



Refugee Shabbat

Impact and engagement report, 2025

HIAS + JCORE

2025

was the biggest year yet for Refugee Shabbat in the UK!

Held over the weekend of 28 February – 1 March, it was truly a national event, with communities and groups from Scotland to the South Coast getting involved.



25

**Groups and
communities across
the country signed up**



1K+

**People who attended
Refugee Shabbat
events**

Partnership

Partnership work was perhaps the true success story of this year's project. We were pleased to speak at **nine communities and events**, joining forces with synagogues across the community.

But our collaboration went beyond this. A particular highlight was building on our strong relationship with **the Union of Jewish Students**, providing engagement pathways for young people nationwide.

JSOCs across the country received copies of our joint 2025 Refugee Shabbat resource, with HIAS+JCORE's Executive Director David Mason also featuring on UJS' 'Yallah' podcast, and speaking to students at City University.

Leaders from inside and outside the Jewish community also joined to show their support. We were delighted to work together on **powerful messages of compassion** with Chief Rabbi Sir Ephraim Mirvis, Progressive Judaism Co-CEO's Rabbi Josh Levy and Rabbi Charley Baginsky, and Lord Khan, the Minister for Faith.



Case study: OLAM

It was the perfect way to close Refugee Shabbat 2025: a refugee-chef led cook-along hosted at Migrateful's incredible kitchen in London. We were delighted to join this special event, organised by OLAM for their London-based aid practitioners, and connect, share our work, and learn from joint experience.



Feedback

- **100% of communities** stated that they want to participate in Refugee Shabbat 2026
- Communities rated our Refugee Shabbat resource **8.5/10**

Many communities also expressed their desire to build on their involvement and grow their refugee support work.

This was encapsulated by comments from South Hampshire Reform Jewish Community: *“Thanks for taking this important grassroots initiative, which has helped stimulate discussion and future action.”*



Learn more

Visit our website at hiasjcore.org
or email our team at
admin@hiasjcore.org.

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