

## Islington Refugee Voice IRF Newsletter No 9/ November 2015

### Past activities

#### **London Living Wage Breakfast 5th November 2015**

Islington Refugee Forum in partnership with the London Living Wage Foundation held a breakfast event to raise awareness and highlight the importance of the Living Wage (LW). There were three guest speakers. Lela Kogbara- Assistant Chief Executive of the Islington Council spoke on “The role of the council in Promoting LLW”. Lucila Grenada from Latin American Women’s Rights Services (LAWRS) spoke on “How low pay affects Refugees”. Emily Kenway from Living Wage Foundation- Citizens UK spoke on “Living Wage, its history, how it’s winning and changing lives”. In this meeting people found more information about London Living Wage campaign and how this might improve the life of those who are underpaid.

A more detailed report will be published on IRF website: [www.islingtonrefugeeforum.org](http://www.islingtonrefugeeforum.org)



### Future activities

#### **Refugees Crisis- Speaking the Unspeakable & IRF’s Annual General Meeting 3rd December 2015**

**Venue:** Islington Town Hall, Committee Room  
4, Upper Street, London, N1 2UD

**Time:** 10:00 – 1:30

Islington Refugee Forum would like to invite all refugee community organisations members to attend its Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the financial year 2014/15 scheduled on 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 15, from 10 am-2:00 pm.

The Refugees Crisis- Speaking the Unspeakable meeting will host: Cllr. Richard Watt-The Borough of Islington Leader; Dr Lisa Doyle-Head of Advocacy- Refugee Council; Anuska Casas Pinto –Refugee Action- London Outreach Manager; Jacqueline Broadhead, Corporate Policy and Equality Manager, Islington council to inform us about the new development in regard to the arrival of new refugees following our meeting on 14th October. Ratip Alsulaimen, British Syrian Education Centre; and Dulchat Abbas-Coordinator- Federation of Iraqi Refugees.

For booking please visit:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/islington-refugee-forum-agm-3rd-dec-15-tickets-19277836528>

For more information please contact us on:

[info@islingtonrefugeeforum.org](mailto:info@islingtonrefugeeforum.org). Tel: 0207 832 5847.

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#### **Fast Track to Successful Fundraising 26th November 2015**

**Venue:** Women's Resource Centre, United House, North Road, London N7 9DP

**Time:** 10:00 – 4:00

The nature of fundraising and the climate in which we fundraise has developed radically over the last few years. In order for an

organisation to successfully generate income in today's competitive environment, it is important to have a good understanding of fundraising. This course will help you to identify different stages involved in fundraising, and introduce you to the various types of funders and fundraising styles. It will also help you to start exploring the type of funding that best suits your organisation. These courses are FUNDED if you are a Voluntary, Community or Social Enterprise organisation based in London.

To book place please visit:

<http://data.wrc.org.uk/civCRM/event/register?id=945&reset=1>

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**Islington Community Wellbeing Development Service – Quarterly Community Conversation 4th December 2015**

**Venue:** Islington Customer Centre, 222 Upper Street, London, N1 1XR  
**Time:** 10:00 – 2:00

Islington Community Wellbeing Development Service invites you to the second of their quarterly Community Wellbeing Conversations in Islington. The focus of the day will be BMER and cultural competency in mental health provision in Islington. There will be opportunities for you to share your views in workshop discussions and a question and answer session with panel speakers.

For more information please contact: [sfthomas@hillsideclubhouse.org.uk](mailto:sfthomas@hillsideclubhouse.org.uk), 0207 832 5827 Ext 247.

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**Conference to present Emerging Findings of London Funders' Review of Infrastructure 17th December 2015**

**Venue:** The Foundry, 17 Oval Way, London, SE11 5RR  
**Time:** 9:30 – 4:30

London Funders, working with London Voluntary Service Council (LVSC), Greater London Volunteering (GLV) and others has commissioned research to look into the future of civil society infrastructure support in London. The research seeks to understand how civil society in the capital can best be supported in order to make the biggest difference for Londoners.

