**Minutes of the Community CVS Network Meeting**

**Thursday 27th January 2022**

**Attendees:**

Donna Talbot – Community CVS:[donna.talbot@communitycvs.org.uk](mailto:donna.talbot@communitycvs.org.uk)

Karen Marsden – Newground: [karen.marsden@newground.co.uk](mailto:karen.marsden@newground.co.uk)

Kerry Cameron – Rainbow Youth Centre [Cameron.k@rainbowyouthcentre.com](mailto:Cameron.k@rainbowyouthcentre.com)

Sabiha Patel – BwD/LVP: [sabiha.patel@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:sabiha.patel@blackburn.gov.uk)

Syka Quraishi – Community CVS: [syka.quraishi@communitycvs.org.uk](mailto:syka.quraishi@communitycvs.org.uk)

Trevel Henry – Worldly-wise: [Trevel@worldlywise.org.uk](mailto:Trevel@worldlywise.org.uk)

Nancy Kinyanjui -Thomas/Bureau: [iktuman@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:iktuman@yahoo.co.uk)

Alexandra Clayton – Shelter: [Alexandra\_clayton@shelter.org.uk](mailto:Alexandra_clayton@shelter.org.uk)

Beverly Marsden – Lancashire Women: [Beverly.marsden@lancashirewomen.org](mailto:Beverly.marsden@lancashirewomen.org)

Mark wood – Age UK BWD: [mark.wood@ageukbwd.org.uk](mailto:mark.wood@ageukbwd.org.uk)

Pamela Hargreaves – Recovery Homes CIC: [PamelaHargreaves@recoveryhomes.org.uk](mailto:PamelaHargreaves@recoveryhomes.org.uk)

Chris Grimshaw – Recovery Homes CIC:

Rachel Simm – Gamcare: [Rachel.simm@gamcare.org.uk](mailto:Rachel.simm@gamcare.org.uk)

Stephen Norcross – Kairos Housing: [office@blackburn.org](mailto:office@blackburn.org)

Julie Moran – Herbert Parkinson (John Lewis): [Julie.moran@johnlewis.co.uk](mailto:Julie.moran@johnlewis.co.uk)

Lisa Denis – Newground: [Lisa.dennis@newground.co.uk](mailto:Lisa.dennis@newground.co.uk)

Kim Isherwood – Calico Enterprise: [kisherwood@calico.org.uk](mailto:kisherwood@calico.org.uk)

Andrew Kennedy – Calico: [akennedy@acornrecovery.org.uk](mailto:akennedy@acornrecovery.org.uk)

Miffy Clegg – Community CVS : [Miffy.Clegg@communitycvs.org.uk](mailto:Miffy.Clegg@communitycvs.org.uk)

James Lannon – Social Prescribing BwD BC : [james.lannon@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:james.lannon@blackburn.gov.uk)

Jal Iqbal – Bwd Libraries: [jal.iqbal@blackburn.gov.uk](mailto:jal.iqbal@blackburn.gov.uk)

Mehmona Arif – Humraaz: [mehmona@humraaz.org.uk](mailto:mehmona@humraaz.org.uk)

Ruth Halden – Auxilium Housing: [ruth.halden@auxiliumhouisng.org.uk](mailto:ruth.halden@auxiliumhouisng.org.uk)

Samantha Barry – Auxilium Housing : [Samantha.barry@auxiliumhousing.org.uk](mailto:Samantha.barry@auxiliumhousing.org.uk)

Mark Knight – [mark.knoght@auxiliumhouisng.org.uk](mailto:mark.knoght@auxiliumhouisng.org.uk)

Trevel Henry – Worlds Wise CIC: [trevel@worldlywise.org.uk](mailto:trevel@worldlywise.org.uk)

Nancy Kinyanjui – The Bureau: [Iktuman@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Iktuman@yahoo.co.uk)

Gaby Aspinall – Community Buds [communitybuds@gmail.com](mailto:communitybuds@gmail.com)

**Apologies :**

Amanda Fletcher – Nightsafe, Gill Fourie – The Foodbank, Carl Simms – CANW, Clare Rigby – Great Places, Heather Hook – Kooth, Jason Cothliff – The Mall (Blackburn) Julie Hutton – I Cann, Karen Haworth – Brain Health Breakthrough,

