

# JUMP

Impact report 2025



**HIAS + JCORE**

# Introduction

**2025 was a big year for JUMP.** We reached even more young people and befrienders – 94 in total. We more than doubled our number of casework interventions, to an incredible 650. And critically, we developed our JUMP community, introducing the employment skills and work experience opportunities our young people need to thrive.

Throughout the year our unique model made a truly lifechanging difference to those we are proud to support.

At JUMP, it is our mission to go beyond addressing emergency needs, and to instead also empower our young people to build independent, successful new lives in the UK.

Consequently, we significantly evolved and refined the project's model across the past 12 months. Driven and led by our young people, our programme now matches transformative support with an important, structured series of skills and employment workshops.

Critically, this has involved working in partnership with organisations like NEMI Teas, which provides barista training, to offer crucial paid

employment opportunities for JUMP participants. We believe that this blended approach gives our beneficiaries the fairest possible chance to thrive here – and can be a model of best practice for wider work with young unaccompanied asylum seekers.

HIAS+JCORE is also proud to have launched two new paid opportunities for JUMP alumni within our organisation. Lived experience leadership is critical to our 2024-27 strategy, and with JUMP long co-created and co-designed alongside its participants, ensuring that there are paid pathways to contribute remains a priority.



In October 2025, we welcomed our first JUMP Alumni Intern to HIAS+JCORE's team, and in December, launched our Alumni Advocacy Group.

Earlier in the year, we were also delighted that a JUMP community event was led and organised by one of our young people – a first for the project. Our participants have such incredible skills and knowledge, and it is an honour to give them a platform and celebrate their leadership.

But despite these incredible successes, it was not a year without challenges. For the second year in a row, the summer months were marred by an often-violent anti-migrant movement.

Worryingly, such sentiment also increasingly spread through society, with normalisation of anti-asylum rhetoric apparent in elements of the press and political movements.

And disappointingly this was exacerbated by the Government's own policy agenda. Proposals and decisions like the refugee citizenship

ban, the closure of refugee family reunion, and planned changes to refugee settlement have been felt keenly by our young people.

Yet amidst such division, JUMP continued to create hope and welcome. With worrying levels of societal division and increased polarisation, JUMP has a critical role in bringing people together from very different backgrounds, creating a powerful example of the better Britain that is possible.

And we aren't just resting on our laurels. With JUMP now London's leading befriending project of its kind, we were also delighted to lay the groundwork for an expansion of our work to Brighton and Hove.

From spring 2026, we will support an initial 10 pairs on the south coast: watch this space!

Read on to learn about JUMP's incredible work in 2025 – and our exciting plans for the coming year.

