FATH RECOGNITION & CELEBRATION

Celebrating the unsung heroes of London's faith and belief communities

With the support of Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London's Council on Faith



AWARD WINNERS

CREATING INTERFAITH SPACES

London's neighbourhoods are multi-faith spaces where people with different faiths and beliefs share the same public spaces and services. These effective local projects create community hubs open to all. Lunch clubs, night shelters, and food banks become places where neighbours work together to make people from every background feel welcome and at home. Working at the neighbourhood level, these projects identify people who need support and work over time to connect them to life-saving public services offered by local councils and larger charities.

Bengali Women's Group Lunch Club

Southwark

We provide vital support within the community by truly understanding the needs of Bengali women and local women of all backgrounds and faiths. Our weekly lunch club provides a weekly meeting place for women with priority on older women, giving them an opportunity to socialise together and breakdown social isolation; provides a healthy lunch; and engages them in discussions on healthy eating, mental health and many other issues that affect the community.

thebengaliwomensgroup.wordpress.com



Community Focus

Barnet

Community Focus Out Reach project for the over 65s is inclusive to race and disability by providing tailored projects in care homes, community centres such as the Royal British Legion and at Friary House in Friary Park. Each project includes social engagement as well as creative and mentally stimulating workshops.

community focus. co.uk



Greenwich Winter Night Shelter

Greenwich

The Greenwich Winter Night Shelter offers safe overnight accommodation for homeless people irrespective of race, creed or background, in partnership with referral agencies. Each of the seven church spaces has volunteer teams who welcome guests, cook, dine together, sleep overnight, provide breakfast and clear up. We help people find their feet again.

churchgreenwich.org.uk/page44.html



Merton Winter Night Shelter

Merton

The Merton Winter Night Shelter provides meals, a safe and warm place to sleep, support and one to one case working for rough sleepers with low to medium support needs from Merton and the wider community. There are 14 faith group venues across the borough taking part in the scheme, with 12 churches, a synagogue and a mosque. This year the Hindu temple will also supply a team of volunteers to help.

ymcalsw.org/merton-winter-night-shelter-2

Norwood & Brixton Foodbank

Lambeth

We provide a safe, warm space where people know they get help, support and ultimately food. We have built on our provision of services providing specialists advisers, job support and legal teams. We work with a number local initiatives to enable local people to access help.

norwoodbrixton.foodbank.org.uk



Parental Engagement at Marion Richardson School

Tower Hamlets

Parental Engagement is an interfaith project. Each week a group of parents from eight ethnic and three faith backgrounds meet in the wasala (Arabic 'to connect') to share ideas and learn from one another. 30 Muslim parents volunteer each year to cook and serve at the local Christian night shelter. The Londoners project brings together four second-generation families who take eight newly-arrived families on Saturday trips to museums and places of interest in London.

marionrichardson.towerhamlets.sch.uk/ Parents/Parental-Engagement/



PL84U AI-Suffa

Waltham Forest

We are a cross-community interfaith initiative providing hot meals and companionship to elderly, homeless, and people in need from faith and nonfaith groups. We bring together diverse communities facing hardship. Our key aim is to help tackle poverty, cultural deprivation and isolation. By partnering with institutions relevant to service user's needs, we provide a safety net for the vulnerable.

facebook.com/pl84ualsuff



Springfield Community Flat

Lambeth

We are a grassroots organisation based in Lambeth, South London, run by the people of this estate for the people. We operate along a Catholic Social Teaching model and are here for the benefit of the most disadvantaged residents of every faith and none. Trustees, staff, volunteers and clients are all from this area, multi-cultural, multiethnic and from all over the world.

admin@springfieldcommunityflat.com

Sufra NW London

Brent

We are a community food hub that brings together people of all faiths and backgrounds to deliver a holistic programme of activities that alleviate the causes and symptoms of food poverty. The charity's core activities include the provision of emergency food aid, accredited training and access to employment.

sufra-nwlondon.org.uk



Women Together

Bexley

Women Together is a supportive friendship group of mainly Muslim and Christian women from over 10 nationalities living in Bexley. We meet monthly for coffee and chat in pleasant public spaces, just as friends would and in doing so show other Londoners that though different we are women together.

