

# THE LONDON DANGOOR AWARDS 2024

**Celebrating London's Faith & Belief Communities**

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

**The  
Faith  
& Belief  
Forum**



Headline Sponsor



# WELCOME

This is our eighth year and the first as the Dangoor Awards. So, a bit of a different look. A chance to celebrate the longevity of support from David Dangoor CBE DL and the Greater London Lieutenancy's Council on Faith; to underline 800 projects or so awarded and recognised to date; and to remind ourselves of the multitude of positive stories that give us hope for London's diverse faith and belief communities during what are tough days for many.

Although London as a whole is the most ethnically diverse region of the UK, the extent of this and faith and belief diversity across London boroughs varies significantly. Furthermore, diversity (faith, race or other) is not a guarantee of inclusion. But these two drivers of social progress are nevertheless intertwined. London's diversity can be a source of conflict and division. But it equally provides a deep reservoir for empathy, collaboration and inclusion.

Interestingly, when asked to describe London in a word, as part of a YouGov survey commissioned by the Mile End Institute at Queen Mary University earlier this year, 38% chose 'diverse.' Diversity of population and culture is high on the list of reasons for Londoners choosing to stay in the capital despite rising costs, persistent crime particularly in the most deprived boroughs, and declining NHS and other public sector health services. For many Londoners, diversity is chosen

as something to be celebrated and valued. The motivation to translate this into inclusive and just coexistence is clear.

Everyone gathered to mark these awards are testament to this. The work of those awarded and recognised points to the innovative and productive choices taken by Londoners working to build a better future. These awards are not merely about accommodating 'the other' but about elevating everyone by recognizing the value of each other's unique contributions. The rich diversity displayed here is celebrated for collective growth.

Many congratulations then to all those who have been awarded and recognised this year. The quality and diversity of community work being delivered by faith-based organisations is truly amazing. Thank you also to our sponsors and to everyone who has come to applaud those who continue to apply the values and principles of their different faiths and beliefs to make London a great place for everyone to live and work.

**Phil Champain**  
Director of the Faith & Belief Forum



# MESSAGES OF SUPPORT

I wish to extend a very warm welcome to everyone on the occasion of the 8th annual celebration of faith and belief communities in London.

As the Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London, I have the honour of serving as His Majesty The King's personal representative in our capital. In this role, I am entrusted with the important duty of upholding the dignity of the Crown. Alongside me are over 100 dedicated Deputy Lieutenants recognisable by the letters 'DL' after their names.

All of us serve in a voluntary capacity seeking out opportunities to build bridges for a fairer London. Simply put, we foster connections between individuals, communities, and organisations with the goal of helping to enhance Londoners' sense of belonging, and promoting greater social inclusion across our great city.

London's vibrant, multicultural landscape is enriched by its many faith and belief communities, each contributing to the city's rich tapestry of traditions and values. People of faith work endlessly, and very often without recognition, to create more cohesive, compassionate communities.

This year, we are especially delighted to announce the Awards' new name: The Dangoor London Awards, after my good friend, David who, as a Deputy Lieutenants has played a pivotal role in the promotion of interfaith relationships in Greater London.

The Dangoor London Awards shine a well-deserved light on the impactful work of these dedicated men and women. Through these awards, we aim to celebrate the achievements of those whose work often goes unseen but whose contributions are indispensable to our city.

Finally, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all who are here today, as well as to those working behind the scenes.

**Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE**  
His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant  
of Greater London



# MESSAGES OF SUPPORT

London stands as one of the world's most culturally vibrant cities. Within its bustling streets and diverse neighbourhoods, it hosts countless communities representing virtually every corner of the globe. For many of these communities, faith or belief serves as a cornerstone of their identity, embodying shared values and universal principles that transcend cultural differences. These principles—such as compassion, respect, and integrity—form common ground on which people of different faiths and beliefs stand, weaving a shared thread through the tapestry of London's society.

The last year has been challenging for our faith and belief communities. With domestic racial tensions and international conflicts playing out on our streets and in our schools, people of faith have been disproportionately affected. Yet, within this challenging context, faith and belief communities continue their hard work to make positive changes in society.

This awards ceremony gives us the chance to celebrate their dedication and resilience, particularly during these challenging times. Through their selflessness and commitment, they highlight the transformative power of community, demonstrating how grassroots efforts can address real needs, bring people together, and foster a spirit of unity and support. It's a celebration not only of their achievements but also of the collective strength that community

groups bring to our society, serving as a reminder that even the smallest actions can create ripples of positive change.

To the groups attending tonight, I hope you find inspiration in one another and continue building connections. I believe that collaboration will drive meaningful change. Through these awards, you also have opportunities to advance your work—whether by receiving a grant, learning from other groups, or making valuable introductions.

I am very grateful to Sir Ken Olisa, the Lord Lieutenant of Greater London for giving me the opportunity to be involved in the setting up and organising of these annual awards in 2017 as Chair of his Faith Council for the 6 years until my retirement from this role last December. I am honoured to be continuing to sponsor the awards.

**David Dangoor CBE DL DUniv (Open)**



It has been a pleasure for me to once again be Chair of the Judging Panel of this year's newly named London Dangoor Awards. The panel comprised of myself, Dr Sheila Gewolb DL, Bibi Khan MBE DL, Colleen Harris MVO DL, Babulal Sethia DL, Rosi Prescott DL FRSA, Phil Champain and Rebecca Collins.

The judging panel received a staggering 105 nominations by the July deadline. As we do each year, the panel reads through each nomination, and then individually assesses them along three criteria, based on the projects' need, impact and exceptionality. The nominations were also accessed against our eight categories, chosen in partnership with Deputy Lieutenants of Greater London to reflect the challenges faced by some Londoners and marginalised groups.

The judging panel convened in September to carefully review and discuss each nomination. It was truly an inspiring experience to learn about the remarkable work being carried out across London. The nominations were diverse, spanning many of the city's boroughs, and reflected a wide range of faiths and beliefs, all with the common goal of supporting communities and fostering unity.

We are delighted to have been able to agree on 39 projects to be awarded £500 and on a further 49 projects to be recognised for their good work. We have also identified 7 individuals, whom we want to recognise as outstanding individuals for their exceptional work.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to my fellow judges for their dedication and support throughout this process. I also extend my warmest congratulations to all the individuals and projects represented here tonight. Each of you should feel immensely proud of the incredible impact you are making.

**Mrs Bushra Nasir CBE DL**  
Chair of the Judging Panel



# PROGRAMME

Tonight's hosts are Carrie Alderton,  
Head of Programmes at the  
Faith & Belief Forum and  
Rev. Nims Obunge MBE DL,  
CEO, The Peace Alliance.

## Performance

Barnet SACRE Interfaith Choir

## Welcome

Carrie Alderton and  
Rev. Nims Obunge MBE DL

## Keynote Address

Lord Khan, Minister for Faith,  
Communities and Resettlement

## Remarks on Judging

Mrs Bushra Nasir CBE DL,  
Chair of the Judging Panel

## Awards Presentation

Response to the Cost-of-Living Crisis

Environmental Sustainability

Health & Wellbeing

## Success Story

Salaam Peace

## Awards Presentation

Inspiring Youth

Interfaith Relations

Promoting Inclusion

## Success Story

Honouring Grief

## Awards Presentation

Schools & Educational Establishments

Supporting Women

Outstanding Individuals

## Closing Remarks

Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE, His Majesty's  
Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London

Phil Champain,  
Director of the Faith & Belief Forum

## Networking and Refreshments in the Atrium

# RESPONSE TO THE COST-OF- LIVING CRISIS

This category recognises projects that have stepped up in response to the cost-of-living crisis affecting all Londoners. These initiatives have provided essential goods, services, or support to those facing financial hardship, offering much-needed relief and helping communities navigate these challenging times with dignity and resilience.

