

Pastor Michael Chard RAS Ministry, The Vine Church

## Biography

Michael is a Pastor working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees at The Vine Church in Wanchai as part of its Registered NGO; The Vine Community Services Limited.

His key interest in working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees is in developing their practical, spiritual and psychological growth, whilst enabling and encouraging additional personal skills. Amongst these are communication, advocacy and a passion for justice and change.

He previously worked as a Health Professional, Social Worker, Senior Practitioner and Manager within the UK for more than 30 years. He specialised in Mental Health in addition to being a generic social worker. He subsequently was appointed as a University Lecturer teaching degrees in Social Work. His Master's thesis focused on Crisis Intervention in Mental Health. He presented the findings of his research at The World Congress of Mental Health in Cairo in 1987.

Michael and his wife, Sarah moved to Hong Kong five years ago.