Contact 3FF for more information

HOSTING INCLUSIVE SPACES

London's churches, mosques, synagogues and temples provide social connection and belonging in local communities for people from each faith group. When places of worship open their doors to serve people from all faiths and beliefs, they extend hospitality to the entire community. These projects mobilise volunteers from faith groups, helping them to live out their faith by helping others. In the process, it increases these groups' own sense of belonging in London. Some of these projects have been operating for decades, offering connection, advice and support on a weekly basis to their communities. These projects represent the best of London's faith communities, providing an example for others to follow in making our places of worship into inclusive spaces of hospitality.

Autumn Rose Club (Balham Seventh Day Adventist Church)

Wandsworth

Balham Seventh Day Adventist Church hosts a lunch club for our diverse elderly community. Each Tuesday we offer a 3-course meal and activities such as chair based gentle exercise. We also provide workshops on health, pension changes, access to services for health and wellbeing, safety in the home, mental health, counselling, bereavement, and natural remedies. All welcome!

balham.adventistchurch.org.uk/autumnrose-club



Baraka Community Association

West London

We provide educational support, field trips and other services to children and young people living in west London (in the Boroughs of Kensington and Chelsea; City of Westminster; Hammersmith & Fulham and Brent). We aim to advance the welfare of mainly those of Somali origin. We support young people by helping to increase their educational and employment opportunities.

barakacommunityassociation.com



Open Door Community Choir (Christ Church Gipsy Hill)

Lambeth

Open Door is a community drop in providing space for people in our very diverse community to come together and talk, play games, eat healthily and build friendships. We attract a range of people, especially those at risk of social isolation and with mild mental health issues.

gipsyhill.org.uk/open-door/





Open House (Oasis Church Waterloo)

Lambeth

Open House is a safe place where one can share their story without any hint of judgement, where one can reconcile their faith to their sexuality and gender identity, where one can just listen to other stories and ask questions. It is a place where the doors are flung open to show the inclusivity of God in all her/his diversity.

oasiswaterloo.org/church



RCCG Rivers of Joy Church

Barking and Dagenham

Youths from different racial, cultural and religious background meet once a month to discuss issues important to them with guidance from local mentors. The talks address issues such as faith and beliefs, dispelling myths and challenging stereotypes. They also play games together and provide information, advice, guidance and counselling.

riversofjoyinitiatives.org



Rumi's Cave

Barnet

Inspired by the legacy of Rumi, the Persian poet, the charity provides the cultural, social and spiritual foundations to nurture individuals, revive communities and build bridges in society. Projects include Rumi's Cave which runs poetry and music workshops, and also retreats for the young Muslim community where they can engage with faith spiritually.

rumis.org



Sikh Welfare & Awareness Team (SWAT)

Hillingdon

The Sikh Welfare & Awareness Team (S.W.A.T) is a charitable organisation based in West London. Our primary function is to unite and transform financially disadvantaged communities by focusing on projects which make a difference to people's lives in the short term and improve their prospects in the long term.

swatlondon.com



St. Mark's Church Kennington Debt Advice Centre

Lambeth

Working alongside Christians Against Poverty, we offer free debt counselling help to anyone regardless of age, gender, faith or background. We offer each client practical support until they become debt free. This includes a management course to help them remain free from debt in the future.

stmarkskennington.org/activities/christians-against-poverty



The Caribbean Hindu Cultural Society Lunch Club for Senior Citizens

Lambeth

The Caribbean Hindu Cultural Society run a social lunch club aimed at local residents of both Caribbean and Hindu background. The Society aims to be dementia friendly and suggests that singing and togetherness can be beneficial for people with dementia. It aims to be a meeting point not only for the diaspora but everyone within the community.