## **East Greenwich Legal Advice Clinic**

EGLAC provides free legal advice to people in South East London who cannot afford a solicitor. All advice is given by volunteers, some remotely and some from our face-to-face clinic at Christ Church, East Greenwich. We cover a wide range of issues including family, immigration, civil litigation and housing.

Timely legal advice prevents problems from escalating and we aim to reduce the risk of impacts such as homelessness, unmanageable debt and increased mental health difficulties. One client said, “EGLAC has been the one source of reassurance and light in a very challenging time for me and my children”.

### **Greenwich**

[EGLAC.ORG.UK](https://EGLAC.ORG.UK)

## **Ilays**

Ilays is a Feltham-based non-profit organisation dedicated to empowering BAME communities and newcomers in West London by breaking down barriers to inclusion. Our services encompass social, advisory, and advocacy support in areas like job-building, safety, housing, and education. We provide culturally sensitive emotional support through both group and individual counselling, community support, English language courses, arts and crafts, sewing classes, and a youth club.

These resources are offered at no cost to immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and other ethnic minorities, ensuring access to health and wellbeing management, personal consultations, and advocacy services. We're committed to supporting individuals with disabilities, language barriers, mental health challenges, and other health issues to help them achieve a sense of belonging and wellbeing within the community.

### **Hounslow**

[ILAYS.ORG.UK](https://ILAYS.ORG.UK)



Sapphire Employability and Wellbeing Academy

## Lifefterhummus Community Benefit Society

Lifefterhummus is a BME-led Community Benefit Society which provides essential support to families and individuals through their 'Room of Things' initiative. They give access to clothing, household items, stationery and other essentials. They conduct outreach sessions, operate surplus food carts, and plan to reintroduce cooking classes and waste prevention activities. They address food insecurity with collection points and promote community wellbeing through partnerships with local organisations like schools, Camden Council and the GLA.

### Camden

[LIFEFTERHUMMUS.COM](http://LIFEFTERHUMMUS.COM)

## Sapphire Employability and Wellbeing Academy

At Sapphire we are more than an organisation; we are a catalyst for change. Our work transcends age, geographical boundaries, and backgrounds. We instil a message of love and self-worth, offering hope to those who may have felt silenced or marginalised. With over 9 years of experience and a track record of assisting over 10,000 young people and single parents, particularly from minority and disadvantaged backgrounds, we continue to empower individuals to be the best version of themselves.

We believe in helping them gain genuine insights into their aspirations and purposes. We mentor, coach, provide literature, offer entertainment, host events, and conduct workshops, all aimed at creating platforms and pathways for young people worldwide to discover their true calling. Our overarching goal is to inspire individuals to believe in themselves and recognize their full potential.

### Kensington and Chelsea

[SAPPHIRECOMMUNITY.ORG](http://SAPPHIRECOMMUNITY.ORG)

## St Alban South Norwood & Thornton Heath Food Bank

St Alban's Church is in North Croydon. Statistically, it is in the top 10% most deprived parishes in the Church of England, with a mobile population who lack support at times of need. The food bank aims to provide a bag of food to people to ensure they are able to eat that day. Since opening, we have given out 4,500 bags of food at an average of 43 per week, providing more than 11,000 meals to adults and children who otherwise may well not have had anything to eat. We also provide items for babies and second-hand clothing.

We are primarily reliant on our congregation to resource the food bank but the community also supports us through donations from local churches and schools, and personal donations. We can additionally support foodbank guests through a benefits and housing advice hub operated from the church.

### Croydon

[NEIGHBOURLY.COM/](http://NEIGHBOURLY.COM/)

[PROJECT/63340ACEB62A71DBACED6346](http://PROJECT/63340ACEB62A71DBACED6346)





Windmill, St Aldhelm's Church Edmonton

## The Tottenham Food Hub, Gospel Temple Apostolic Church

The Gospel Temple Apostolic Church aims to be a place where the transforming work of Jesus Christ dwells by bringing the good news to the poor through the redistribution of surplus food to those in need. Starting in Ponders End in February 2017 to address the needs of children in deprived circumstances, the Ponders End Food Hub evolved into the Tottenham Food Hub in October 2018 after winning the Local Charity of the Year Award for Sainsbury's Seven Sisters and Sainsbury's Wood Green Local in July 2018. Since then, it has ministered to the needs of the unemployed and homeless people of Tottenham spiritually, emotionally, socially and practically.

### Haringey

[GOSPELTEMPLE.ORG.UK/TOTTENHAM](https://GOSPELTEMPLE.ORG.UK/TOTTENHAM)

## Windmill, St Aldhelm's Church Edmonton

After the Covid pandemic, St Aldhelm's church opened our doors wider than ever before, welcoming everyone, of any faith or none, to our new Windmill projects. Starting with a warm church and a warm welcome, we set up interconnected projects to meet people's most basic needs - food, warmth and friendship.

Our Windmill Foodbank and Warmbank aren't just places to pick up food or get out of the cold; beneficiaries hang out together using the free Wi-Fi, enjoying hot drinks and chatting. Our Windmill Café isn't just a way for young disabled people to improve employability, it's a place where they make friends with older people at our Windmill Stitch and Chat. Our Windmill Edible Garden isn't just about healthy outdoor activity, it's also a source of fresh produce for our Foodbank.

### Enfield

[ALDHELMS.ORG.UK](https://ALDHELMS.ORG.UK)

# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

This category celebrates exceptional projects committed to one of humanity's most urgent challenges—climate change. Projects in this category create a positive and lasting impact on our planet through education, advocacy, and local campaigns that inspire sustainable behaviour and action.



Sustainably Muslim

## Acton Market Reduce and Recycle Hub

The Acton Market Reduce and Recycle Hub is a monthly event. At the hub we encourage people to reduce, recycle and reuse. We show the importance of simple actions such as, donating your clothes and electricals for recycling, mending your clothes, or participating in book swaps. Our volunteers give up their valuable time to share their knowledge and time. The hub runs on the first Saturday of the month from 10am to 3pm alongside the Acton Saturday Market.

Our Reduce and Recycle hub has been running since October 2022 and is managed by Action West London. Acton Market Reduce and Recycle Hub helps residents to foster a more waste-free lifestyle in the W3 community. This has helped to divert waste from landfills and reduce the environmental footprint of the community.

### Ealing

[ACTIONWESTLONDON.ORG.UK](https://ACTIONWESTLONDON.ORG.UK)

## Sustainably Muslim

Sustainably Muslim CIC inspires and empowers Muslims to serve the environment and their communities through events, workshops, volunteering opportunities and the Two Billion Strong project. They have supported over 1500 people and successfully cultivated and maintained partnerships with charities, local councils, and community projects.

Sustainably Muslim CIC not only promotes environmental stewardship, but also fosters inclusivity, engages diverse communities, and leverages faith-based motivation to address pressing environmental challenges.

### Newham

[X @SUSTAINABLYMUS](https://X@SUSTAINABLYMUS)

# HEALTH & WELLBEING

Projects in this category provide specialised services to enhance the health and wellbeing of Londoners. These initiatives play a vital role in reducing social isolation and improving the quality of life for vulnerable individuals across diverse backgrounds. Through compassionate care and support, they help build stronger, more inclusive communities where everyone can thrive.