47

Young people supported through 2025

25

Community events run

650

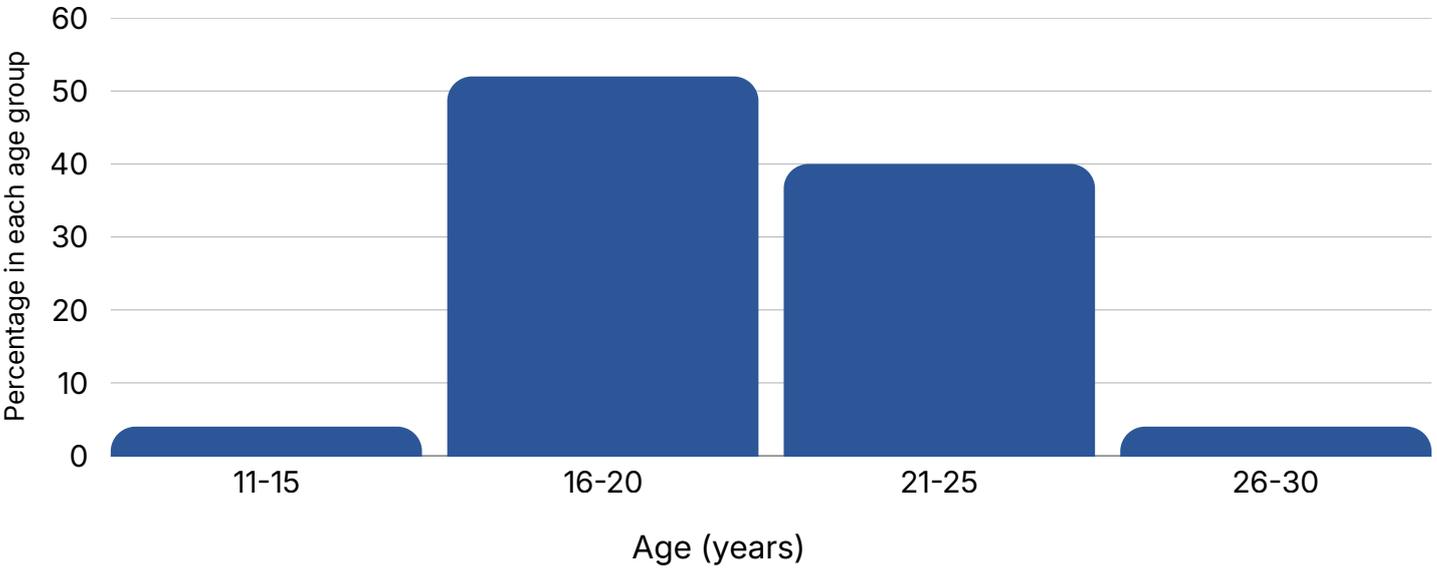
Casework interventions undertaken

# Our participants in 2025



**18** different nationalities were represented by JUMP young people. **64% were male** and **36% female**.

**94** people took part in JUMP as befrienders or befriendees.



# What our participants said

*"[I enjoyed] so many things! Spending time with (young person), watching her grow as a person and her confidence. The trust she has in me and situations, and seeing her speak for herself. It's been really beautiful to watch that... Watching them take those milestones and seeing that the programme really does help young people... I have learnt a lot about myself at the same time as learning about others and their community.*

- **One of our JUMP volunteers**

*"I really appreciate JUMP, really happy for JUMP, want to stay with JUMP as long as I am alive. I have learnt things from JUMP, if you show me the right direction I will go in that direction... I'm really grateful for everything you have done, I will never forget everything you have done."*

- **One of our JUMP young people**



# JUMP's activity in 2025

## Befriending

Befriending remains a core part of the programme. In 2025 a total of 47 pairs participated and 25 new pairs were welcomed to JUMP. Our young people and befrienders continue to meet fortnightly and decide together how their £15 budget will be spent.

## Volunteer training

JUMP ran four new volunteer training days in 2025, double the number in the previous year. These provide an overview of safeguarding, the UK's asylum system, and important issues relating to befriending.

With added capacity to our Community Engagement team, we also laid groundwork to develop our series of top-up training sessions for befrienders in 2026.

## JUMP community

Our JUMP community went from strength to strength in 2025. Co-created and co-designed with our beneficiaries, the activities ran took an additional focus on skills and employment workshops, critical to

equipping our young people with the tools, skills, and resources to rebuild independent lives.

**In total, 25 group events were run in 2025, attended by more than 200 young people.**

These included:

- Our first ever employment workshop series, including sessions on CV writing. (January 2025).
- An interfaith iftar with JUMP young people and befrienders. (March 2025)
- Our first event run by a young person, a bake-along in collaboration with Luminary Bakery. (April 2025).
- A walking tour through Brick Lane, exploring the area's rich migrant history. (June 2025).
- A series of public speaking events, helping prepare young people who spoke at HIAS+JCORE's 2025 annual event. (June 2025).
- Our annual beach trip, this year run in Margate. (August 2025).
- A visit to Parliament, where young people spoke with Lord Alf Dubs' senior advisor, and were given a tour. (December 2025).

# Casework support

Each young person on JUMP can benefit from our bespoke, wrap-around casework service. Demand again increased in 2025, with the number of interventions more than doubling those in the previous year.



**650** Total casework interventions

We are also deeply proud of the role JUMP played in supporting young people through the 2025 anti-migrant unrest. This was sadly an incredibly unsettling time, with a backdrop of the 2024 riots fresh.

Our staff worked extensively, ensuring our young people were safe, felt supported, and perhaps most importantly of all know that they are welcome here.

In 2025, our team helped support our young people with...

## Housing and accommodation

It felt like a major breakthrough in December 2024 when the Government announced that for a 12-month trial period, the 'move-on' period – the time new refugees get to

find alternatives to Home Office accommodation and support – would be doubled to 56 days.

Yet in August 2025, the Home Office moved to reverse the policy change and reinstate a 28-day period for most new refugees. While there were still challenges with the extended trial, clear evidence highlighted the role it played in challenging refugee homelessness.

