

THE RSD TEAM



Refugee Support
Devon



Rupert Blomfield - Manager

Part-time 4 days Mondays - Thursdays

Rupert took over managerial duties from Annette Hughes in October 2021. He has spent the last 25 years working mostly in the charitable sector with rough sleepers, refugees, asylum seekers, victims of human trafficking, modern slavery and also with subsistence farmer blacksmiths in Namibia. He has previously held managerial/directorial posts with organisations such as Devon and Cornwall Refugee Support, British Red Cross Refugee Support Services, and Devon Inclusive Housing Project.

Annette Hughes - Finance Manager

Part-time Tuesday and Friday mornings

Originally trained as a nurse, then qualifying as a social worker, Annette spent 3 years in Mozambique supporting rural community groups and volunteering projects through an international development agency. Following a short spell of working with the local government on return to the UK Annette became the first Project Coordinator for Refugee Support Devon in 2003. In September 2021 Annette stepped back from these duties and now focuses on supervising RSD's financial affairs and fundraising.

Anne Conway – RAMP Coordinator

Part-time 2 days Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Anne joined RSD in October 2023 and coordinates hospital placements and internships on our RAMP project. She is a dual qualified RGN and RMN (rtd) also holding CELTA and has over the years supported her clinical international colleagues for safer, more effective integration into the NHS workplace. Since retiring from the NHS, Anne has worked alongside three other charities, advising refugee doctors and nurses on their pathways to NHS roles.





Eddie Rudolph – Administrative Assistant
Part-time 2.5 days Wednesday mornings, Thursdays
and Fridays

Eddie joined RSD in October 2024 and provides administrative support to the team. He also coordinates RSD's fundraising and communications work. His research at university included a study on the plight of Uyghur Muslims in China, refugees in Manchester during WWII, and the Taiping Rebellion. Eddie also volunteered for the Human Rights Foundation in Oslo in June 2024.

Kiven Emmanuel - Senior Drop-in Coordinator
Part-time 2.5 days Tuesdays, Wednesday mornings,
Thursdays

Kiven oversees our Drop-in and Immigration Clinic Services. He joined RSD in May 2023, having previously worked with Devon and Cornwall Refugee Support and Plymouth Hope. Before that he worked for many years in a range of international development roles in the UK and Cameroon. Kiven is accredited by OISC to provide Level 1 immigration advice.



Rebecca Michel – Education for Integration Coordinator
Part-time 2.5 days Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Friday
mornings

Rebecca has been involved in English Language Teaching since the 1980s. She has worked in the UK, France, Turkey and Egypt as a Teacher, a Manager, a Teacher Trainer and a volunteer. She taught and managed a programme of Academic English at the University of Exeter and taught ESOL at Exeter College. She has also been volunteering with RSD and other charities and became a staff member in May 2024.



Souad Fadel - Resettlement Coordinator

Full-time

Formerly a lecturer at Benghazi University in Libya, Souad came to the UK in 2007 to complete her Ph.D in Politics at Exeter University, focusing on immigrants and refugees. Souad joined RSD in 2018 to provide support to families resettled in Devon. More recently she has taken on responsibilities for supporting asylum seekers housed in hotels.



Trupti Desai - Administrator

Part-time 3 days Mondays - Wednesdays

Trupti worked for the British Council in countries such as the Gaza Strip, India and Thailand for 16 years, developing an acute awareness of the needs of people at grassroots level and engaging them in all aspects of the British Council's work. Trupti joined RSD as Administrator in 2013, and ensures the smooth and efficient running of the office on a day-to-day basis.

Valentina Todino – Drop-in Coordinator

Part-time Monday and Friday afternoons, Wednesday mornings, Tuesdays and Thursdays

Valentina is an Honorary Associate Research Fellow of Exeter University. She is also involved in community projects and is an active member of the Italian Cultural Association Exeter. Valentina volunteered with RSD and then became a staff member in July 2022 supporting clients in the drop-in clinic and coordinating our team of drop-in volunteers.