## Bereavement Care

Bereavement Care is a charity in North West London that trains volunteers in effective and empathic listening, enabling them to support children and adults who have been bereaved. This free service is available to all in the local community regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, status, religious beliefs, culture or ethnic background. The support sessions may be face-to-face, on the phone, or in a video meeting. There are also several bereavement drop-in groups for adults, offering refreshments and an opportunity to meet with a bereavement visitor and receive peer support.

One part-time staff member provides the day-to-day management of the charity, supported by a volunteer Board of Trustees. In addition to the initial bereavement training, the charity also offers ongoing training and an Annual Conference that is open to all. Bereavement Care encourages people to talk about their grief, as this can reduce the risk of more significant mental health issues.

### Harrow

[BEREAVEMENTCAREANDSUPPORT.CO.UK](http://BEREAVEMENTCAREANDSUPPORT.CO.UK)

## NishkamSWAT Healthcare

NishkamSWAT Health Care is a compassionate initiative transforming healthcare access for homeless and vulnerable people in the UK. Staffed by dedicated volunteers, including doctors, nurses, and dentists, this project provides essential services from a mobile unit that travels alongside food distribution efforts. With a mission to bridge healthcare gaps, NishkamSWAT Health Care offers immediate, holistic medical care, mental health support, and dental treatments directly to those in need.

Operating for seven years, the initiative has achieved substantial impact, delivering over 2,500 medical check-ups, hundreds of dental treatments, and vital mental health counselling sessions. Through its mobile outreach, the service fosters dignity, restores trust in healthcare, and improves health outcomes. NishkamSWAT's model of accessible, street-level healthcare exemplifies an innovative and compassionate approach.

### Westminster

[NISHKAMSWAT.ORG](http://NISHKAMSWAT.ORG)

## O YOU WHO BELIEVE, MAN UK and Old Kent Road Mosque

O YOU WHO BELIEVE is an innovative online platform launched by MAN UK and Old Kent Road Mosque in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Created within a week of the lockdown, it aimed to combat social isolation and promote community wellbeing. Since 2020, the platform has hosted over 200 weekly live sessions, featuring experts and leaders discussing topics from health to social issues, reaching both local and international audiences. With its pioneering approach and continuous commitment, O You Who Believe has been a vital source of connection, support, and reliable information for thousands.

### Southwark

[MANUK.ORG](http://MANUK.ORG)

## SEEN

SEEN has been running for 25 years, supporting those facing the trauma of unplanned pregnancy or pregnancy loss with a free, unbiased, confidential listening service. We also deliver relationship education in schools and women's prisons. We have supported over 17,000 individuals to date. We are the only centre offering non-directive support across Kingston, Richmond and Hounslow boroughs. The service is predominantly delivered by trained volunteers from the community.

There is a huge demand for this service: 45% of pregnancies and 1/3 of births are unplanned (England), 1 in 3 women will have an abortion by the age of 45 (UK), 1 in 4 pregnancies end in miscarriage (UK), 2,638 stillbirths were recorded in 2020 (UK). We seek to empower individuals to work through their situation by providing them with emotional and practical support and information. The service has proven valuable to people of all genders, ages, faiths and cultures.

### Richmond upon Thames

[SEEN.CHARITY](http://SEEN.CHARITY)



## Sparkle Intergenerational Community Centres

Sparkle was launched in June 2022 and we now have three intergenerational community centres across Wandsworth. Our mission is to 'spark' intergenerational relationships for mutual benefit, and in so doing create light and joy. We currently have 95 older people registered with us and have worked with 145 primary-age and 67 nursery children. Our sessions are varied and include singing, reading, crafts, gardening, games, guest speakers and performances. In addition to the intergenerational sessions, we also offer a seated exercise class, a warm nutritious lunch and an optional church service specially designed for older people.

Intergenerational practice is a win-win for both younger and older people. There are obvious benefits for the older people, from tackling loneliness to improving health and wellbeing, but also big benefits for the young people too, in terms of building confidence and empathy, developing communication skills and even reducing ageism.

### Wandsworth

[X @SPARKLESMWC](https://twitter.com/SPARKLESMWC)



## Split Banana

Split Banana is a social enterprise that delivers relevant and inclusive relationship, sex and health education (RSHE) to young people. We do this in three ways: through delivering workshops, training educators and consulting with schools and organisations to ensure that they are providing meaningful RSHE to all of their young people. Since founding in 2019, we've worked with 36,000 young people and trained over 1000 educators.

We are currently expanding our work to co-design high-quality RSHE for disabled young people. We believe that everyone has the right to an RSHE that reflects themselves and the society they live in, so that they have the best chance of building healthy relationships with their minds, their bodies and each other.

### London Wide

[SPLITBANANA.CO.UK](https://splitbanana.co.uk)

## The Mulberry Centre

The Mulberry Centre is an independent charity and award-winning cancer support centre based at West Middlesex University Hospital in West London. Our mission is to improve the lives of anyone affected by cancer, whether they are patients, family members, friends, carers, or those who are bereaved. We offer a range of free services, including counselling, complementary therapies, wellbeing classes, workshops, and creative activities, all designed with a holistic approach tailored to each person's needs. Our services are available both at our welcoming centre and online, providing a place of respite and belonging.

We are deeply grateful for the incredible support from our community, without which we couldn't continue our vital work. Whether through donations, fundraising challenges, or support from local businesses and grants, we are thankful to everyone who makes it possible for us to keep offering our services and help those affected by cancer.

### Hounslow

[THEMULBERRYCENTRE.CO.UK](https://themulberrycentre.co.uk)

## Vadil Seva Kendra (Elderly Welfare Centre), BAPS

BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS) – headquartered in the UK at the iconic Neasden Temple in Brent, London – has been running a Vadil Seva Kendra (Elderly Welfare Centre) for more than 8 years, with the objective of providing over-65s with a comprehensive programme of services to alleviate isolation, improve physical health and mental well-being, and provide hope and joy.

Around 80 volunteers serve more than 500 elderly residents in Brent and Croydon, ensuring that the participants can lead happy, healthy, and dignified lives. Inspired by the life and teachings of His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj, the centre is driven by the vision that no elderly person is a burden, but a blessing. Each one is served with love, respect, and honour. As one elderly woman shared, “VSK’ is the highlight of my week! I don’t know how I’d cope without it.”

### Brent

[ONDONMANDIR.BAPS.ORG](https://ondonmandir.baps.org)

# INSPIRING YOUTH

Projects in this category foster leadership, community participation, and volunteering, helping young people to engage meaningfully in their local areas while connecting them with opportunities that extend beyond their immediate surroundings. By inspiring the next generation, these projects pave the way for a more inclusive and equitable future.



## Hand in Hand

Hand in Hand (formerly Shabbat Walk) is a registered charity based in north London with two goals: alleviating hardship and inspiring young people to be givers. We envision a society in which every member feels a responsibility to show kindness to those around them, and we believe the seeds of this mindset must be sown at a young age in order to take root.

We create volunteering opportunities that empower young Jewish people to become more responsible and altruistic members of their community. Most of our 850 volunteers are aged 13 to 21, and they

typically spend an hour a week helping local families struggling with extenuating circumstances such as isolation, disability, bereavement, divorce and mental or physical illness. In our latest survey, 85% of 228 respondent volunteers said they felt they had made a difference to those they supported and over 2/3 reported improved self-confidence as a result of volunteering.

