

Communitas International
Opportunity for Interns
Timeframe: 3-18 months
Location: Glasgow, Scotland



Upper Room Church (www.upperroomchurch.co.uk) meets in the West End of Glasgow and is a community of mainly Iranian asylum seekers and refugees. Led by two Communitas staff and supported by an advisory team and ministry workers from within the church, this thriving community numbers between 75-100 with 10-12 non-Iranian members - we are mainly Iranian in Glasgow! With gatherings in English and Farsi, we are trying to be supportive of the existing language needs of the community while being welcome to everyone. Weekly Bible studies, soon Conversational English Classes, and a Women's Bible study are also held in addition to a Thursday evening service. During our Thursday gathering, we have worship, a fellowship meal, Bible teaching and 2 hours of prayer for people!

As a result of years of working with asylum seekers and refugees, one of the Communitas staff just launched a social enterprise (The House Glasgow CIC) to help support business development and provide employment coaching. Approximately 50% of refugees are unemployed after 2 years of receiving their asylum. This leads to depression, poverty, life instability, and thus individuals do not thrive. We want to address the root causes by providing more tailored employment coaching and business development support where current resources are inadequate or non-existent.

➤ **General Information**

Address of church/project: Re:Hope Church 37 Stewartville Street, Glasgow G11 5PL

Is the mailing address the same? If not, please note mailing address: Top Flat, 10 Cleveden Drive Glasgow G12 0SE

Website of church/project: www.upperroomchurch.co.uk

➤ **Information on the contact person representing the church/project**

Initials: MK

First Name: Mike

Last Name: Kurtyka

Gender: Male

Title/Position: Communitas International Bi-Vocational Staff & Managing Director The House Glasgow CIC

Email: mikekurtyka@gmail.com

Telephone: +44(0)790.686.4720

➤ **Information on the Internship**

Title of the internship (project): Researcher (The House) &/or Community Worker (Upper Room Church)

Description of the Project (if applicable):

The House Glasgow CIC - Helping assess the needs, opportunities, and resources available in regards to helping asylum seekers & refugees start businesses and/or find employment. Technically, an asylum seeker can do neither but there is nothing stopping them from preparing should they receive their refugee status.

Upper Room Church - a lot of our time is spent building relationships with community members. Through this we are able to identify needs, provide encouragement, counsel, direction, and help individuals through the process of settling here and growing in their faith. We need additional hands and see an opportunity for a 'community worker' to play both a spiritual role (e.g. Bible studies) and practical role (sign-posting for schools, helping with forms, giving advice of CV's,

etc.). As *Communitas* staff we often feel we are in the midst of a spiritual battle and Upper Room Church is a triage centre to help people get the attention they need so they can thrive once again. We want to develop our ministries and team so that we aren't always in 'triage' mode.

What is the approximate preferred start date? asap

What is the approximate preferred end date? 3-6 months for Researcher, 12-18 months for the Community Worker

In addition to interns, could you use students to help do research or a final project that would benefit your church/project? If so, what is the maximum number of students? 5 for charity worker (1 year) & 5 for a religious worker (1 year) & 2 missionaries (>1 year) - these are UK Home Office Visa guidelines as we have the ability to sponsor people into the UK.

Would there be a stipend available for the student? Unfortunately no but we may be able to tap into funding and/or find housing.

- **The Community Worker role...** requires an entrepreneurial and dynamic individual who feels comfortable working cross-culturally. While not needing to be a Bible college graduate, the ability to lead a Bible study and shepherd community members is important. Combining this with the ability to 'roll up their sleeves' and help people draft a CV, fill out housing forms, even educate them about culture will be part of the role. It is life on life and our community is desperate to learn about Jesus and make a new start!
- **The Researcher role...** requires someone that has an understanding of gathering data methodically/professionally and interpreting findings into information that can be used for funding. As The House Glasgow CIC is a social enterprise, we are trying to secure funding that will help us with our launch stage which will involve creation of resources (e.g. business plans, financial forecasts, etc.), translation of these materials into Farsi & English (and potentially other languages), and developing and delivering workshops to our community so they can find employment and/or start a business.

Essential/Desirable Qualifications & Characteristics

- Desirable is the ability to speak Farsi, Arabic, or French (none of our *Communitas* staff do!)
- Proactive as opposed to reactive.
- Servant leaders pretty much rock!
- Maintain a learning posture and growing walk with Christ, a positive and encouraging spirit, and a strong commitment to the purpose and values of *Communitas* and how we serve in Upper Room Church. **We're looking for someone that is a committed follower of Jesus Christ and has a strong commitment to the mission and values of *Communitas*!**
- Work with excellence. Always. At least really try...
- Keep confidential matters strictly confidential.
- Currently involved in a local church and evidence a growing spiritual maturity.
- A self-starter, able to work remotely, and able to handle project management.
- Media production experience and ability.
- Must be flexible and able to adjust to a changing work environment and challenges.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Systems thinker who enjoys the challenge of building something from ground zero.
- Working toward a Bachelor's degree or equivalent practical experience if a researcher. A PhD or graduate student is certainly welcome.

How is this role funded?

"The salary and ministry expenses of this position are funded through personal support raising. Self-employed or bi-vocational interns or empty nesters/retirees are also welcome. A funding plan for this position, and training in raising support will be provided during the process."

Interested in this opportunity?

Please fill out our Contact Form at gocommunitas.org/contact and let's help get you to Glasgow!

"Our time of prayer involves gathering around people and giving thanks and praying in Jesus' name for their needs – the community is committed to what some call "prayer evangelism"...that is, people meeting Jesus in supernatural answers to prayer and in the spirituality of fervent prayer itself. This is a hallmark of Upper Room Church." -Dr. Wesley White, Communitas Staff & Team Leader for Upper Room Church



THE
UPPER ROOM
CHURCH