JUMP has subsequently been forced to intervene multiple times to fund emergency housing. And even where our young people have been able to find accommodation, in all too many cases, it has been in substandard condition and often unfurnished.

We are continuing to work with Baroness Lister on her proposed legislation which would reinstate a permanent 56-day 'move-on' period.

### Our team:

- Submitted a Debt Relief Order which successfully helped a young person to write off a significant council tax debt, ensuring that they avoided a court appearance and could remain in their home.

- Supported a number of young people to move into new accommodation, and worked with HIAS+JCORE's network of volunteers and the charity Volunteers on Wheels to help furnish these.
- Helped multiple young people through the move-on period, and secured emergency temporary accommodation for those who were facing homelessness.

### Access to legal support

Recent research indicates that 51% of people seeking asylum are unable to access legal aid lawyers – a simply unacceptable statistic. Our team works extensively, including with the Lawyers Network HIAS+JCORE has developed, to ensure that our beneficiaries can get the legal support they need.

#### Our team:

- Helped several young people to apply for indefinite leave to remain, in many cases successfully. This has involved connecting beneficiaries with solicitors and attending appointments together.
- Supported young people to attend their 'substantive interviews' with the Home Office.

- Continued to run our Legal Advice Clinic for our young people with CORAM.
- Attended and spoke at a family reunification hearing in support of a young person.
- Intervened with the local MP and local council to submit a complaint about a young person's age assessment.
- Wrote a letter of support and secured a solicitor to successfully prevent a young person being rehoused in Scotland.

### Access to education

Attending school and college is so important to many of our participants. All too often, barriers are in place making this challenging – our team works extensively to overcome these together.

#### Our team:

- Supported several young people to enrol in college.
- Secured Physics and Maths tutors for three young people taking their GCSEs. As a result, we know that two of the three have already now passed their GCSE.

## Health

Once trust has developed with our befrienders and project staff, young people may feel comfortable in disclosing health concerns (both physical and mental). Where appropriate, our team can make referrals and help advocate with GPs.

### Our team:

- Helped two young people to access dental care free of charge.
- Referred young people to the Helen Bamber Foundation and Baobab.
- Worked with an external partner to secure donations of bicycles for a number of young people.

## Employment support

JUMP's unique model goes beyond tackling emergency and initial needs, ensuring our young people have the chance to gain key skills and experience to independently thrive.

### Our team:

- Welcomed the first JUMP alumni intern to HIAS+JCORE's team.
- Provided other paid opportunities at HIAS+JCORE events, including

our annual celebration, and at a film screening run in partnership with Pixida Films.

- Supported a number of our young people into a barista training run by NEMI Teas, which will lead to paid employment.
- Assisted young people to register with the Job Centre.