### Barnet

[HIH.ORG.UK](https://hih.org.uk)

## Project ImpACT Youth Community Kitchen

Project ImpACT empowers, educates, and engages young people to make an impACT through meaningful volunteering as part of their journey into adulthood. Our innovative programmes enable teens to contribute to the wider community, whilst learning about social responsibility and the charity sector. Teens also develop transferable life skills, boosting confidence, resilience and mental wellbeing.

The Youth Kitchen brings together Jewish teenagers to volunteer and cook nutritious meals including Halal, Kosher and vegan for food banks and homeless shelters. The Youth Kitchen uses mostly surplus food combatting food waste and has so far provided more than 25,000 meals for those in need. Over 5,000 teens have volunteered with ImpACT, giving 45,000 hours to the community and supporting over 40 charities. Project ImpACT creates positive change and shapes the next generation of active young leaders.

### Barnet

[PROJECTIMPACT.ORG.UK](http://PROJECTIMPACT.ORG.UK)



Project ImpACT Youth Community Kitchen

## Salmon Youth Centre

The Salmon Youth Centre has been a cornerstone of support for young people in inner-city London for over a century. Serving around 500 young people weekly, the centre offers 35 diverse sessions, from arts and sports to education and community engagement, helping children aged 6 to 25 transition positively into adulthood. Focused on improving health, preparing for work, and encouraging community involvement, Salmon Youth Centre also prioritises vulnerable groups, including young carers, ex-offenders, and those facing homelessness. With a long-standing history and a commitment to building development and resilience, Salmon Youth Centre plays a crucial role in the community.

### Southwark

[SALMONYOUTHCENTRE.ORG](http://SALMONYOUTHCENTRE.ORG)



## STEM ACADEMY

Since 2003, Znaniye Foundation has championed equal access to opportunities for children from disadvantaged backgrounds, believing every child deserves a fair chance to thrive. We work in the London Borough of Ealing, supporting children, young people, and families from BAME communities facing social and income deprivation. Our programmes aim to break language and social barriers, promote inclusion, and empower youth to grow into confident, responsible adults.

Our latest initiative, the STEM Academy, offers children aged 5-12 a hands-on, free STEM education experience. Launched in

2023, the Academy has engaged over 150 children in activities like circuit-building, astronomy, geology, and engineering, igniting curiosity and building foundational skills. By removing financial barriers, we support the academic and social development of underprivileged youth, inspiring a love for STEM and fostering confidence and collaborative learning for future success.

### Ealing

[ZNANIYEFUNDATION.CO.UK](http://ZNANIYEFUNDATION.CO.UK)

# INTERFAITH RELATIONS

This category honours projects that foster understanding and unity in London's richly diverse neighbourhoods, where people of different faiths and beliefs share common spaces and services. These initiatives build bridges across communities, promoting dialogue, mutual respect, and cooperation to strengthen social harmony.

## City Sikhs

City Sikhs is an award-winning progressive UK-based Sikh charity which strives to build a cohesive and inclusive society in which individuality is respected and diversity is celebrated. Recent projects include professional mentoring, promotion of gender equality, environmental causes, organ donation awareness, and supporting many social projects across the country. City Sikhs' commitment to social justice, equality, and community well-being makes it a shining example of how interfaith collaboration can make a meaningful difference. Their positive impact continues to inspire others, creating a legacy of unity, kindness, and shared humanity.

**Westminster**

[CITYSIKHS.COM](http://CITYSIKHS.COM)

## The Life of a Chickpea, Dialogue Society

The Dialogue Society is a charity established in London in 1999, with the aim of advancing social cohesion by connecting communities, empowering people to engage and contributing to the development of ideas on dialogue and community building.

'The Life of a Chickpea' project aims to enhance social cohesion by weaving together narratives of a chickpea with complex societal models. In our seminar, we use different types of food as analogies to illustrate social models interactively with students.

**Kingston upon Thames**

[DIALOGUESOCIETY.ORG](http://DIALOGUESOCIETY.ORG)

## Middlesex University Inter Faith Network

Middlesex University Inter Faith Network (MDX IFN) is one of six staff networks set up in 2020 as part of the University's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy. The work of MDX IFN acknowledges the importance of faith to overall wellbeing and the contribution that faith-based groups make to the life and work of the university and consequently has been instrumental in providing opportunities to bring together staff, students and the public from diverse backgrounds for mutual learning and dialogue. As the sad and horrific conflict in the Middle East has continued the need for marking events such as The Big Iftar, Faith and Peace Walk, Clean Air Day, Inter Faith Week and Mitzvah Day has become even more significant.

**Barnet**

[MDX.AC.UK](http://MDX.AC.UK)

# PROMOTING INCLUSION

This category celebrates projects that address the complex challenges of exclusion and discrimination faced by Londoners due to their faith or belief, as well as other aspects of their identity. These initiatives work at the intersection of faith, belief, and identity to create inclusive, welcoming spaces where everyone feels valued.



## Citizens of the World Choir

Citizens of the World is the UK's leading refugee choir, a joyful community of people seeking sanctuary and local community in Greenwich, London. Founded in 2017 by Rev Lord Roger Roberts, musical director Becky Dell, and volunteers and former residents of refugee camps, this 60-strong choir of refugees and their allies now represents over 30 nations, advocating for understanding, dignity and kindness through the transformative impact of music and song.

The choir aims to break down barriers, reduce prejudice and increase well-being through social connection, singing

instruction, and public performances. As seen on Channel 4's The Great British Bake Off Christmas Special 2023, BAFTA award-winning Platinum Party at the Palace for Her Majesty's Jubilee 2022, and the Pyramid Stage at Glastonbury Festival, where the choir performed with rock band Elbow. Other notable performances include BBC TV Sunday Morning and BBC Radio, the Barbican Theatre, the Royal Opera House and Shakespeare's Globe.

### Greenwich

[CITIZENSOFTHEWORLDCHOIR.ORG](https://CITIZENSOFTHEWORLDCHOIR.ORG)

## Copleston Church and Community Centre

Copleston is a historic, Peckham-based building that has served local communities for more than a hundred years as a church and community centre. Copleston is an inclusive church, with opportunities, including and beyond worship, for the congregation to contribute to, and benefit from, community life. The church hosts numerous activities and events throughout the year, including a regular book group and coffee morning. It also supports people who are homeless through the Robes winter night shelter.

At Copleston we celebrate the fact that members of our community are all different, all equal and all welcome. Our free and affordable centre activities reflect the diversity of a fast-changing community - from our community cafe, food-growing and cookery classes, to counselling and art therapy. We are particularly proud of the work that the church and centre achieve together day-to-day, but also on joint community events such as peace gatherings, LGBTQ+ history month, and harvest gatherings.

### Southwark

[COPLESTONCENTRE.ORG.UK](http://COPLESTONCENTRE.ORG.UK)

## Hounslow PHAB

Hounslow Phab is a youth group that is open to all young people ages 15+ with and without disabilities. Hounslow Phab inspires and supports disabled and nondisabled young people to make more of life together, breaking down community barriers, reducing social isolation, and creating opportunities for all involved to enjoy the same activities and challenges side-by-side.

To create inclusive opportunities for young adults of all abilities to come together through social, leisure and sports activities, promoting fun, friendship, life skills and independence. We run a youth club from Hounslow Youth Centre based in the central area of Hounslow. It is accessible by road, bus and tube. The centre is fully accessible with ramp access to the building and is all on one level with disabled facilities. Our centre and club is a safe space for young people regardless of background abilities or gender.

