

## **MSF UK Association**

### **Take Action for migrants and refugees**

#### **Background and evolution**

The MSF Take Action group was formed pursuant to the unanimous adoption of a motion brought to the MSF UK AGM in May 2016. The motion left the scope of activity for the group deliberately broad. Its manner of functioning and scope of activity have been developed over the course of 2016/2017. The group is led by two co-chairs and main decisions are made by a steering committee. A small number of sub-committees have been formed on an *ad hoc* basis to work on specific projects, notably the communications sub-committee, the entitlement to healthcare sub-committee, and the mental health sub-committee.

#### **Purpose:**

To take action, complementary to and in support of MSF official activities, to improve the situation of migrants and refugees in the UK and to advocate for compassionate policies toward refugees and migrants on the part of the government of the United Kingdom.

Members of the MSF Association have an important perspective that can help inform the conversation in the UK about migrants and refugees. Our background, working around the world with MSF to provide help to people displaced by conflict, human rights violations, disease and deprivation, can help create openness and dialogue. We aim to *mobilise* the MSF UK Association and *advocate* for the rights of migrants and refugees, through UK policy. We aim to do this in collaboration with other organisations, working with a wider community trying to make a difference in the UK.

#### **Objectives – to be reviewed and updated January 2018**

- Increase MSF Association members' awareness of issues facing migrants and refugees in the UK and mobilise them to take action.
- Add our voice to campaigns on behalf of migrants and refugees in the UK using our influence with UK communities and government through public speaking, writing for print/online publication and other advocacy initiatives.
- Work with others to help improve access to healthcare in the UK for migrants and refugees
- Connect with and/or establish/develop a global network of MSF Association members

#### **Activities**

- Support MSF UK work on migration;
- Educate and inform the MSF Association about the difficult situation migrants are facing in the UK, what their options are, and what citizens can and are doing about it;
- Mobilise the MSF UK Association around campaigns, marches and actions;
- Extend the reach of important campaigns being led by others.