Bail for Immigration Detainees (BID)

£16,111.03

Believes that every detained asylum seeker in the UK has the right to a bail hearing. BID helps them gain their freedom and campaigns against arbitrary detention

An amount of £16,204.81 was raised at the June 06 Funding Evening. BID was overwhelmed by the generosity of the audience and wrote to thank those who had contributed describing some of the cases that BID had taken on.

The grant was put partly towards BID's core costs and partly towards the salary of our Legal Director/Assistant Director, Legal. This was absolutely vital as BID had no dedicated funding for this crucial organisational function. The post supervises all BID's legal work (the provision of advice and information on the right to bail and how to apply for bail to immigration detainees), is responsible for training all it's casework volunteers, and for working strategically with the Assistant Director Policy on BID's research and policy work which aims to end arbitrary detention.

Over the last year BID has supported 1,927 people held in immigration detention. A further 1,222 benefited from telephone advice only. 687 people attended bail workshops held regularly in four detention centres (Dover, Yarls Wood, Campsfield House and Haslar), and 138 people benefited from individual legal advice surgeries held at Campsfield House. Of those who attended workshops, 97 were either bailed or released on temporary admission. 84 of them were removed from the country, 97 are still in detention, and they have lost contact with 115. They applied for bail or temporary admission themselves for 196 people, 111 were released and 85 refused.

"BID listened to me when everyone else abandoned me. BID took on my case, prepared it very well, got a court date, wrote to CCD, arranged a very good barrister and ensured a successful ending to my bail application." BID client