### Hounslow

[HOUNSLOWPHAB.CO.UK](http://HOUNSLOWPHAB.CO.UK)



## Affinity Community Groups, Jamyang Buddhist Centre

Jamyang Buddhist Centre, located at the vibrant crossroad of Lambeth and Southwark, fosters inclusivity by welcoming people from all walks of life into Buddhist practice. Guided by the words of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, “The purpose of all the major religious traditions is not to construct big temples on the outside, but to create temples of goodness and compassion inside, in our hearts.” Jamyang launched two affinity groups in 2022: the Rainbow Sangha, supporting LGBTQ+ individuals, and the Black Buddhist Sangha. These groups

provide safe, affirming spaces where members can explore Buddhism in ways that honour their unique identities. Over time, these efforts have inspired organization-wide commitments to equity, diversity, and inclusion, helping to transform Jamyang into a compassionate, welcoming community. These inclusivity practices serve as a model, promoting belonging, diversity, and shared growth.

### Lambeth

[JAMYANG.CO.UK/EQUALITY-DIVERSITY-INCLUSION](http://JAMYANG.CO.UK/EQUALITY-DIVERSITY-INCLUSION)

## King's Inter Faith & Belief Network

The Faith & Belief Network has been instrumental in fostering inclusivity and collaboration within King's College Hospital and the local community in Lambeth and Southwark. Through shared experiences and mutual support, we have been able to amplify the voices of our members and contribute to a more inclusive work environment.

From organising events that celebrate cultural diversity to providing a safe space for dialogue and understanding, our network is making a positive impact that extends beyond our immediate circles. We believe that faith and belief are fundamental parts of our identities and that it is important to be able to share these aspects of ourselves. By showcasing the power of our collective efforts, we hope to inspire others and demonstrate the importance of Faith & Belief in driving a positive change at King's and beyond.

### Lambeth

[KCH.NHS.UK/ABOUT/EQUALITY-DIVERSITY-AND-INCLUSION](https://www.kch.nhs.uk/about/equality-diversity-and-inclusion)

## Naz and Matt Foundation

Naz and Matt Foundation are a small front-line charity that tackles homophobia, triggered by religion or culture, to help conservative parents accept their LGBTQI+ children. They work to reduce LGBTQI+ suicide ideation, address the early stages of homelessness, and support victims and survivors of religious homophobia, honour-based abuse, forced marriage and conversion practices.

Their core focus is building bridges of understanding within families where religion is affecting a parent's ability to accept their LGBTQI+ child. They host Rainbow Chai, a friendly and welcoming monthly parent-led support group for parents of South Asian heritage who have LGBTQI+ children. Every year on the 30th July, they organise Out and Proud Parents Day, a global event celebrating proud parents who have accepted their LGBTQI+ children. The charity was set up in 2014 following the sad loss of Matt's fiancé and soulmate, Naz, who took his own life two days after his deeply religious family confronted him about his sexuality.

### Camden

[NAZANDMATTFoundation.ORG](https://www.nazandmattfoundation.org)



## The Surgical Scarf Project

The Surgical Scarf Project is a national campaign in partnership with the Royal College of Surgeons of England to make surgery more inclusive for Muslim women and those from other faith and cultural backgrounds, one hospital trust at a time! The campaign raises awareness about the recent changes in NHS England's uniform and workwear policy, specifically the acceptance of hijab (headscarf) and other headwear in surgical theatres.

Since 2022, we have delivered workshops and helped change policy across 8 hospital trusts and 4 university institutions. The long-term goal is for all hospitals in London, and hopefully the entire UK, to update their dress code policy in line with national guidance so dress code in theatre is a non-issue. Ultimately, we want to empower the next generation of Muslim medical students and junior doctors to pursue surgical careers without compromising their faith or values.

### Kingston upon Thames

[X @SURGICALSCARF](https://twitter.com/SURGICALSCARF)

## West London Queer Project

The West London Queer Project (WLQP) is a non-profit Community Interest Company (CIC) driven by the desire to connect, support and give voice to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and other sexual and gender identifying (LGBTQ+) people in West London. Our organisation aims to improve the lives of LGBTQ+ people in West London and beyond. We offer fun events and a safe, supportive environment to uplift, empower and connect. We also offer advocacy, awareness-raising, and changemaking activities amongst local policy makers.

### Hounslow

[WLQP.ORG](https://www.wlqp.org)

# SCHOOLS & EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS

This category highlights the importance of developing young people's leadership and character within educational settings, including schools and Alternative Provision Units. They empower young individuals by cultivating leadership skills, tolerance, and education around faith, belief, and inclusion, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive in a supportive environment.



