

Community Mirror

Spring 2007

Leeds: A Changing City By Andrea Tara-Chand, The Leeds Initiative

It fitting that in 2007 as we celebrate the 800th anniversary of the granting of a charter for the City of Leeds that the progress and change that has defined the city is set to continue. With change comes opportunity and this is particularly the case in reference to the new opportunities that are open to BME community groups across the city.

Statistics speak clearly to us: BME communities in Leeds live in some of the most deprived conditions in the city. Academic achievement levels are below the city average, which contributes to the fact that people are less likely to get the jobs that the economic boom of the last fifteen years has brought to the city. Health standards, so often associated with

lower incomes, are also lower than the level city wide.

We recognise the need for a new approach to be made to deal with these problems.

This year public sector and community organisations across the city are working together to support BME communities' groups in their work to make this change.

New arrangements for commissioning for work in the community comes into place, linked in with the structure of



Andrea Tara-Chand

Local Area Agreements designed to be closer and relevant to neighbourhood need.

If you can see where positive change is needed in your community and want to get involved in making this happen then it is very likely that there is someone who can help you make this happen.

The Leeds BME Network can play a big role in making this work. I hope that you will join other people across the city in sharing you experience, ideas, inspiration and making the most of the opportunities that are there for you in our vibrant diverse city.

BME Community Development News

The First Leeds BME Network Annual General Meeting

The first AGM for the Leeds BME Network has been organized in collaboration with Leeds Connecting Communities and Voluntary Action Leeds as a one day event for representatives of BME communities in Leeds to take place on the 19th of April 2007.

The AGM is expected to contribute to the creation of awareness of the Leeds BME Network and encourage BME groups to join hands towards strengthening and expanding partnerships with other relevant agencies and networks around. The keynote speakers will be Caryl Agard, Executive Director of the Social Business Company and Andrea Tara-Chand, Programme Officer for the Narrowing the Gap Executive of the Leeds Initiative.

The Leeds BME Network is open to all BME community and voluntary groups across Leeds and offers a range of links to information, support and advice, as well as providing a forum for participation and influence on those decisions that affect you and your community. If you want to make a difference join us.

If you would like any more information on the Leeds BME Network then email Sophie Price at sophie@leedsconnectingcommunities.org or call 0113 243 8422.

Social Enterprise Made Simple

This one day programme, entitled 'Social Enterprise Made Simple', took place at the Civic Hall on the 19th of December 2006. The programme was organized and hosted by Leeds Connecting Communities. The event was focused on creating awareness of Social Enterprise for BME groups and to enable them to seek support from new Social Enterprise opportunities across the city.

If you are interested in what Social Enterprise could offer your group call Seyoum, Saireen or Carole at Leeds Connecting Communities on 0113 243 8422.

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Leeds Connecting Communities Away Day

The Management Committee and staff team from Leeds Connecting Communities recently got together away from the office!

They travelled the short distance to the Host Media Centre where they spent the day with

Martin McCann, who came along to help them put their wide experience and expertise to good use in setting out their future direction in serving the BME communities of Leeds.

Martin is the CEO for London based charity Red R that helps train staff to work in international humanitarian projects. He brought a wealth of experience in planning to help everyone in Leeds Connecting Communities put together the basics for a strategy that we hope will make our services even better.

By the end of the day we had agreed on our Vision of the Leeds that we intend to work towards: where BME communities, with all

citizens, fully participate in, contribute to and enjoy the richness and prosperity of the city.

We also agreed that our Mission as an organisation is to work in partnership to address issues of inequality and barriers to effective participation experienced by BME communities.

We plan to achieve this by working to support the needs of BME communities' groups, as well as working with local and regional bodies to influence the decisions they make that effect BME communities in the city.

We think that this is some very important work for the city of Leeds and hope that we can help build better lives for people by following this.