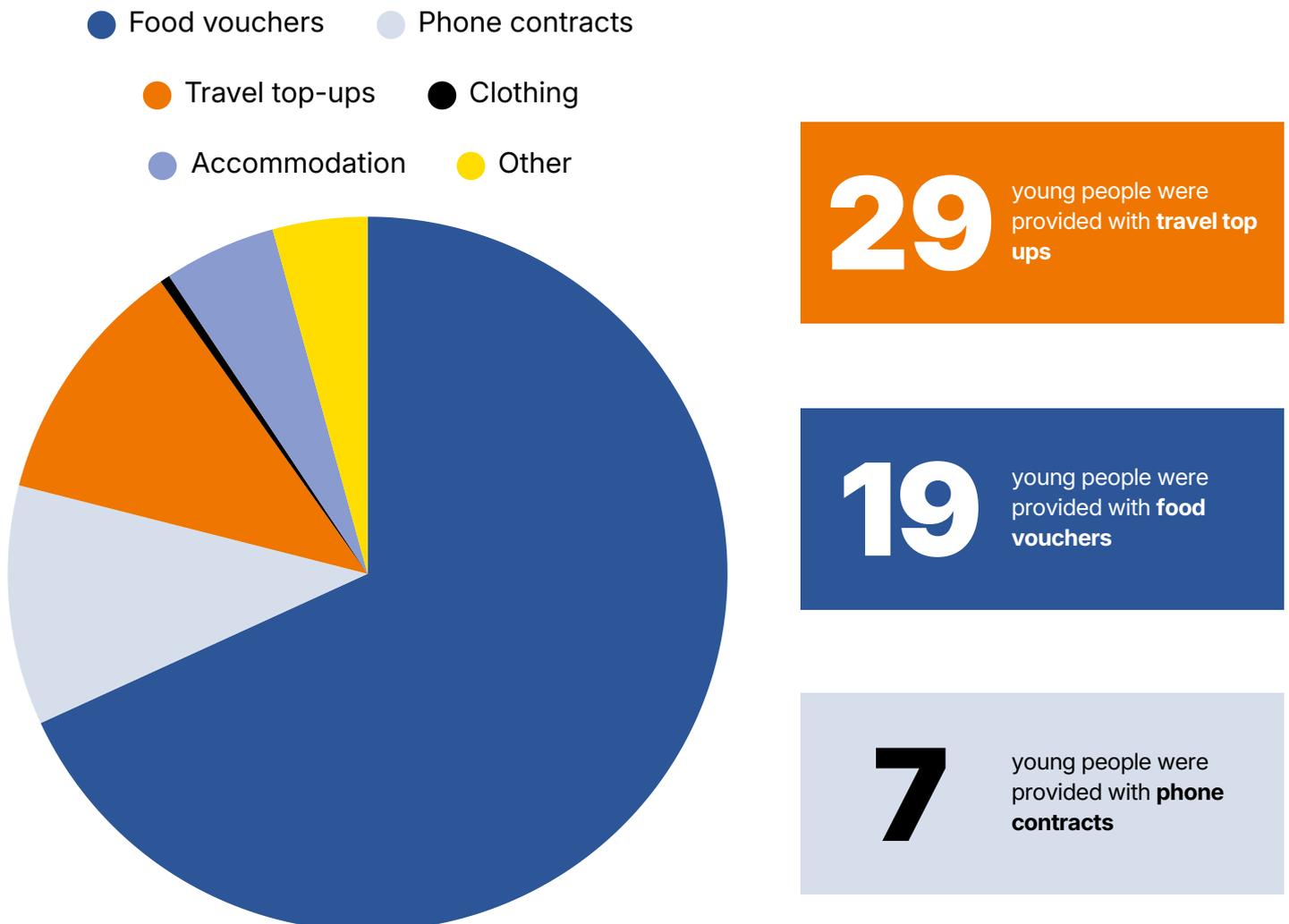
*Our first employment workshop in January 2025*

# JUMP's Hardship Fund

The provision of small grants through our Hardship Fund remains an important aspect of JUMP's offer. This funding is critical to helping our young people who would otherwise be forced into destitution by the incredibly low levels of statutory support offered.

In 2025, we provided **over £17,000** in such grants, a rise from **£11,000 in 2024**, and **£4,700 in 2023**.

We also worked extensively with our partners to secure high quality and new items of clothing.



# JUMP and advocacy

**Policy can only be fair and compassionate when it reflects the real-life experiences of people in our asylum system.**

A core pillar of HIAS+JCORE's Advocacy Strategy is therefore to ensure that our goals, outreach, and political engagement are driven by the young people we support.

It is a privilege to empower JUMP beneficiaries to safely utilise our platform to ensure their voices are heard. Amidst an increasingly hostile policy environment, many of our young people are eager to ensure that their critical opinions reach power.

In 2025, we worked extensively with HIAS+JCORE's Safeguarding Trustee Lead, and communications and advocacy staff, toward an Ethical Communications and Advocacy Process which lays the parameters for this work.

A key initial step was two new workshop series: the first on public speaking, and the second on MP engagement. With these in place, we were delighted to work with our young people on submissions to the Home Affairs Committee Inquiry into Asylum

Accommodation Submission, and the ICIBI Call for Evidence on Asylum Decisions – two areas which have a major impact on our young people's lives.

Later in 2025, we were pleased also to launch our JUMP Alumni Advocacy Group. Bringing together former participants who have graduated from the programme, this project provides paid opportunities for JUMP Alumni to engage with HIAS+JCORE's advocacy work.

We were honoured to welcome one of our alumni members to HIAS+JCORE's 2025 end of year webinar, where they spoke about the impact of policies like the Refugee Citizenship Ban, and proposed changes to settlement.

We are confident that this model provides a leading approach for other sector organisations, and will have a key impact on shaping the national move toward a more compassionate asylum system.