This conference will launch the Emerging Findings Report from the project and give delegates the chance to offer their thoughts on these findings. Delegates' contributions will inform the Final Report and Recommendations due to be published in the New Year.

If you have any questions, please contact [consult@londonfunders.org.uk](mailto:consult@londonfunders.org.uk)

Places are limited, so early booking is advisable: <http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-future-of-civil-society-support-in-london-conference-tickets-19424748947>

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**Light Project Pro International Christmas Celebration & Annual General Meeting 12th December 2015**

**Venue:** Light Project Pro International, Orkney House, 1st Floor, 195-199 Caledonian Road, London, N1 0AF  
**Time:** 2:00 – 5:00

Light Project Pro International would like to take this opportunity to cordially invite you to their Annual General Meeting and Christmas Celebration.

For more information, please call the organisation on: 0207 833 4009

***Courses***

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**Effectively Identifying and Tackling FGM: Respond to the New Mandatory Reporting Duty 27th January 2016**

**Venue:** Garfield House, 86-88 Edgware Road, London, W2 2EA

**Time:** 9:15 – 4:15

This is one-day training course to understand the duty of public sector in regard to FGM. The new mandatory duty for public sector professionals to report known cases of FGM on girls under 18 came into force last month. Failure to report a case of FGM will lead to disciplinary measures and could ultimately lead to individuals being barred from work.

Understanding ModernGov's new one-day training course 'Effectively Identifying and Tackling FGM' will provide you with the support you need to respond to the government's requirements and to increase community engagement in regards to FGM.

The final session of the day led by the course chair Jason Morgan, a former member of The Metropolitan Police's Project. Other confirmed tutors are Anne-Marie Hutchinson OBE, Partner at family law firm Dawson Cornwell and Vanessa Lodge who is Director of Nursing, North Central and East London and also the chair of the national FGM steering group for NHS England.

To book your place, please visit:  
<https://erc.pmg ltd.co.uk/store/Register/1141>

If you require more information on this course or would like to register over the phone then please get in touch on 0203 770 6614.

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**Free Capacity Building for BAMER Women's Services Based In Islington**

The Samira Project is offering free capacity building training to organisations based in Islington who currently provide service to & support BAMER women. The capacity building work will be needs tailored and will include the following:

- To have an insight about Domestic Violence and Harmful Practices

- To understand local Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG) provision and pathways
- To raise community organisations' capacity in responding to VAWG
- To understand crises intervention and multi agency approach (including practical skills, using risk assessment tools & safety planning)
- To establish local links in integrated working
- To increase the awareness to enable frontline professionals to effectively respond to VAWG in given settings.

Please note that although the programme is designed for whole day session, organiser can break this up and spread the training across a number of sessions if this is more suitable for your organisation.

Please contact PEHP Educator Advocate, Samira Project Worker, email: [aygul@imece.org.uk](mailto:aygul@imece.org.uk) if you require further information.

***Funding Opportunity***

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**The MOPAC Victims Fund 2015/16 – New Round.**

The London Community Foundation is delighted to launch a new round of The MOPAC Victims Fund to benefit victims of crime across London. The aim of the Fund is to maximise the potential of voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations to help ensure the continued and improved provision of vital services to support victims of crime and help them cope and recover. A portion of the fund will be ring-fenced for both hate crime victims and victims of violent crime.

Grants of between £10,000 and £80,000 are available to cover any costs relating to work which helps victims of crime to cope and recover from their experience. This could include, but is not limited to: Practical support; Emotional support; Advocacy support; Specialist support; Counselling; Restorative Justice.

Deadline: Friday 15th January 2016 by 5pm.

If you have any queries please contact directly on: [sam@londoncf.org.uk](mailto:sam@londoncf.org.uk)/ or 020 7582 5117.

## Others

### Refuge space available

Latin American Women's Aid currently has two rooms available for a woman with 1 or 2 children. One room is on the ground floor, the other is on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, fully furnished with a communal kitchen and shared bathroom.

