



Shropshire Supports Refugees – first half of September 2024 update

Shropshire Supports Refugees (SSR) was very busy during the first half of September planning & creating several new unique projects for Ukrainians that will be soon presented to the public.

Housing & Employment Support

One of the main focuses of Ukrainian support within the first half of September was housing and employment support. Just at the Hub, the SSR Team supported 10 families with the housing search within the first two weeks. Ukrainian support workers, face-to-face & online housing appointments, calls and messages make the support efficient. This support was developed and improved by the SSR Team, considering the needs of the Ukrainian guests and the issues they face.

The employment support includes but is not limited to guides, interview tips & useful information in the Ukrainian language, Talented Ukrainians Project, WhatsApp Job search group, collaboration with different organisations & holding weekly drop-in sessions, support with job searches, creating CVs & cover letters, accessing training courses, and many more.

ESOL classes

SSR ESOL classes (English classes at the Hub & online) are back after the summer holidays. Just within the first two weeks of September, there were 120+ Ukrainian visits to ESOL classes in the Community Hub. If you'd like to join classes, please get in touch with the SSR Team. The SSR has not only English classes by native speakers but also professional Ukrainian teachers as well as different classes online & at the Hub, so you can choose the best class for you. Everyone is welcome.

Swedish Massage

Maria, a certified massage therapist & a Federation of Holistic Therapists member, is offering free Swedish Massage sessions. The benefits of massage are:

- improvement of blood & lymph circulation;
- reducing the feeling of stiffness in the body;
- improving the quality of sleep;
- accelerating recovery between workouts;
- reducing pain symptoms in the muscles;
- improving the work of the immune and nervous systems.

The Therapy Room has hosted 6 free massage sessions within the first two weeks of September. If you'd like to register for a massage session, please, get in touch with the SSR Team.

Activities & Free sessions

Ukrainians visited Attingham Park & charming private gardens (Preen Manor & Beam Cottage) with free tickets from SSR and took part in Yoga for Kids & art workshops at the Hub. Ukrainians still have the opportunity to receive expert advice and counselling on psychological and emotional support, free statements of comparability and free legal support from a Ukrainian lawyer.

Community Hub

SSR Community Hub in the centre of Shrewsbury has at least 500 Ukrainian visits within the 2 weeks (about 100 of them from different towns across Shropshire), at least 25 volunteer visits who support Ukrainians in various ways, the Hub also hosts therapy, employment, housing sessions, and many more.

The SSR Hub is open 6 days per week 10 am - 4 pm to reach as many Ukrainians as possible throughout Shropshire and is open until 1:30 pm every Friday due to the staff development.

The SSR Team continues improving & implementing knowledge and skills to support existing and newly arrived Ukrainians in Shropshire.