But this is not the end! We intend to keep learning from BME communities in Leeds to make sure that can remain relevant and



Funding Tips

Local Network Fund for Children and Young People—England

Closes 31 March 2008. The total fund value is £40,000,000. Most grants will range between £250 and £7,000, for one year's funding only. Two year funding may be awarded to projects in exceptional circumstances. The maximum two year grant is £6,000 each year for two years. Applications are invited under the themes outlined in Every Child Matters (see www.everychildmatters.gov.uk). Criteria include: Only small voluntary groups, community groups or self-help groups may apply; groups

with an annual turnover of more than £100,000 are unlikely to be funded; most of the children and young people benefiting from the project must be facing disadvantage or poverty; the project must focus on children and young people, or on helping parents and families improve children's lives; the upper age limit for children and young people covered by the project is 19 years old, or 25 years old for young people with learning disabilities. Contact the Local network Fund National Call Centre on 0845 113 0161 for an application pack. Leeds Connecting Communities can help you complete the form.

Lists of a few additional funders:

[Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales:](#)

Website: www.lloydstsbfoundation.org.uk

[The Baring Foundation:](#)

Website: www.baringfoundation.org.uk

[Esmee Fairbairn:](#)

Website: www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk

[Lankelly Foundation:](#)

Website: www.lankelly-foundation.org.uk

[Local Network Fund:](#)

Website: www.cypu.gov.uk

Jantela

The New Refugee Agencies Umbrella for Yorkshire and the Humber

Four organisations have set up an umbrella structure called *Jantela* to help improve support to locally based refugee and asylum seeker voluntary sector organisations and to develop the work across Yorkshire and Humberside, enabling agencies to access new funding streams together.

The four organisations are: Bradford Action for Refugees; Leeds Asylum Seeker Support Network; Northern Refugee Centre in South Yorkshire; Refugee and Asylum Seeker Advocacy in Wakefield. Following two successful bids to fund set up and initial running costs of *Jantela*, these agencies

are aiming to have this umbrella in place by the end of June 2007. The umbrella will be a company limited by guarantee and registered as a charity. All member agencies will continue to exist as agencies providing services at a local level.

The word *Jantela* comes from the Amharic word for 'Umbrella.' It will be based in Wakefield with a staff of four. Further specific details as to the role of the Umbrella, its membership and relationship with other organisations will be explored over the next

year. The role of *Jantela* will grow as the full benefits of these collaborations are realised. This could include providing support at a regional level for isolated workers at the local level in fields such as advice, community development, mentoring and befriending. *Jantela* has so far secured funding of £135,000 from the Baring Foundation (£40,000) and Capacity Builders (£95,000). If you work with refugees and asylum seekers and would like to find out more about *Jantela* contact: ian.martin@nrcentre.org.uk or phone 0114 241 2781

What is Leeds BME Network?

The BME Network aims to develop and strengthen the network of BME voluntary and community groups in Leeds. The Network also focuses on enabling and promoting BME representation at all levels in the city. The Network has an active, strong and dedicated steering group comprising of individuals largely from the BME voluntary sector in Leeds. Leeds Connecting Communities is working with the Leeds BME Network to help make you heard! If you would like any more information on the Leeds BME Network then email sophie@leedsconnectingcommunities.org or call 0113 243 8422.

Your Recipe Corner

Country Chicken Curry

Ingredients

1 Chicken
2 tablespoons of vegetable oil
2 tablespoons of ginger –garlic paste
1 cinnamon stick
4 cloves
5 cardamom pods
1/4 teaspoon chilli powder
3 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon cumin
1 dash turmeric
1/2 cup of water
1 can of tomatoes
1 pot of plain yoghurt
1 chopped fried onion

1. Blend the tomatoes, yoghurt and onions until they make a smooth sauce.
2. Heat the oil in a pan. Toss

- the chicken, the ginger/garlic paste and the spices in the pan for about 4-5 minutes.
3. Pour the blended tomatoes, yoghurt and onion on top of the chicken.
 4. Fill the Blender with the water and stir around to catch any sauce that didn't come out. Pour this over the chicken.
 5. Bring the Curry to a boil.
 6. Cover, reduce heat and simmer for about 45 minutes or until chicken pieces start to separate from bones.
 7. Serve with yogurt and either basmati rice or bread.
 8. Enjoy!!