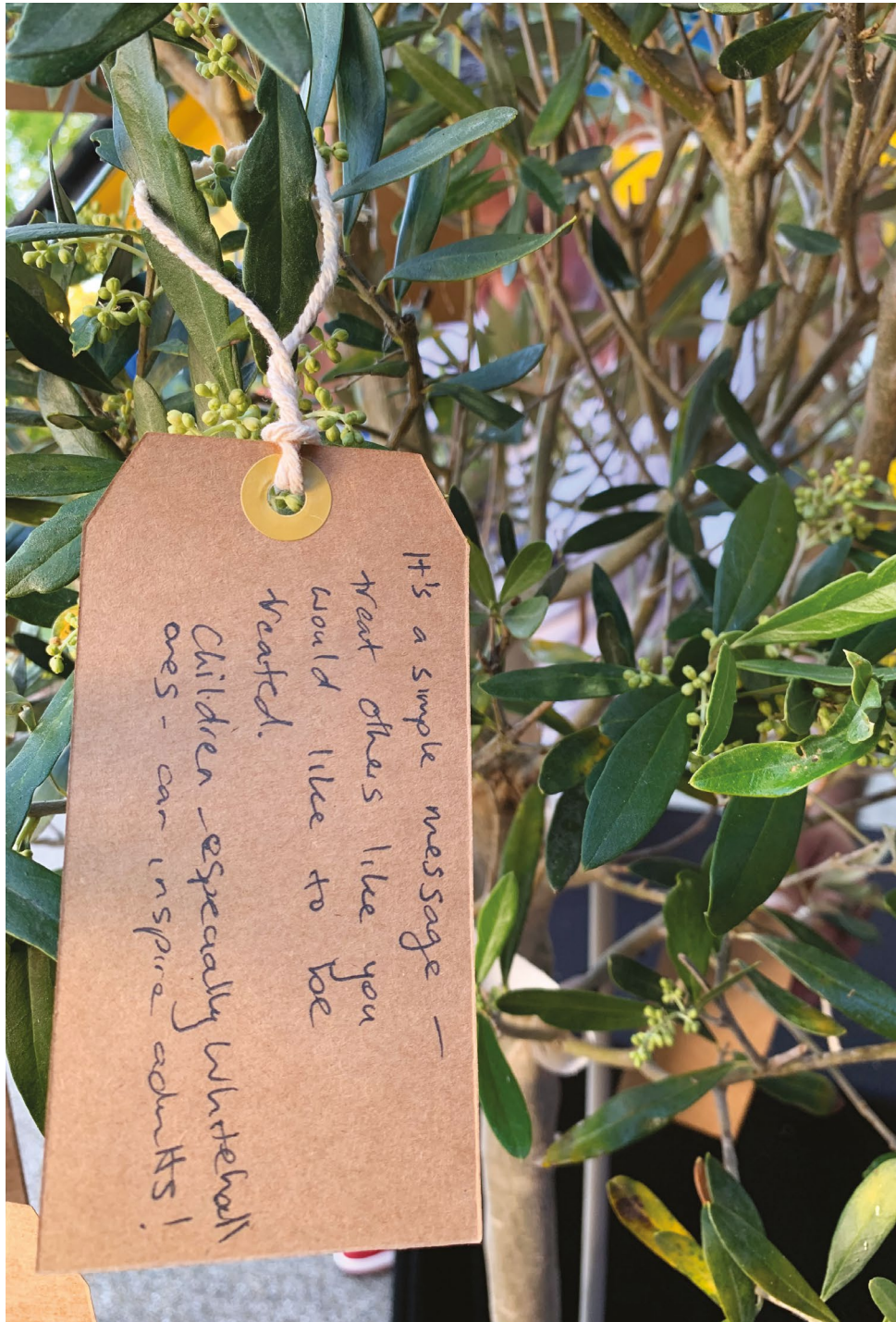
## Student RE Matters Newham

Running for over 20 years in Newham, Student RE Matters provides an interfaith opportunity for secondary school pupils to come together and work on an area of interest. A student executive, working alongside the borough's Religious Education (RE) team leads the group. The group takes a participatory action approach to everything it does, ensuring that our annual projects are student-led. Students report back to Newham SACRE, ensuring that SACRE has the opportunity to hear from young people and what matters to them in RE.

Meetings, which happen each half term, provide the students from a wide range of schools (public and private, those with a religious character and those with none) the opportunity to work collaboratively producing resources for use in their RE lessons, as well as in schools across Newham and nationally. It seeks to build up understanding of difference and diversity.

### Newham

[REMATTERS.CO.UK](http://REMATTERS.CO.UK)



## Whitehall Primary School

Whitehall is a two form entry primary school, with a deaf provision, in Waltham Forest. We have worked hard over the last 5 years to build and develop our work within the community and our annual exhibition focuses on, and amplifies, the vision we have and the hope and dreams our children share with us.

Our exhibition is led by the children as they share with the community the work they have undertaken, within school and through the rich curriculum we offer, to be people who place justice at the heart of what it means to live and understand the human condition. Our exhibition is a celebration of the imaginings that all brave people had to make the world that little bit better for themselves and all of us.

### Waltham Forest

[WHITEHALLPRIMARY.COM](http://WHITEHALLPRIMARY.COM)

## Zubeda Welcome

Zubeda Welcome is a registered non-profit charity with a niche focus on helping vulnerable UK refugees and asylum seeker's children retain their faith during difficult times. The purpose of Zubeda Welcome is to support refugees in the UK, with a niche focus on providing access to high-quality Islamic education for vulnerable refugee and asylum seeker children. The charity aims to preserve their faith and cultural identity, empower their spiritual and emotional well-being, and facilitate successful integration into British life.

The main activities carried out by Zubeda Welcome for public benefit include identifying eligible refugee/asylum children and sponsoring them to attend local Madrasas for faith-based education.

By providing access to education and support, Zubeda Welcome aims to positively impact the lives of sponsored children and their families. We have so far supported over 500 children and hope to double the figures by next year.

### Haringey

[ZUBEDAWELCOME.ORG](http://ZUBEDAWELCOME.ORG)



# SUPPORTING WOMEN

This category celebrates the extraordinary contributions of women from all walks of life to their communities and the city at large, often without the recognition they deserve. These initiatives empower women to effect change in their communities by providing education, advocacy, friendship, and a diverse range of support services.



## Faiths Women Community UK

Faiths Women Community UK (FWCUK) is honoured to be recognised for empowering women and impacting hundreds of lives across Southwark. Our initiatives tackle underrepresentation and resource gaps, creating safe, inclusive spaces where women feel heard and supported. In collaboration with the GSTT Trust, our Vital 5 health checks reach women in churches and mosques, enhancing health awareness and fostering community connections. We provide cancer prevention awareness, mental health workshops, sewing classes, and fitness sessions.

Our mental health workshops equip women with tools for resilience, emotional

wellbeing, and open dialogue to reduce stigma. Partnering with the MET Police, we create safe spaces through outreach events, actively campaigning against Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and domestic violence. In response to the cost-of-living crisis, our food bank distribution supports families in need. The Sewing Academy has empowered over 395 women, giving them skills that inspire confidence, independence, and entrepreneurship.

### Southwark

[FAITHSWOMENCOMMUNITYUK.ORG](https://www.faithswomencommunityuk.org)



## Afghan Refugee Advocacy Project, Hopscotch Women's Centre

Hopscotch launched our Afghan Refugee Advocacy Project in September 2021, in response to the arrival of 2000 Afghan refugees in Camden. These individuals had been evacuated from Afghanistan and moved straight into hotels, and they arrived in a heightened state of trauma. We assembled a diverse team, including a group of advocates with lived experience and who spoke Dari and Pashto.

Our aim was to lead the crisis response as Camden's lead charity partner – centring cultural sensitivity and trauma-informed

practice. As the project developed, we were dynamic in responding to needs. We have provided English lessons, cultural integration support, advocacy, advice, wellbeing support, cooking and creative classes. As families have settled into their new lives in the UK and have moved out of the hotels, we have continued to support them in the community – ensuring that they have the opportunity to thrive.

### Camden

[HOPSCOTCHUK.ORG](https://hopscotchuk.org)

## Ihsan Children's Centre

The Ihsan Children's Centre is a place where mothers, female carers and children aged 0 to 8 can access a range of educational, fun services and activities to support their child's development. Families can access support for issues relating to their child's wellbeing, or issues that adults may face such as isolation, unemployment, anxiety etc.

We deliver a range of services to prevent women from becoming vulnerable and, if they are vulnerable, to ensure they are supported. Services include stay-and-play drop-ins, Ihsan nursery, holiday activities, trips, employment support, courses, food bank and support work with women in refuges. We also provide information, advice, and guidance, along with referrals to the multi-agency team. Additionally, we help women access food banks and charities to support their families.

### Hackney

[NLMCC.ORG.UK/IHSAN-CHILDRENS-CENTRE-NURSERY/IHSANCC](https://nlmcc.org.uk/ihsan-childrens-centre-nursery/ihsancc)

## Messy Play CIC

Messy Play CIC is a community-focused organisation dedicated to supporting young children with Special Educational Needs (SEN). Our work is based in one of the UK's most disadvantaged areas, where many families face challenges such as neurodiversity, financial hardships, and single parenthood. To provide support, we offer free weekly drop-in play sessions for children under five, giving them the opportunity to engage in sensory play that promotes learning and development. These sessions have become increasingly popular, with around 30 children attending each week.

Beyond our regular sessions, we also host seasonal events such as Easter egg hunts, Halloween pumpkin carving, and a Christmas party complete with Santa's grotto. We've organized free Christmas dinners, Eid celebrations, and subsidized day trips. Driven by a passion for giving back, we run Messy Play entirely on a volunteer basis and have proudly supported over 500 families, with numbers continuing to grow.

### Barking and Dagenham

[INSTAGRAM @MESSYPLAYCIC](https://www.instagram.com/messyplaycic)

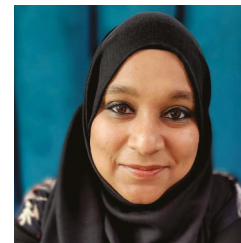
# OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUALS

London is home to many inspirational individuals whose lasting contributions enrich the fabric of our city. Although not a formal award category, this recognition provides an opportunity for judges to highlight those who have truly gone above and beyond. The individuals acknowledged here inspire others through their exemplary acts of public service, embodying values of inclusivity and compassion. Their commitment reflects London's spirit as a welcoming place for people of all faiths and beliefs, serving as a beacon of hope and positivity in our communities.