**Presentation from Bev from Lancashire Women**

* I’ve been at lancashire Women now for 3 years and I work on a project called “Raising Aspirations”
* We work with clients in Blackburn with Darwen form age 14 plus, we work with men and women
* The Raising Aspirations project is case worker led and we go on a journey with our clients – 1 to 1 support
* We receive referrals – online on the phone and we contact everyone within 48 hours – we do have a waiting list so whilst we are waiting to allocate a case worker we encourage the individual to try other things – walking groups, Mind fit online, link in with projects such as Eyes Wide Open and 180
* When the case worker meets the individual they will assess the needs and work with them – there are no time limits and we believe that working with individuals the longer you have to work with them the better, as you have time to build up a relationship
* Whilst supporting our clients we do link in with other agencies - CVS for volunteering, Shelter for debt etc
* We link in with 180 project and collaborate on a fitness programme for our clients – 180 support clients predominately in addiction but they do offer our clients a we offer a 3-week high intensity fitness programme – classes, group work.

Q: what is the upper age of clients you work with?

A: there is no upper age however we do identify client’s needs and if its something that we do not offer we will refer onto other agencies for example we had a lady over 50 and she really only needed befriending so we referred her to Age UK BWD

Q: how do we refer clients

A: Referral Form – Will email one to Donna – just complete the form – explaining clients needs etc and then we will contact them within 48 hours

<https://lancashirewomen.org/>

**Presentation from Mehmona from Humraaz**

• I have been working for Humraaz for the last 9 years

• We offer 3 parts of support – 1-The Refuge, 2 Support Services and 3 – Professional women’s Group

• The Refuge holds 12 families – mums and children at the refuge we offer coaching not therapy – practical solutions – language, rights etc

• Around 90% of women have come from abroad and many of the women have not been allowed out and have no idea how the world works

• We all understand the cultural barriers that many of the women face

• We help them with their immigration process – women survivors of DV are allowed 3 months to apply to the Home Office for remain to leave – we work with the police etc putting the ladies’ cases forward and ensuring they can stay, we have a 100% success rate.

• Humraaz is also a voice for BME women – we are there to SUPPORT THEM WHEN DEALING with police and social services if necessary

• We do not operate a tick box service, we are all passionate about what we do and we deliver an amazing service

• The WOMEN come to refuge for about 6-12 months and during that time we work with their communication skills ,language skills, social skills – practical things such has a bank account, getting on public transport, budgeting, applying for benefits etc

• We help WOMEN with IT skills

• At the end of their time with us we want the WOMEN to be confident enough to say NO WHERE THEY NEED TO AND CAN

• Our WOMEN do come back – irrelevant of where they are in the country, IN MARCH THIS year our colleague Shamim passed away after 14 years of being part of Humraaz, all the ladies that she had linked in with, got in touch to offer their condolences

• Amongst the Asian community REFUGES DON’T have a good reputation – AS WE UNDERSTAND THIS, WHERE POSSIBLE, we contact parents of our SERVICE USERS – we offer them comfort that their daughter is safe and being looked after

Q: what about the WOMENS’ Spiritual needs?

A: The majority of our ladies are Muslim and we provide a prayer MAT and the QURAN in their rooms, however some of our WOMEN have been Hindu, Sikh and we have learnt about these religions in order to be able to support our SERVICE USERS needs, this sometimes means going as far as Preston so our ladies can prayer and link in with their community

Q: Do you offer talks to WOMENS’ groups about domestic Violence?

A: Yes this is something that we can offer

Q: How do we refer clients?

A: Simply call 01254 695800

Q: who do you take referrals from?

A: The Police, Social Workers, self-referrals and online referrals – we have to publish online how many beds we have spare – we have A LOT more self-referrals SINCE COVID

Q:Once you have worked with the WOMEN do they stay in the area? Are the WOMEN just from Lancashire?

