

Letter to the Press

Dear Editor,

As winter draws in, we're aware that many families, who have fled conflict in Syria, are now at risk of dying from cold as they wait in refugee camps. This includes elderly people, children and victims of torture.

As the four Amnesty International groups in Hertfordshire, we support the government's promise to welcome 20,000 refugees from Syria in the next five years. We have joined together with faith groups and other organisations in a network called 'Herts Welcomes Syrian Families'(HWSF) to call on district and county councillors to play their part by welcoming 100 families into Hertfordshire.

Support is growing locally, but we need to keep up the pressure. We're asking local people to contact their councillors, and to offer their skills to welcome refugees in Hertfordshire. More information can be found at <http://hwsf.weebly.com> and <http://www.facebook.com/groups/HertsWelcomesSyrianfamilies>

Irene Austin on behalf of the St Albans Amnesty group & HWSF

Sarah Hagger-Holt on behalf of the Watford Amnesty group & HWSF

Vicky Woodcraft on behalf of Welwyn Hatfield & East Herts Amnesty group & HWSF

Veronica Raymond on behalf of North Herts Amnesty group & HWSF