The spaces are suitable for Latin American and Portuguese/Spanish speaking BME women.

Referrals can be made by contacting me via email or telephone (07961844448).

### A call on the government to heed concerns about unprecedented cuts facing charities

The government is considering diverting funds from the Big Lottery Fund to make up for new cuts to sports and arts funding, as part of this week's spending review. National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and ACEVO have issued a joint call against this potential threat to the BLF. The organisations secured national press coverage over the weekend, and they ask the government to think again.

The organisations believe these efforts are beginning to pay off, but they won't know for sure until the Chancellor's Spending Review announcement on Wednesday.

NCVO and ACEVO call for voluntary sector organisations to email their own MP now to underscore the sector's concerns.

For full details of what they know, and how you can help defend the BLF, read this blog post by Charlotte Ravenscroft: [http://blogs.ncvo.org.uk/2015/11/21/threat-to-the-big-lottery-fund/?\\_cldee=aW5mb0Bpc2xpbmd0b25yZWZ1Z2VlZm9ydW0ub3Jn&utm\\_source=ClickDimensions&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=BI](http://blogs.ncvo.org.uk/2015/11/21/threat-to-the-big-lottery-fund/?_cldee=aW5mb0Bpc2xpbmd0b25yZWZ1Z2VlZm9ydW0ub3Jn&utm_source=ClickDimensions&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=BI)

If you have any questions or comments on the content of this newsletter, please contact us at [info@islingtonrefugeeforum.org](mailto:info@islingtonrefugeeforum.org) or call 0207 832 5847

Islington	Refugee	Forum	members:
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Anti-Trafficking and Labour Exploitation Unit, Arab Advice Bureau, Arachne Greek Cypriot Women's Group, British Syria Education Centre, Community Language Support Services (CLSS), Czech school without borders, Eritrean Community in UK, Hillside Clubhouse-Mental Health Community Development Work Service, Hospital & Prison Action Network (HPAN), Iftiin Learning Centre, IMECE Women's Centre, Indo-Pakistan Cultural Centre, Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKRWO), Iranian Community Centre, Iraqi Refugee Federation, Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants, Islington Chinese Association (ICA), Islington Somali Community, Jannaty Women's Social Society, Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation (KMEWO), Kurdish Children and Youth Centre, LAWRS, Light Project International, London Training & Employment Network, Manor Gardens Health Advocacy, Muslim Welfare House, Nafsiyat: Intercultural Therapy Centre, NCS, Octopus Community Network, One True Voice Women Organisation, Oromo Community in the UK, Pan Intercultural Arts, Psychotherapists (Dahlia Project), Refugee Therapy Centre, Somali Banadir Association UK, St Pancras Refugee Centre (Part of Holy Cross Centre Trust), Traumatic Stress Clinic, Victim Support, Women's Therapy Centre

Islington	Refugee	Forum	Membership
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The Islington Refugee Forum (IRF) is a refugee led organisation that works with all refugee community organisations (RCOs) in Islington. IRF is run and led by its members who elect representatives to the board of trustees at the Annual General Meetings.

#### The Benefits of Membership:

- Benefit from capacity building support and free training,
- Be part of refugee voices,
- Be part of Refugee Week organisation committee,
- Receive free newsletters,
- Have access to information related to new changes in policy and legalisations that may impact the refugees or RCOs work.

#### Who can be a member?

- Individual representatives from refugee communities living in Islington,
- Representatives of refugee community organisations, which are based in Islington,
- Representatives of refugee agencies, which are based in Islington,
- Representatives of mainstream voluntary organisations providing services for refugees as full members with voting rights,
- Individual professionals working with refugees in Islington,
- Representatives of public and statutory organisations,
- Organisations (rather than individuals) seeking membership must be properly constituted and must provide a copy of their governing document.

#### To become a member:

Please visit the IRF website and fill the membership form. Or write to: [info@islingtonrefugeeforum.org](mailto:info@islingtonrefugeeforum.org).