**‘It made a Big difference'**

The process of immigration is never an easy experience for anyone. Going through bursts of people’s kindness and deep dark and long periods of depression. No one should have to go through that yet it’s the case for so many people.

I felt lucky to have projects such as ‘better welcome to Swansea’ which helped me enjoy a few moments through the experience.

I was sign posted to the project through central clinic and there I met a lovely and kind face that in that moment of meeting her felt like everything was going to be ok.

Stephany was amazing at what she did, she seemed to really care and to an extent felt like she really wanted me to go through the process with ease if she could do anything about it.

The project afforded me trips that I would not afford while waiting for a response due to insufficient funds to go do anything more than buy food and toiletries. They were always a breath of fresh air, great opportunity of meeting other wonderful people and those who supported us. Games and even extra needs were provided at the church through the project. Mentorship meant I always had someone to reach out whenever I needed to.

When people moved on and decided to leave Swansea for many reasons, I realised they did not have this blessing that we were afforded even after the process.

Years later now, I am self-employed and working with young adults, I ‘ve met refugees here in Gloucester who clearly would do with a project like we have in Swansea where they are supported and have that understanding that someone cares for them and they are welcome, they matter, reassure them they can integrate and belong.

I hope for the project to continue and would make a wish that it spreads to other places around the country.

Thank you ‘better welcome to Swansea’ for giving me the extra care that helped me get through.

NRM