RIF ASYLUM SUPPORT 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

RIF welcomes refugees seeking asylum in New York City. We guide those who fled persecution towards safety. Our mission is to help asylum seekers get back on their feet and rebuild safer lives.

In 2018 RIF served 300+ asylum seekers and provided 180 legal consultations

LEGAL CONSULTATIONS

Our rapid-response, individual legal orientations are our solution to the major shortage of pro bono legal representation in NYC. They are designed to provide a solid roadmap to help asylum seekers. We received the renewed commitments from the CUNY School of Law, Safe Horizon’s Immigration Law Project, and a private law firm to continue working with RIF.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

This year we redesigned our asylum meetings to resemble a “resource fair” with permanent and rotating “stations” where providers offer services and support to clients on a one-to-one basis. In 2018, An estimated 200 clients consulted with our education expert, 70 received job search assistance, and 240 took home food packages. A partner agency began providing health insurance navigation.

URBAN FARM RECOVERY PROJECT

A paid job training fellowship program for asylum seekers in partnership with the urban rooftop farm Brooklyn Grange. Fellows learn urban agriculture skills, practice English, make friends, and are given space for psychological recovery from trauma. Clients from Venezuela and Nigeria were the 2018 fellows.

Thank you to our tremendous volunteers and donors for standing up for asylum seekers! Your time, support, and optimism provide light in this time of injustice.

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