# Case study:

## Lord Dubs parliament visit

In December 2025, three JUMP young people attended a fascinating tour of the Houses of Parliament, led by Lord Dubs' Senior Adviser.

The visit concluded with an opportunity for those attending to discuss their opinions on the UK's asylum system and quiz their host on the political movement for fairer asylum policy.

To prepare for the visit, our team ran a series of three workshops,

with our young people preparing a series of questions they wanted to raise.

On the day, they were able to talk through issues like mental health support for refugees, the right to work, family reunion, and asylum accommodation.

The trip was a rounding success, and we are already developing plans for a second visit, to be led by one of our MP supporters in spring 2026. Watch this space!



# JUMP and community engagement

**Experiences and voices from JUMP are also crucial to our community engagement work. We feel that it is vital that our education and outreach is informed by learnings from the project.**

## In 2025, our team:

- Spoke at synagogues across London about JUMP's work as part of Refugee Shabbat 2025.
- Joined a panel event at HIAS+JCORE's first conference, sharing experiences from JUMP.
- Facilitated an incredible panel at HIAS+JCORE's annual event, where JUMP young people discussed stories from their time on the project.
- Shared insights from the project at a conference on co-creating with young displaced people, run by Goldsmiths University.
- Worked with synagogues and Jewish schools to secure donations for JUMP's end of year dinner.



# JUMP's operations

Enabling all of this work were JUMP's strong foundations. Our team continued to receive supervision support from an experienced social worker, and also benefit from oversight from HIAS+JCORE's Safeguarding Trustee Lead.

## New partnerships

We continued to work alongside:

- **ScreenShare UK.** Working together we have received and distributed numerous phones and laptops through 2025.
- **CORAM** on a Legal Clinic for JUMP young people.
- The **Bounce Programme** on Barista Training.

Through our new Community Engagement Director, we also developed strong relationships with United Synagogue, who helped provide donations for our JUMP end of year dinner and Volunteers on Wheels.

We also maintained our strong relationship with London Zoo, where two JUMP alumni supported the process of their new Refugia Art Programme.

## Referral partners

We worked with:

- Young Roots
- Baobab
- Various Social Workers and Personal Advisors across a number of Local Authorities



*We were delighted to share JUMP's incredible work at HIAS+JCORE's 2025 annual event. Three of our young people spoke powerfully, sharing their experiences.*

# Monitoring and evaluating JUMP

In mid-2024, HIAS+JCORE introduced a new series of monitoring and evaluation tools for JUMP. These will enable us to better analyse JUMP's impact, and include post-participation surveys, feedback forms for the JUMP community, and questionnaires for supervisions.

## Young people



agree that joining JUMP has helped them make friends



agree that since joining JUMP they trust people more than before



agree that befriending has been good for them so far



feel that JUMP has helped them discover new activities and places



say they feel comfortable with their befriender

## Befrienders

**92%**

said their knowledge of the asylum system had increased

**87%**

feel they make a positive difference to their befriendedee's life

**100%**

feel well supported by JUMP staff

**91%**

feel their knowledge about issues facing unaccompanied refugees and asylum seekers has increased



## Project plans for 2026

JUMP has exciting plans for the coming year!

In a major new development, we have recently expanded JUMP to Brighton and Hove – the first time our team has delivered the programme’s transformative work outside of London.

This will see an expansion to the overall number of pairs JUMP works with to at least 50.

Following the introduction of our new Ethical Communications and Advocacy Policy, we will also deepen the involvement of JUMP in HIAS+JCORE’s campaigning and public affairs work. With refugee rights under increasing attack, giving our young people a safe platform to speak to power is more important than ever.

Every day, JUMP is changing lives – and it is only possible with your help and funding. **Thank you for your continued support for JUMP, and we look forward to working together in 2026.**



# JUMP's finances in 2025

	<b>Income received</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
<b>Hardship Fund (restricted funds)</b>	£1,985.00	£17,072.64
<b>JUMP (salaries and project costs, including £52,432.50 contribution to core costs)</b>	£129,121.33	£148,932.13
Totals	£131,106.33	£166,004.77





# Learn more

Visit our website at [hiasjcore.org/jump](https://hiasjcore.org/jump), or email our team at [admin@hiasjcore.org](mailto:admin@hiasjcore.org)

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