**Community Mirror
welcomes your recipes!**

Community Information Update

Message from
Heather Nelson, the
Chair of Leeds BME
Network



It is my privilege to be the Chair of the Leeds BME Network, working closely with a dedicated steering group comprising individuals from the BME voluntary community and faith sector in Leeds. We want to develop and strengthen the network of BME voluntary and community groups in Leeds.

The Leeds BME Network focuses on enabling and promoting representation for BME groups at all levels in the city. We want to engage more widely with BME groups and establish a position where we can influence local, sub-regional and regional agencies on issues that effect BME voluntary and community groups and their constituents.

Through the network we can provide support through links to training, funding opportunities, linking in with other BME Networks in the region and to give people from the voluntary community groups in the diverse BME communities in Leeds the chance to meet and share experience.

Please join us and get involved!

Available Funds

The First Steps Fund:

Provides grants of £150 - £750 for small projects to community groups with less than £5,000 funding in the previous year; in the Leeds Objective 2 areas: Chapeltown, Scott Hall, Miles Hill and Beckhills, Little London, Hyde Park, Woodhouse, Harehills, Burmantofts, Gipton, Holbeck and Beeston. The First Step Fund is funded by the European Regional Development Fund through Objective 2 and managed by RtC.

The Consultancy Fund:

Organisations can apply for up to £2000 (including VAT if applicable) to pay for consultancy on areas such as business planning, fund-raising strategy, organisational development and feasibility studies.

For further information contact
**RtC, 233-237, Roundhay Road
Leeds, LS8 4HS
Telephone: (0113) 380 5622**

Upcoming Training

6 Steps to developing fundraising skills for voluntary organizations

The **six steps training** is designed to take you through the key stages of planning your groups fundraising and applying for funding in a logical way. If you book onto and attend all of the 6 steps you have the opportunity to work towards a recognized qualification through the Open College Network. If you are not concerned about working towards qualifications and/or if you just want to attend some but not all of the sessions then this is an option too, although preference will be given to those who book onto all six steps. The six steps are:

Step 1, Planning projects,
27 April 2007

Step 2, Budgets for Bids,
2nd May 2007

Step 3, Finding Funders,
25th May 2007

Step 4, How to make a successful funding application,
5th July 2007

Step 5 Measuring Success,
22nd June 2007

Step 6, Developing a funding strategy, 11th July 2007.

Venue: VAL, Huddersfield

Time: All 9.30am to 12.30pm

Cost: £25.00 per person for voluntary and community group; £60.00 per person per sessions for Non-Voluntary and Community groups. For bookings contact Fit4Funding on 01924 239063.

All about Leeds Connecting Communities

Leeds Connecting Communities is a charitable organisation working to support Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups to become more effective and successful and to play a full part in contributing to community life in Leeds. We support BME groups and help them access information on how they can develop and sustain their work. This could be through new funding opportunities, helping improve the way they manage their work or keeping them in touch with changes in the community and voluntary sector. We want to learn from the BME community about what they need and how we can support that.

If you would like to speak to us about how we might be able to support you contact us:-

Saireen Khanum, Development Worker, saireen@leedsconnectingcommunities.org

Seyoum Kassa, Development Worker, seyoum@leedsconnectingcommunities.org

Carol Rawlins, Development Workers, carol@leedsconnectingcommunities.org

We look forward to hearing from you.

Leeds Connecting Communities

Centenary House, 59 North Street, Leeds, LS2 8JS

Phone: 0113 243 8422 Fax: 0113 243 8463

Office hours: Monday to Friday 10 am—5 pm

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