A:No the WOMEN come from anywhere in the country and I would say its 50/50 and THEY choose where they want to stay

<https://humraaz.co.uk/>

**Presentation from Trevel – Worldly Wise CIC**

* I left school at 14 as I wasn’t very academic – I joined the Army and as a result have travelled the world – during the pandemic my friend and I started up Worldly Wise for the kids who aren’t so academic but good at other things
* Worldly Wise is all about equipping and preparing our young people for their future ahead.
* Inspiring them, giving them confidence, knowledge, sometimes courage and all they need to feel ready for their next step.
* Travelling, starting their career and life skills such as finances and mental health awareness are all incorporated into our virtual and in-person courses.
* We work with individuals, schools, colleges, universities and clubs, drawing on the expertise from our bio bank – a team of hand-picked people with skills across many industries, from different countries, working at varying levels of their career, or second career, who have been through the highs and lows of life and can tell our young people that actually, it will be OK in the end.
* They say it’s not what you know, it’s who you know and our bank of experts allows you to access people you may not have had the opportunity to before.
* They’re here to answer questions, share their experiences, hindsight and advice for putting the best foot forward and being worldly wise as they make their way out there.
* We offer courses in the flowing fields:
* Mental health underpins everything in life and knowing from a young age how to nurture your mental health, maintain it, build resilience and coping mechanisms will help you at every stage of life’s ups and downs.
* Whether you’re thinking about travelling and need some help to go or already have your sights set on the adventure, we can help you to gain the confidence to go and get prepared for when you set off.
* Personal and business finance – our experts will help you to understand and navigate the financial world, giving you options and suggestions for how to manage money and keep out of trouble.
* A career in football takes a lot more than being a great player – and our course, delivered by a former pro footballer-turned-coach will reveal what you’ll need to know to navigate your career and manage your reputation.
* We have 80 volunteers who deliver the training
* We link in with schools’ careers programmes – we can offer our training in person or online – depends on the logistics
* We are hoping to keep the service free and hopefully we will secure funds that will enable us to do so
* We are based in Preston and I am new to the area so I am hoping to establish a footprint in the area – we do have another Hub in Middlesbrough – one of our aspirations is to have hubs all around the UK
* We want to link in with disadvantaged children to help them reach their maximum potential

<https://worldlywise.org.uk/>

Festival of Making

SATURDAY 11TH AND SUNDAY 12TH OF JUNE 2022

Anyone who offers art & Crafts as part of their project if you would like a stall in the library during the festival of Making – to display what you do :

Also they will be looking for volunteers on the Day so if you have any clients wanting some experience or you would like to get involved :

Please contact Denise Hayhurst directly

[nee.nee@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nee.nee@hotmail.co.uk)

**Presentation form Steve from Kairos Housing**

* Originally, I worked at ARC as a case worker I would support asylum seekers and refugees with lots of different things – mental health, housing, volunteering etc
* One of the things that shocked me most was that when an asylum seeker fails in their application for remain to leave status – they have no recourse to public funds and they are then open to slavery etc as they are desperate with nothing
* Predominantly single guys – once refused they have 28 days to find somewhere new to live – its heart-breaking saying to someone who is really desperate – that there is nothing I can do for you – many of the guys end up in hostels which is not a great place to be and opens up many problems
* Kairos Housing provides safe accommodation and holistic support to refused asylum seekers and refugees who find themselves homeless within Blackburn with Darwen. We are a Christian organisation who help and support people of all faiths or none.
* Our homes are a place of sanctuary for single adult asylum seekers whose appeal rights are exhausted and have no recourse to public funds (NRPF). We also house a small number of individuals at risk of homelessness who have recently been awarded refugee status. We offer this accommodation on a short-term basis of up to one year in a range of one or two bed (shared), single sex, furnished flats in the centre of Blackburn.
* We house sanctuary seekers who have faced persecution in their home country for reasons of race; religion; nationality; political opinion; or membership of a particular social group. The sanctuary seekers we house are homeless and destitute, with no source of income and no entitlement benefits.
* Kairos Housing provides them with free, safe and secure housing and a small weekly support payment and other support of donations in kind towards essential living supplies.
* They can stay for a couple of months until they have found somewhere to live in preferably social housing

<https://www.kairoshousing.org.uk/>

**Next Meeting**

**Thursday 26th May 2022**

**9:30am – 11:30am**

**The Conference Room, The Boulevard Centre**

**45 Railway Road, Blackburn BB1 1EZ**

**For more info please contact Donna Talbot 01254 583957**

[**Donna.talbot@communitycvs.org.uk**](mailto:Donna.talbot@communitycvs.org.uk)

***Parking – please do NOT park on the car park next to the Community Hub – this is a private carpark and you will be fined***