## **Azra Khatun**

As a Bangladeshi Muslim surgical trainee, Azra Khatun faced challenges wearing her headscarf in theatres. These experiences inspired her to start The Surgical Scarf Project to raise awareness of headwear options in surgery and advocate for updated local dress code policies. Her mission aims to empower female Muslim students and junior doctors to pursue surgical careers.



## **Salma Quaium**

Salma Quaium, office manager for the Muslimah Sports Association, plays a key role in integrating mental well-being with physical activities. Salma has initiated several programmes to support Muslim women in Redbridge, including Positive Minds and Nordic and well-being walks. Her initiatives have greatly inspired community participation and promoting a balanced approach to wellness.



## **Stuart Diamond**

Stuart Diamond is the Chief Executive of Mitzvah Day. Mitzvah Day is a small team of three full-time staff that has grown to be an internationally recognised initiative, growing volunteering networks and charity exposure for nearly 20 years. Stuart has overseen this work, coordinating 55,000 people and 40 countries in its time.



## Rabbi Laura Janner Klausner

Rabbi Laura Janner Klausner is Rabbi at Bromley Reform Synagogue. Before being ordained in 2004, Laura worked in education in Israel, training Jewish youth leaders and Israeli-Palestinian dialogue facilitators. Between 2011 and 2020, she served as Senior Rabbi to Reform Judaism. More recently, she has become a community rabbi and focuses much of her work on interfaith engagement, committed to fostering interfaith relationships for a peaceful future.



## Sharley Newitt

Sharley spearheads the NW5 project, which has dramatically increased its output under her watch, now supporting over 300 children. She has advocated for homeless youth and provided safe spaces for children and young people to train, learn life skills, and have a space to have fun.



## Fatima Qasmi

Fatima Khasimi is a dedicated volunteer interfaith community chaplain and faith leader, providing pastoral, religious, and spiritual care for people of all backgrounds in settings like care homes, hospices, and hospitals. She also works to empower young people, building their confidence and resilience. Fatima is an outstanding leader serving in her community in various ways and is deeply committed to making a positive impact in her community.



## Tahreem Noor

Tahreem Noor is the Head of Operations & Comms at Supporting Humanity. A teacher by profession, Tahreem has a passion for charity work and strong engagement skills, making her an excellent lead in ensuring we are able to connect and focus on both the charity and the audience's needs.



# RECOGNISED PROJECTS

## For services to and for faith and belief communities

**Inner London Football League**  
Tower Hamlets  
iffl.org

**Band for Life Project**  
Tower Hamlets  
band-for-life.com

**Hillingdon Asian Women Group**  
Hillingdon

**NFCB Voluntary Group**  
Barking and Dagenham

**Greenwich Homeless Project**  
Greenwich  
greenwichhomelessproject.org.uk

**Nishkam Healthcare**  
Hounslow  
gnnsj.com

**Ghusl Workshops, Supporting Humanity**  
Redbridge  
supportinghumanity.org/wellbeing-services

**Muslimah Sports Association**  
Redbridge  
muslimahsports.org.uk

**No Frills Social Club**  
Hackney  
Instagram @nofrillssocial

**Creative Soul, Nine Elms Arts Ministry**  
Wandsworth  
nineelmsartsministry.org

**Creative Wellbeing, Oasis Centre Waterloo**  
Lambeth  
oasiswaterloo.org/communityspace

**The Redeemed Assemblies Trust**  
Southwark  
theredeemedassembliesuk.com

**Spring Social Supermarket (Triple S), Spring Community Hub**  
Southwark  
springcommunityhub.org.uk/social-supermarket

**Community Garden, Love North Southwark**  
Southwark  
lovenorthsouthwark.co.uk/

**FeedMe, Jewish Community Council**  
Barnet  
X @jccnorthlondon

**Leytonstone & Wanstead Synagogue**  
Waltham Forest  
lawsynagogue.org

**RMUK Wellbeing CIC**  
Lewisham  
rmukwellbeing.com

**Bayla Perrin, The Paperweight Trust**  
Barnet  
paperweight.org.uk

**Cuppa and Catch Up, Shrimad Rajchandra Love and Care**  
Harrow  
london.srmd.org

**Community Food Hub, Our Lady of Fatima White City Hammersmith and Fulham**  
Hammersmith and Fulham  
ourladyoffatima.org.uk

**JW3**  
Camden  
jw3.org.uk

**The Rotary Club of Lewisham and Penge London 1130**  
Lewisham  
lewishamandpenge.org

**Anusandhandin (Immersion Day) 2024, NHSF**  
Southwark  
nhsf.org.uk

**Junior RE Conferences**  
Barking and Dagenham  
nnadeem@bdcs.org.uk

**Education, Leisure and Wellbeing Health and Applied Psychology Mental Health Awareness For Gaza, Leyton Sixth Form College**  
Waltham Forest  
leyton.ac.uk

**Faith Ambassadors Project, Queen Elizabeth's School**  
Barnet  
qebarnet.co.uk

**Daily Bhajan & Socialising, Brent Indian - Community Centre (BI-CC)**  
Brent  
facebook.com/profile.php?id=61555627880698

**Interfaith Iftars, Faiths Forum for London**  
Camden  
faithsforum.com

**Mitzvah Day**  
Camden  
mitzvahday.org.uk

**Voice of Islam Radio**  
Merton  
voiceofislam.co.uk

**Woolwich Garrison Church Trust**  
Greenwich  
stgeorgeswoolwich.org

**Westminster Churches Net Zero Forum**  
Westminster  
westminster-net-zero-forum.my.canva.site/home

**Greener Spaces for All, Gurseva**  
Hounslow  
gurseva.my.canva.site/#home

**The Truth That Sets Free Ministry**  
Barking and Dagenham  
facebook.com/thetruththatsetsfreeministry

**Junior Leadership Programme, Onside Soccer**  
Sutton  
onsideministries.com

**Youth and Sports Programme, Kings Cross Brunswick Neighbourhood Association**  
Camden  
kcbna.org.uk

**NW5 Project**  
Camden  
nw5project.com

**Peng Patties**  
Hackney  
Instagram @pengpatties

**Parents & Youth: Face to Face, The Truth That Sets Free Ministry**  
Barking and Dagenham  
facebook.com/thetruththatsetsfreeministry

**Party in the Park, St Peter's Church Walworth**  
Southwark  
facebook.com/stpeterswalworth

**Welling Salvation Army**  
Bexley  
salvationarmy.org.uk/welling

**Campaign Against Antisemitism**  
London Wide  
antisemitism.org

**Refugee Kicks, Fulham FC Foundations**  
Croydon  
fulhamfc.com/foundation

**Illumi-lights, Revival Christian Church of Enfield**  
Enfield  
rccenfield.org

**Partnership in Promoting Inclusion between St Mary's Church and Action West London**  
Ealing  
actionwestlondon.org.uk

**My Dream Trip, Women's Association for Networking and Development**  
Kensington and Chelsea  
wanduk.org

**Women in Leadership, St Eth's**  
Hammersmith and Fulham  
stethsfulham.org

**Women's Lounge**  
Bexley  
womens-lounge.info

**Greenwich Street Pastors**  
Greenwich  
streetpastors.org/locations/greenwich

# SUCCESS STORIES



## Salaam Peace

Salaam Peace is a multi-award-winning community engagement program rooted in East and North London. Our mission is simple yet profound: to “Be the Change in the Community we want to see.” Born out of the desire to create unity after the events of London 7/7, Salaam Peace has transformed from a small initiative into the SP Family, a flourishing community of diverse individuals united by a shared vision.