chcstemple.org



Upper Mitcham Women's Organisation

Merton

The project is in effect a self-supporting women's group on the Merton/
Wandsworth borders. It is headed by a president who is elected by the women every 3 years. The president appoints about 10 secretaries who are each given a brief (education, discipline, charity, health and fitness, educating girls and public relations). They all work to focus the women's activities in these fields. The project is part of a national women's association called Lajna Imaillah of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

Contact 3ff for more information



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IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

All the awarded projects reduce social isolation and improve the quality of life of Londoners. These projects have created specialised support for the health and wellbeing of Londoners. Local groups offer drop-in centres for vulnerable people with mental health issues, and for refugees and asylum seekers. Other projects offer specialised health and wellbeing services drawing on their own expertise: support for isolated people in Barnet, interfaith nutrition classes in Woolwich, housing and counselling for women vulnerable to trafficking in King's Cross, one-on-one counselling for Muslim women in Tower Hamlets, support groups for long-term carers, and accredited counselling programmes for religious leaders in Wandsworth. These effective local projects also work as connectors, referring people in need to specialised services offered by local councils and larger charities.



Alyth (North Western Reform Synagogue) Refugee Drop-In

Barnet

Volunteers from Alyth synagogue run a monthly drop-in for refugees in London. The drop-in welcomes over 70 people each month. The project focuses on integration, providing support and friendship in a safe, welcoming environment. It takes place at the synagogue and is funded by charitable donations with food provided by volunteers.

alyth.org.uk/act-us/refugee-drop-in



Being Alongside (Association for Pastoral Care in Mental Health) Forest Hill Drop-In

Lewisham

We give support, friendship and information to people with emotional and mental health problems and to their carers. The project is Christian-based, but open to people of all faiths and none. It is run entirely by volunteers with professional support. It is open one evening a week and has survived for 30 years because of the commitment of its volunteers, support from local churches and because it meets a local need.

beingalongside.org.uk/forest-hill



Courthouse Community Centre (Jamyang Buddhist Centre)

Lambeth

Courthouse Community Centre is a non-denominational charity which caters for the needs of people from within Jamyang but also the wider community from whatever background and religious affiliation or none. It aims to offer practical support through its various projects, including a project providing a support group for long-term carers. CCC is headed up by a small team of Jamyang volunteers and staff.

jamyang.co.uk/index.php/blog/ccc



Food for Purpose

Greenwich

The Healthy Community project is an interfaith nutrition and wellness programme for BME communities. It was designed by Food for Purpose, and commissioned by Kings' Chapel (a local Pentecostal church) as a way of reaching Christian and Muslim women in Woolwich with a common denominator - health. The programme promotes lowered sugar intake, physical activity and confidence via life coaching.

foodforpurpose.org



Larches Community

Barnet

Larches Community Social Enterprise is a Jewish organisation welcoming people of all faiths and cultures. The 'Go Green Go!' project enables people with autism and learning disabilities to make works of art from unwanted and recycled items. The aim is to increase quality of life through social and recreational activities and for participants to enjoy greater independence in their lives.

larchescommunity.org.uk





Maryam Women's Services (and Centre)

Tower Hamlets

Based in the Maryam Centre at the East London Mosque (also called the London Muslim Centre), Maryam Women's Services provides information, advice and guidance for women. The Maryam Centre is home to the prayer facilities for women; reception staff are instrumental in providing a safe and supportive environment for women to attend not only the prayers but the many other programmes that take place there.

eastlondonmosque.org.uk/content/maryam-womens-services-mws



Refugee Cricket Project

South London

This is a specialist project run by volunteers within the Children's section of the Refugee Council. It takes place weekly at a cricket centre in South London. It provides young refugees, mainly unaccompanied minors from Afghanistan, with an opportunity to train at a sport they love. They also get access to advice and support related to immigration and welfare issues.

refugeecouncil.org.uk/what_we_do/ childrens_services/youth_activities_and_ educational_services/refugee_cricket_ project



Streatham Drop-in Centre for Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Lambeth

