

More about *Bedsteforældre for Asyl*

(“Grandparents pro Asylum”)

Our movement has just one aim – to get Danish asylum policy changed, so as to enable asylum-seekers who are unable to return to the country from which they have fled to live a life free of uncertainty and hopelessness. These unfortunate and vulnerable people should be allowed the opportunity for a normal life among the rest of us, with rights to education and employment.

Bedsteforældre for Asyl is an association of individual senior citizens in Denmark. We are able to speak with an authority borne of age, experience and long perspective.

Bedsteforældre for Asyl is independent of political and religious affiliation and of other Non Government Organisations, so we welcome anyone who shares our goal. Members of other groups may, of course, join us as individuals, provided that they agree with our aim.

Instead of aggressive slogans, *Bedsteforældre for Asyl* organises the kinds of demonstration that are characterised by convincing arguments. This is why you can find us congregating amicably on Sundays outside the asylum centres at Sandholm, Avnstrup, and Kongelunden. Please refer to our calendar of rallies and meetings on <http://www.bedsteforaeldreforasyl.dk/>

To reach as many sympathisers as possible, furthermore, we use other types of direct action, such as writing letters to the press and distributing leaflets in the street. We deliver lectures, and are keen participants in public discussion meetings.

Over the years, charitable trusts and private individuals have contributed more than 400,000 Danish crowns to *Bedsteforældre for Asyl*.

Some of this money has been used to fund our political lobbying in support of asylum-seekers, such as a cyclist parade through Copenhagen, a stand at the annual 1st May Workers’ Rally in *Fælledparken*, an annual people’s rally on the island of Bornholm, our street demonstrations, and the printing of our leaflets, badges and T-shirts.

Nearly 300,000 Danish crowns, however, has also been earmarked for the benefit of refugee children, whose lives are as miserable as can be imagined. We have been able to finance bus and transit tickets for these children, pay for them to attend semesters at folk high schools, and provide circus trips and Christmas parties for them. Our members often take part in these arrangements, and we can confirm that going on rewarding outings that give a child a break from the daily routine of their refugee centres restores the sparkle to their eyes.

If you would like to contribute to our work, you can find our bank account number under *Kontakt* on <http://www.bedsteforaeldreforasyl.dk/>