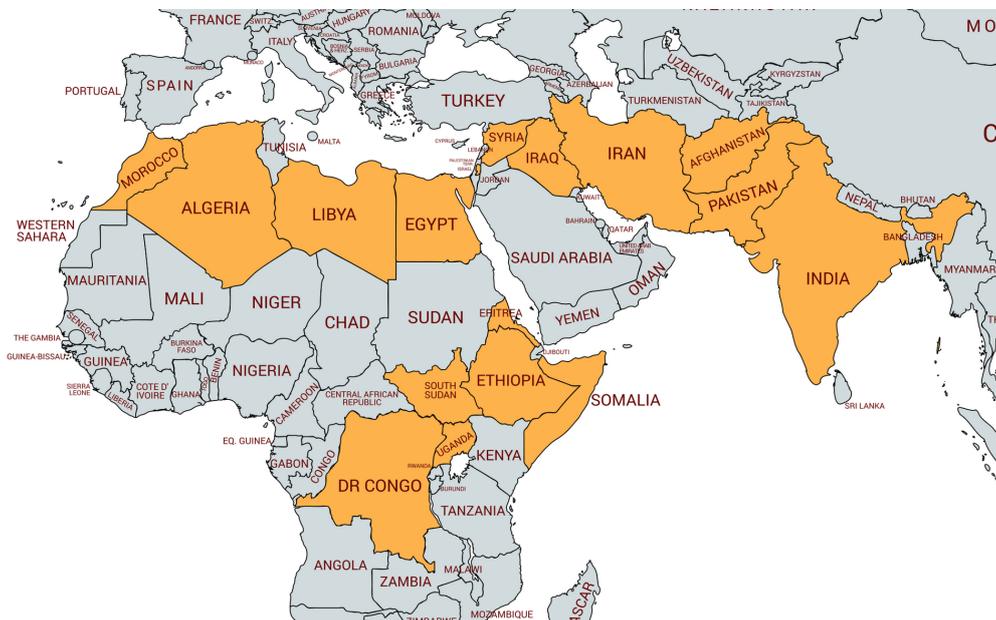
Abdulaziz was hosted by Ceri for 4 months and cooked her a delicious Palestinian meal on his last night to say thank you.

Hosting Manager Laura joined them and we sat down to baked fish with dill, spiced rice and Zibdieh - shrimp with red peppers, garlic and tomatoes.

Ceri has really enjoyed hosting Abdulaziz: 'He moves on with my blessings. He has been so lovely and kind to me. He gets my sense of humour and has been very much part of the family at number 73'.

Abdulaziz said: 'Ceri is very kind and I was happy to live with her. I will visit her whenever I can'.

Between April 2017 and March 2018 We have hosted 43 members from the following countries:



# help team



Following the appointment of Penny Gray in the paid role of BHN Help Team Manager from June 2017 (3 days a week) we've been increasing our advocacy work, supporting 30 members per week (compared to 15 per week in 2016/17), and developing our volunteer team, training and processes.



## From April 2017 to March 2017

We supported 59 new members during the year (versus 34 members in 2016-17).

9 members got Leave to Remain

22 submitted fresh claims and moved into government accommodation and support

5 members voluntarily left BHN

## a help team story

Mohammed\* has been in the UK for 11 years. When he came to BHN, he was homeless. He had been a prominent campaigner for human rights in his country and in Bristol.

While he was hosted with BHN he was detained. With active support from the Help Team his solicitor put in a fresh claim for asylum and he was released from detention.

The fresh claim was refused and his solicitor withdrew representation just before the appeal.

He obtained new evidence, the Help Team helped him get an adjournment on his appeal and new legal representation. At the new appeal hearing in June 2017 he was granted refugee status!

He is now in private rented accommodation and working full time.