Our vision is a community in which all asylum seekers and refugees are welcomed, valued and able to participate fully in society. Streatham Drop-in Centre provides a range of services for asylum seekers, refugees and vulnerable migrants. Our services are developed to meet the needs of people who are most severely affected by discrimination, poverty and poor health.

streathamdropin.org.uk



Wandsworth Community Empowerment Network (WCEN)

Wandsworth

Our work is focused on a whole systems co-production approach to community care and prevention through relationships and shared learning. We run community networks for family care, specifically focused on addressing socio-cultural factors that frame the poor uptake of mental health services. Pastors, church leaders and imams are being trained in family therapy and can make use of these tools within their ministerial practice, referring people into services.

wcen.co.uk



Women@TheWell

Camden

We provide a safe, supportive and creative space for women whose lives have been affected by prostitution and women who have been victims of trafficking and modern slavery. We aim to support women to make changes to their lives to exit prostitution and live a life free from exploitation and abuse. We provide holistic support to women at all stages of their journey. We were founded by the Sisters of Mercy and our work is based upon Gospel values. We provide support for any woman regardless of faith or background.

watw.org.uk



OFFERING SPECIALISED SERVICES: ADVOCACY, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING

These projects started small and local, but over time they have established specialised services which extend belonging to faith and belief groups who are often overlooked and excluded. They teach employable skills to young people and connect them with opportunities beyond their neighbourhoods, advocate for better media coverage of faith groups, educate the public about London's history of migration, provide classes for newly arrived families settling into life in London, offer effective housing solutions to the homeless, and provide key support to people suffering financial trouble in burying their loved ones. These projects represent the power of local groups to build effective social services from the ground up.

Asian Resource Centre of Croydon

Croydon

We are an infrastructure organisation that also delivers services to predominantly Asian communities (but not exclusively) in Croydon. We provide capacity building, governance advice, health & wellbeing projects, financial, digital, legal workshops, domestic abuse & sexual violence support projects, children's tuition classes, refugee & asylum seeker project, coffee mornings and a luncheon club.

arccltd.com



CARIS Haringey

Haringey

We are a Christian-based charity working to make a difference to homeless families in Haringey across all faiths and none. We have been providing a holistic range of services for families in temporary accommodation since 1990 and are the only organization in the London Borough of Haringey which exists solely to work with and for homeless families.

carisharingey.org.uk



Chaverim Youth Organisation

Haringey

Chaverim Youth Organisation runs afterschool and school-holiday activities and leadership programmes for thousands of young Charedim. Chaverim aims to help young boys develop and has been doing so for over 25 years. Shmuel, the director of CYO, is Chair of the Haringey Metropolitan Police's Independent Advisory Group and sits on the Metropolitan Police's London-wide Diversity Advisory Group.

chaverimyouthorganisation.weebly.com



Highway House Shelters

Haringey

Highway House Shelters are in Tottenham and Islington housing 50 men and 6 women at a time. Since 2009, 800 people have been helped with shelter, food and counselling, along with much needed companionship with others. The charity runs a social enterprise cafe that began this year.

highwayhouse.co.uk



Jawaab

Islington

Jawaab is a grassroots youth movement against hate, racism and Islamophobia. Jawaab aims to raise awareness of the social and political issues minority groups are facing. They want to challenge racism, break down negative misconceptions about particular communities and mobilise a youth movement. Jawaab offers a safe space for expression and gives young people training to become future leaders.

jawaab.org.uk



JOEL Community Services

Kingston upon Thames

Aiming to put HOME back into homelessness, we offer food, friendship and shelter to people experiencing homelessness throughout the year. Guests are provided with wholesome meals and opportunities to build community. We work alongside guests in their journey out of homelessness and hope for a better future.

joelcommunityservices.org.uk



Making Communities Work and Grow (MCWG)

Kensington and Chelsea

We handle some of the key issues affecting young people, including alienation and disengagement. Our aim is to enhance self-esteem whilst teaching responsibility and promoting integration. We enable children and young adults to contribute to wider society through football training, cookery lessons, schoolwork help, group trips, employment support, counselling and advice on mental health.

