

'BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY'

WHO IS IT FOR?

Women and their families who came to Scotland through the Scottish Government's Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

We started with a pilot project of a few months, making space for people to get to know us and each other by listening to what life is like for them - before and now as 'New Scots'.

We facilitated conversations about what helps these women, their families and other people from Syria settle in their new neighbourhoods, build social connections and become active citizens in their communities.

These are some of the activities we organised:

- A herb planting session which led to their plans for a community garden space.
- A football training session, which led to conversations about gaps in culturally sensitive places for activities such as swimming.
- Going to meet older people who live at a local care home so the women could find out about the lives of older women in Scotland, which has led to follow up visits and friendships.
- A storytelling event and coffee morning for local families



New Scots connecting with communities
"Where we are now is what matters most"



The Moments of Freedom group herb planting at the Clydebank Centre 81 community garden

WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACHIEVE?

- More activities to help the women gain confidence and seek out opportunities for themselves and their families, as individuals and peer support for each other
- Building relationships with people in the local community
- Making links with other women who are New Scots living in other parts of Greater Glasgow

WHAT IS THE IMPACT SO FAR AND WHAT ARE WE LEARNING?

- The women have more support from each other and like the new friendships they are making.
- The Council is learning how to adapt their services to make them work for these women and their families, and for other people who need more cultural diversity.
- We are learning more about peer support, including across communities and generations.



WHAT'S NEXT?

We're continuing to work with the women and building up more contacts with other women across Greater Glasgow. We're supporting the women to contribute to a local community newspaper

We're sharing what we are doing and learning with other people across Scotland and feeding in to national policies around the New Scots Strategy.