## BHN ACHIEVEMENTS ON



people hosted since 2008

80%  
men



20%  
women



The average length of stay was **14 months**

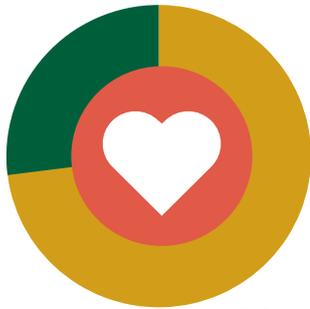
We provided **68,308 nights** of accommodation to destitute asylum seekers since 2008



# OUR 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

BHN House

27%



Host Network

73%

Our lovely Host Network provided **73%** of placements and the wonderful BHN House provided **27%** of placements

Of the 120 people who have moved on from BHN:

Friends & Family

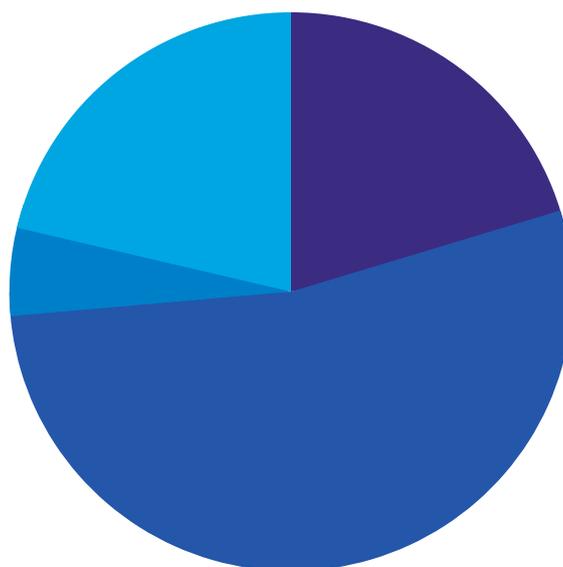
21%

HO Support

20%

Returned

5%



Refugee Status

53%

# welcome centre

This year we continued to offer our weekly Welcome Centre at Easton Family Centre.

We regularly had more than 100 people joining us to enjoy lunch, hot drinks and snacks, games and art table.

We also offered support to our members through the HELP Team, ESOL Classes in 2 levels, a barber shop, herbalists without borders, free food to take away, drop in from SARI on reporting hate crime and much more.

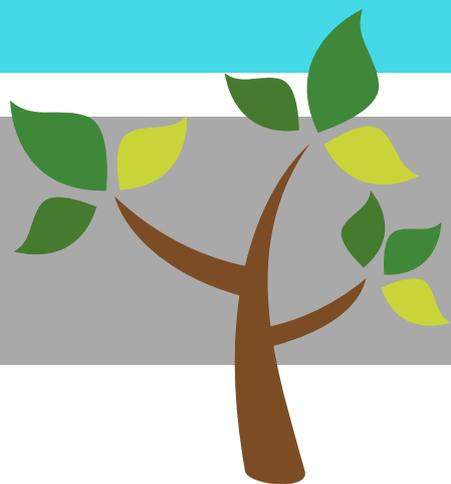
The lovely welcome that our members receive when they come to the BHN welcome centre is due to our wonderful volunteer team.

Over the past year we have had over 50 people volunteer at the welcome centre in various roles. Most importantly our members create a space where all are welcomed with a smile!

'I feel better when I come to the Welcome Centre. It's where we meet each other as a family'.

- BHN member





# volunteers

BHN relies completely on our dedicated team of volunteers who make the BHN family work really well.

We had 51 volunteers registered with us (excluding hosts and trustees) in the year 2017-18. Of these, 20 were member volunteers. We decided this year that we would ask all our members to volunteer in one way or another as it builds our sense of family even further.

This year we organised a trip to the cinema and another to the estuary at Severn Beach (unfortunately the weather was rather damp).

We plan to expand our volunteer support, training and development. We also plan to have more trips and a volunteers Christmas party and Summer BBQ each year!





## amberley short breaks with hill house

This year we started to offer short breaks to BHN members in partnership with Caroline Beatty (one of our hosts) and her project Hill House in Amberley near Stroud.

3 trips were organised this year and more are planned in future, in partnership with Borderlands. It is lovely for our members to be able to get out into the countryside.