mcwg.org.uk/



Down to Earth Project (Quaker Social Action)

Tower Hamlets

Quaker Social Action enable people on low incomes in east London and across the UK to seek solutions to the issues affecting their lives. For seven years, we have been running the project Down to Earth, which has supported people struggling with funeral costs. We offer practical advice and guidance, working with people directly to secure affordable and meaningful funerals and to avoid debt afterwards.

downtoearthsupport.org.uk





The Migration Museum Project

Lambeth

We are a project working to establish a major museum of migration for the UK here in London - contributing to a more reasoned debate about migration. We have exhibitions, varied evening and weekend events and an education programme that has reached over 4000 pupils. Since April 2017, we have opened in a temporary space in The Workshop on Lambeth High Street.

migrationmuseum.org



Youth First

Lewisham

We run free universal youth clubs and adventure playgrounds, ensuring young people have safe places to go, fun and positive things to do and gain the benefits of consistent relationships with professional youth workers. We act as an umbrella for youth provision across Lewisham and partner with a range of other organisations who share our values and aspirations.

youthfirst.org.uk



RECOGNISED PROJECTS

FOR SERVICES TO AND FOR FAITH AND BELIEF COMMUNITIES IN GREATER LONDON

Al Manaar Muslim Cultural Heritage Centre

Kensington and Chelsea almanaar.org.uk

Bi Pride UK

Westminster twitter.com/BiPrideUK

Barnet Multi Faith Forum

Barnet

barnetmultifaithforum.org

Being a Happiness Magnet (Inner Space)

Brent

wembley.innerspace.org/happiness-magnet

Central Gurdwara

Kensington and Chelsea centralgurdwara.org.uk

Central London Humanists

Camden

centrallondonhumanists.org.uk

Multi-faith community response to litter and fly tipping

Croydon North

holysaviourcroydon.co.uk/rubbish-crisischurch-and-community-working-together

Elays Network

Wandsworth elaysnetwork.com

Faiths Together in Croydon

Croydon

faithstogetherincroydon.org.uk

Feast!

Camden

feastwithus.org.uk

Growbaby Kingston

Kingston upon Thames

kingstonvineyard.co.uk/giveget-fromgrowbaby

Greenwich Islamic Centre Youth Club

Greenwich

gicuk.org/projects-services/youth-club

Inclusion For All

Southwark

inclusionforall.co.uk

Joined Up Thinking

Lewisham

joinedupthinking.uk.com

Just4 Youth Tooting

Wandsworth

j4y.co.uk

London Tigers

Westminster

londontigers.org

MANUK Summer Youth Camp

Southwark manuk.org

Midaye Somali Development Network

Kensington and Chelsea midaye.org.uk

Multifaith Prayer Space on Greenwich Peninsula

Greenwich

prayerspace.org.uk

Mumspace at St Michael & All Angels, Camberwell

Southwark

achurchnearyou.com/camberwell-st-michael-a-a-all-souls-emmanue

Muslim Women Connect

Southwark

muslimwomenconnect.com

OneLight Gathering

Kensington and Chelsea onelightgathering.co.uk

One of My Kind (OOMK)

Newham

rabbitsroadpress.com and oomk.net

Our Place

Hackney

facebook.com/ourplacehackney

Liz Peecock and Meena Hirani (Music classes at

The Bridge Centre)

Harrow

cnwl.nhs.uk/service/the-bridge

The East London Three Faiths Forum

Redbridge eastlondon3faiths.org

The Entrepreneurial Refugee Network (TERN)

Islington

wearetern.org

The Meeting Place

Bexley

bvsc.co.uk/contacts/view/323

Revd Patrick Eggleston supporting and connecting Pentecostal churches in Thamesmead

Greenwich

TimePeace App

Hammersmith and Fulham timepeaceapp.org

Whitefoot and Downham Community Food + Project

Lewisham wdcfplus.org.uk

Young Roots Thursday Youth Group

Croydon

youngroots.org.uk/london-1/youthactivities