

## RSD'S staff team



**Rupert Blomfield - Manager**

*Part time 4 days Mon - Thurs*

*Rupert took over managerial duties from Annette Hughes in October 2021. He has spent the last twenty five years working mostly in the charitable sector with rough sleepers, subsistence farmer blacksmiths, refugees, asylum seekers and victims of human trafficking and modern slavery. He has previously held managerial/directorial posts with organisations such as Amber Initiatives, Plymouth Hope and Devon Inclusive Housing Project*

**Annette Hughes - Finance Manager.**

*Part time 1 day flexible*

*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.*



**Kiven Emmanuel - Senior Drop-in Coordinator.**

*Part time 3 days Tues - Thurs.*

*Kiven oversees our Drop-in and Immigration Clinic Services. He joined RSD in May 2023, having previously worked in operation management and project support roles 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 experienced in drop-in environments and is accredited by OISC to provide Level 1 immigration advice.*



**Valentina Todino** – Drop-in coordinator

*Part Time Tues to Fri*

*Valentina is an Honorary Associate Research Fellow of the University of Exeter and has been working with the Department of Modern Languages as a community liaison officer. She is also involved also in community projects, including being an active member of the Italian Cultural Association Exeter. Her interest in refugee issues brought her to RSD, first as a volunteer and then, at the end of 2022, as our drop-in coordinator, assisting Kiven by triaging new drop-in clients and coordinating our team of drop-in volunteers.*



**Souad Fadel** - Resettlement Coordinator

*Full Time Mon - Fri.*

*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 as a result of the war in Syria. More recently she has taken on similar responsibilities for families evacuated from Afghanistan in August 2021. She has worked with various local groups, including being Vice Principal of Exeter Muslim Association.*



**Denise Parker** - Education & Employability Coordinator

*Part time flexible.*

*Denise coordinates our education and employability projects, helping our clients access local vocational and academic training and moving them towards employment. She has worked in the UK and abroad as a TEFL teacher and online teacher trainer, EAP specialist in Business and Medicine and assessor for IELTS and Trinity College London exams. She started with RSD as a volunteer tutor specialising in Medical English to work with refugee doctors and much of her time now is spent on our new RAMP project.*





**Jennifer (Jen) Schoen** – ESOL coordinator

*Part Time Wed.*

*Jen has worked in education in the USA for over 20 years, mostly with students ranging in ages 10-18. She started her career as a Reading Specialist, working with students who struggled to learn to read. Most recently she has been a classroom teacher for 10-14 year olds in Humanities. She joined RSD as a teaching volunteer in 2021 and, at the beginning of 2022, took on the role of assisting Denise by coordinating the work done by our team of ESOL volunteers.*

**Trupti Desai** - Administrator.

*Part time Mon - Wed.*

*Trupti worked for the British Council in countries such as the Gaza Strip, India and Thailand for over 20 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, her excellent managerial and administrative skills bringing in some order where there is often chaos!*



**Nick Floyd** - Administrative assistant.

*Part time Wed - Fri.*

*Originally trained as a microbiologist Nick eventually left science to pursue a career change and explore a range of new activities, including qualifying as an ESOL teacher and living and teaching in Malaysia. On return to the UK Nick worked as enrolments administrator in a language school for over 10 years, bringing his wealth of skills to RSD as admin assistant in January 2018.*