

Safia Abdi

Safia has been an Ashley Community Housing tenant since October 2014 and has recently started attending some classes run by us. When Safia came to Ashley Community Housing she had little confidence in spoken English and often needed to use a translator. She now attends the English My Way course which has helped increase her confidence and improve her grasp of the English language.

Safia also recently attended a NIACE Money Management workshop run by Ashley Community Housing. Taught over two sessions, the workshop aimed to teach learners about handling their money in the UK. Learners were taught about useful vocabulary relating to money, understanding bank statements, comparing income and expenditure, and considering wants vs. needs. Learners were also encouraged to think about how they personally could budget for the future.

Before the workshop, Safia felt unable to budget effectively, however after attending the NIACE workshop she said that she felt much more confident in managing her money. This is important for Safia as she not yet working and has a limited income from the benefits she receives.

"[It was] very useful and broadened my knowledge about how I can manage my money. I would love to do it again if there is another opportunity. It empowered me and gave me knowledge that I can use in my daily life for spending money". - Safia



Ashley Community Housing was established in 2008 as a social enterprise specialising in the economic, social and civil integration of refugees through accommodation and community based training support. We have successfully resettled over 2000 individuals from refugee backgrounds in this time.

We employ 60 staff and operate in the West of England and the West Midlands as a strategic partner for local authorities and government prime contractors. Through the establishment of our subsidiary training arm 'Himilo Training' we are committed to supporting refugees through work experience, language training, IT literacy and employability skills.

Our #RethinkingRefugee programme is considered outstanding and reflects our commitment to making sure refugees become part of society rather than remaining marginalised and under-employed.

*If you would like to find out more about Ashley Community Housing's work with tenants and learners in the West of England and the West Midlands call **0117 954 0433**, email **matthew.rogers@ashleyhousing.com** or visit **www.ashleyhousing.com***