On the last trip, some Christian members even attended the local Parish church and were warmly welcomed. We participated in 2 village events with our moveable feast team so the relationship between BHN and Amberley is growing all the time!

## moveable feast

Moveable Feast continued to cook amazing food this year for various events. We even did our first wedding!

Moveable Feast took around £6,500 in income, a nearly 50% increase on last year.

Moveable feast has also just employed its first paid coordinator, Ari Cantwell (she started in April 2018).

Ari plans to expand on the wonderful work of Moveable Feast since it started in 2013 by developing more regular events and pop ups.





# finances & funding 2017-18

## Income - £142,000 (£39k restricted for 18/19)

**Total income increased by 91% from last year**

### Donations

Around one-third of our income came from donations, which were 9% up on last year. Around three-quarters of donations are from regular donors.

### Grants

About two-thirds of our income came from twelve grants we received during the year. Of this, four grants totalling £39,000 were restricted for expenditure in the next year 2018-19.

### Social Enterprise

We took around £6,500 in income from Moveable Feast in the year, a nearly 50% increase on last year.

**Total expenditure increased by 50% in the year**

### Charitable activities - 90%

Amounts spent directly on delivering our projects

### Other Costs - 7.5%

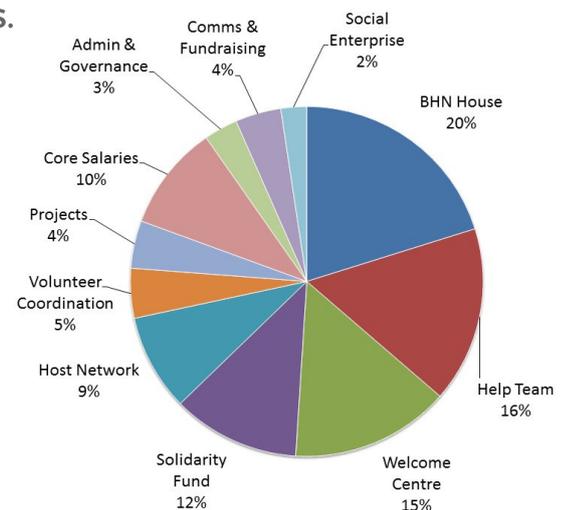
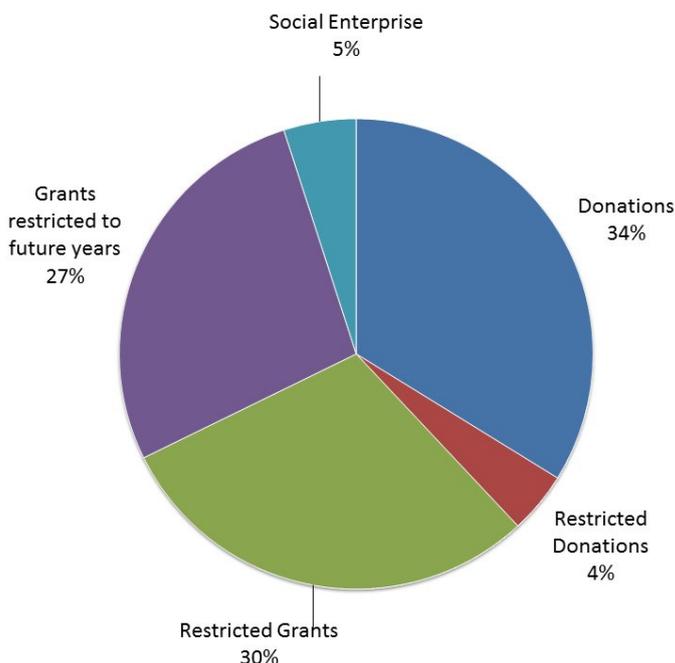
Other costs of running the organisation including fundraising, finance, and administration.

### Social Enterprise - 2.5%

We spent around £2,500 on Moveable Feast in the year, generating three times as much in income.

