



Help end the detention of refugee women

Ideas for local action

1. Sign our petition

Our petition was launched in January 2014 by Meltem Avcil, who was detained in Yarl's Wood as a child, and now has more than 100,000 signatures. Join us in asking the Home Secretary to stop detaining women who seek asylum: www.change.org/refugeewomen

2. Get creative

Get crafty in solidarity with refugee women, and **help us create Set Her Free bunting ahead of International Women's Day 2017**. We're asking supporters to contribute a triangle of fabric with a message of support for refugee women on it. You could knit, embroider, applique, use fabric pens, or anything else you fancy! Send them to us at the address below, and we'll string them all together for International Women's Day celebrations at the Southbank Centre and elsewhere. There's a handy template and measurements on our website at www.refugeewomen.co.uk/research.

3. Engage with your MP

a. Find out who your MP is, find the time and place of their local advice sessions, and go to **talk to them about Yarl's Wood and your concerns** for the women who are locked up there. Get the key facts at www.refugeewomen.co.uk/research.

b. Ask your MP to hold a #SetHerFree card up with you and **share the photo with us** on Twitter and Facebook, @4refugeewomen

c. Ask your MP to **contact the Home Secretary**, requesting that they meet with Women for Refugee Women and women who have been in detention, to hear our concerns first-hand.

d. Write to your MP using our letter suggestions at www.refugeewomen.co.uk/research

4. Link up with your community

Organise an event in your community, neighbourhood, faith group, or university, and use it to raise awareness or funds for our Set Her Free campaign. You could invite your MP to speak, and **invite refugee women or speakers from Women for Refugee Women** to be present too, or use our online resources. Alternatively you could show a film, host local migrant or refugee musicians, share food from different countries, or host a craft session to work on Set Her Free bunting. Don't forget to alert your local paper! Get in touch if there's anything we can do to support your event: admin@refugeewomen.co.uk

5. Fundraise

Whether it's a fun run or a marathon, a bake sale or a show, all your fundraising efforts help keep our campaign going. Check out www.refugeewomen.co.uk/give for details.



Be inspired

Cheltenham inspiration: Jo Bartosch set up a feminist group in Cheltenham. When they decided they wanted to get involved with the Set Her Free campaign, she spoke to her MP and found out his opinions on detention. She then invited him to an event - a play in her local theatre - alongside a speaker from Women for Refugee Women, where he engaged with different views and stories. She also made some fabulous rock art, spelling out Set Her Free in stones, and getting her local paper to cover this.



Shoreditch inspiration: The Shoreditch Sisters branch of the Women's Institute has been supporting the Set Her Free campaign for some time. They started knitting sessions with our refugee women's group and out of this grew the wonderful Solidarity Quilt which was stitched all over with messages of support for women in Yarl's Wood. We took the quilt with them to Yarl's Wood itself, and to the Women of the World festival. We also took it to the End Sexual Violence in Conflict summit in 2014 where Angelina Jolie stopped and chatted to us and wrote her own message for the quilt, which is now stitched into the centre.