Through education and sport, we create a welcoming environment for people of all backgrounds, including different cultures, faiths, genders, and ages. Our work builds from within, nurturing Community Champions and turning participants into volunteers, volunteers into staff — all the way up to our COO, Azi, a former participant himself.

Receiving the London Faith & Belief Awards 2023 last year affirmed our mission. This award has not only broadened our impact but also strengthened our partnerships. We are truly grateful. Led by Dr. Sabir A Bham, who holds both a degree and an honorary doctorate in Religious Studies, our team was honoured to work alongside Matthew, Sophie and their dedicated team for the awards, and we have continued to work together since then.

As an award-winning, user-led organisation, we continue to provide sports and education programmes that foster community, promote wellbeing, and inspire the next generation.

[SALAAMPEACE.ORG](http://SALAAMPEACE.ORG)

## Honouring Grief (Formally Mindfulness Network for People of Colour)

The Mindfulness Network for People of Colour (MNPC) was one of the winners of the 2023 London Faith & Belief Community Awards, in the Promoting Inclusion category. Since winning the award, we have rebranded to Honouring Grief. We are a not-for-profit organization providing grief counselling, retreats and training in grief support.

So far in 2024 we have successfully run grief events at the International Mindfulness Conference at Bangor University and held an extraordinary standing-room-only Symposium on Belonging at Birkbeck College London. In recognition of our community work, we were invited to Buckingham Palace in the spring earlier this year. Most recently,

we held a grief retreat and ran an 8-week online grief course. 2025 will see us planning further events run by MNPC and hosting events for internationally known psychologists and mindfulness teachers.

We are grateful to the Faith & Belief Forum for our award in 2023 and for the interest it generated in MNPC. We want to acknowledge the work of the Faith & Belief Forum to form a connected society among schools, universities and communities. And we offer our heartfelt congratulations to this year's winners of the awards.

Please register for our newsletter on the website below.

[MNPC.CO.UK](http://MNPC.CO.UK)  
[HONOURINGGRIEF.COM](http://HONOURINGGRIEF.COM)



# CHOIR

## Barnet SACRE Interfaith Choir

The Barnet SACRE Interfaith Choir was formed in 2022 by our musical director, Dr Alan Shaw. After 33 years as a primary school headteacher, Dr Shaw dreamed of forming a choir with pupils from different faith schools and, as a member of the Barnet SACRE Committee, this seemed an ideal 'umbrella' for the choir.

The aims of the interfaith choir are:

- To show members of the choir that they can be proud of and loyal to their own cherished traditions while being respectful to adherents of other faiths who have their own paths to follow
- To show members of the choir that they can work together in a spirit of cooperation to perform music that can be enjoyed by everyone
- To demonstrate to other schools that religiously minded children are normal, talented youngsters who enjoy life and their religious lifestyles
- To perform at civic events and to other audiences as caring, community-minded individuals who wish to contribute to wider society.

This evening, the choir will perform three songs:

Lean on Me (Bill Withers) - We like this song as it celebrates the importance of friendship and of showing support for each other.

We Can All Get Along (Alan Shaw) - This was composed by our own musical director and forms our choir's theme song. It celebrates the fact that all humans are of one race and that "if everyone would treat each other respectfully, what a brilliant world it could be".

Od Yavo Shalom/Salaam (Moshe Ben Ari) - This song for peace was composed in 1997 but is just as relevant today. Our version is performed in Hebrew, Arabic and English, first of all in separate groups and then together in unison. This is to symbolise harmony, both in terms of music and camaraderie.



# SPONSORS

Tonight's event would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors. F&BF would like to thank the following organisations and foundations for their kind donations supporting the projects awarded at tonight's ceremony.

## Dangoor Education

Headline Sponsor for the London Faith & Belief Community Awards.



## Culham St Gabriels

We are an endowed charitable foundation which champions religion and worldviews education. Our vision is for broad-based, critical and reflective religion and worldviews education contributing to a well-informed respectful and open society. We are committed to providing teachers in schools and other educational professionals with the support, connections, and challenges they need. We aim to promote the public perception and understanding of the benefits of high-quality religion and worldviews education in a range of sectors. We provide grant funding, professional development and advocate with policy makers to help us achieve our vision.



## The Morgan Charitable Foundation

Leslie Morgan OBE DL & family are proud to support this wonderful cause.



## Community Union

We're a leading modern trade union and we are here to help you. Community union has spent decades supporting, advising and bringing together people from across the UK. It's our job to protect and support people, so they can focus on the things that matter most. We're striving for a better world of work for everyone, and this is why we are delighted to support The London Faith & Belief Community Awards- to celebrate the fantastic achievements of individuals and organisations who are making a positive change.

We are creating a union that is rooted in communities across the country. Our 'In your community' work is about bringing people together to identify and find solutions to important local issues. We envision a future where you as individuals and organisations shape and organise communities to make positive change. To achieve this, we want you get involved and join hundreds of people who want to make real, lasting change in their communities. Visit our webpage [community-tu.org](http://community-tu.org) to find out more.



# CREDITS

The Dangoor London Awards would not have been possible without the continued support and guidance of the Deputy Lieutenants who sit on His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London's Council on Faith.

We are grateful to Sir Kenneth Olisa OBE, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London and Dr David Dangoor CBE DL, who have supported the awards since their inception in 2017.

We must express particular thanks to Bushra Nasir CBE DL, who has acted as Chair of the Steering Committee and Chair of the Judging Panel from the inception of this event.

Thank you to the Judging Panel: Bushra Nasir CBE DL, Dr Sheila Gewolb DL, Bibi Khan MBE DL, Colleen Harris MVO DL, Babulal Sethia DL, Rosi Prescott DL FRSA, Phil Champain and Rebecca Collins.

Thank you to The Greater London Lieutenancy office for its invaluable support, especially to Mr Joe Baker Esq (Clerk) and Mrs Yvette Atori (Deputy Clerk).

Thank you to the Barnet SACRE Interfaith Choir for your performance tonight.

Thank you to all who nominated projects for the awards. Without you this event would not have been possible.

Thank you to the F&BF staff and volunteers for all your support in making the event a success.

# WHO WE ARE

The Faith & Belief Forum has worked for over 25 years to build good relations between people of all faiths and beliefs, and to create a society where difference is celebrated.

Our vision is a connected and supportive society where people of different faiths, beliefs and cultures have strong, productive and lasting relations. We believe the future belongs to people of all beliefs,

that intolerance has no place in society and that diversity adds value.

We create spaces in schools, universities, workplaces and the wider community where people can engage with questions of belief and identity and meet people different from themselves.

Follow and tag us on social media, we would love to see your photos! Use #LDA24

**[faithbeliefforum.org](https://faithbeliefforum.org)**

-  X (Twitter): @faithbeliefforum
-  Instagram: @faithbeliefforum
-  Facebook: @faithbeliefforum
-  LinkedIn: The Faith & Belief Forum

To find out more about how you can support us, please visit:

**[faithbeliefforum.org/support-us](https://faithbeliefforum.org/support-us)**

**The  
Faith  
& Belief  
Forum**



Headline Sponsor