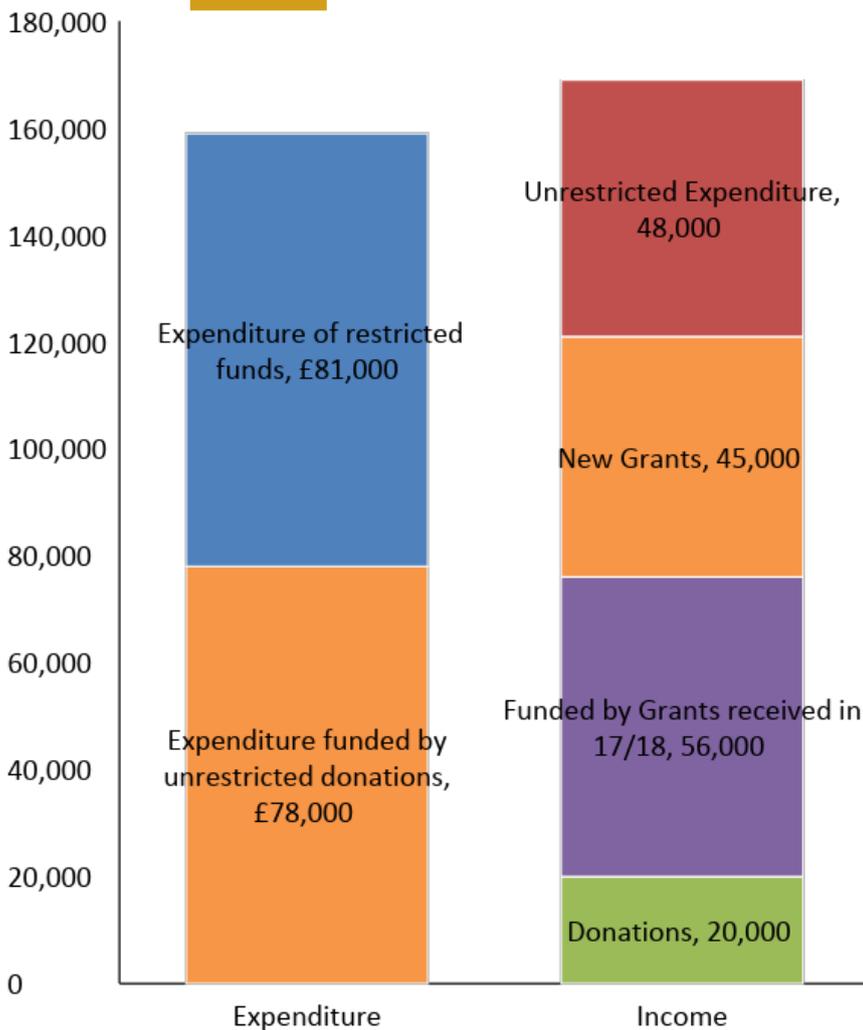
### Surplus

We ended the year with a surplus of £4,000 before £39,000 of grant funding relating to the next year, and total unrestricted reserves of £42,000 – enough to run BHN for around five months.





# finances & funding 2017-18



## Budget and Forecast 2018/19

We are growing fast and expect our costs to go up by 60% again in 2018/19.

We expect our income to reduce slightly to around £124,000 – giving us a deficit of £35,000 for 2018/19.

We will fund this using the £45,000 of grant funding we received last year for this purpose.

This leaves us with a forecast £10,000 increase in reserves, taking us to around £50,000 in reserves which would cover us for around four months at our increased level of costs.

# thank you!

A huge thank you to **The Burden Trust, Quartet Community Foundation, Big Give, Lloyds Bank Foundation, The Guardian NACCOM Grant, People's Postcode Trust, Quakers Responses to Homelessness, Swire Charitable Trust** and to our many individual **donors**, particularly those who donate regularly.

Many thanks are also due to our wonderful team of volunteers.

We are so grateful for your invaluable support.



bristol hospitality network

REGISTERED CHARITY #1138498



[WWW.BHN.ORG.UK](http://WWW.BHN.ORG.UK)



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