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News for refugee community organisations (RCOs)

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Dear Colleague,

We want this e-newsletter to be as useful as possible to your organisations, so please email us at basis@refugeecouncil.org.uk with any comments or content you would like us to include about your work or any learning that you want to share with other readers.

News

Do not miss the Basis Project London Regional Seminar: A 2012 Road Map to Income Diversification

**28 February 2012, 9.30am-3.30pm
Toynbee Hall, 28 Commercial Street, London E1 6LSJ**

This seminar will explore how refugee community organisations can diversify their income. Attend practical workshops on a range of funding opportunities including corporate in-kind giving, sharing community space, commissioning, grant funding, public fundraising, and social enterprise.

Speakers include:

Paul Marvell - Director of Learning, Institute of Fundraising
Lincoln Lim - Director, Camden Chinese Community Centre
Gaynor Humpreys - Director, London Funders
Diana Nammi - Director, Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation
Flori Libreros - Marketing & Membership Development Manager, Community Matters
John Hume - Chief Executive, People's Health Trust
Noelle Gilbert - Grant Officer, Paul Hamlyn Foundation
Tenika Ah Wen - Director, Level 10 Training & Consulting Ltd
Huda Al Min - Development Manager, Mosaada Centre for Single Women

For more information [click here](#)

To book your place [click here](#) or email liam.cranley@refugeecouncil.org.uk

Videos from recent Basis Project National Conference now available online

The Basis Project team were thrilled with the energy and enthusiasm, particularly from RCO speakers, workshop leads and participants at our national conference on Tuesday 24 January 2012. Around 250 delegates from RCOs, funders and second tier organisations come together to look at practical ways forward for Refugee Community Organisations. If you were not able to attend the conference, you can now hear from some of the speakers by viewing our videos online. [Click here](#) to see what you missed.

Be a tour guide at the V & A museum in London during Refugee Week

As part of Refugee Week (18-24 June 2012), the Victoria & Albert museum is looking to develop tours that are led by refugee speakers (called MyV&A) who select objects in the collection that elicit memories and associations of their experiences as refugees. MyV&A guides select from between 1-10 objects to talk about from 15-45 minutes depending on whether Guides talk about just one aspect of their experience or give a fuller story. Full training is provided for Guides who give public talks during Refugee Week for which they receive payment.

For more information please contact Laura Elliot - Programme Manager for Refugee Week at V&A - to discuss or email L.elliott@vam.ac.uk or call 020 7942 2196.

Young people who walk from Afghanistan to find safety in Europe

An article in the Observer magazine last week documented the horrifying stories of young asylum seekers who have fled Afghanistan and travelled, mainly by foot, to Europe to find a place of safety. Their experiences reflect those of young people who have made it to the UK and visit the Refugee Council's Children's Section for practical and emotional support. The [Observer](#) talked at length to Judith Dennis, Policy Officer at Refugee Council.

Training and resources

Free Maths and English Tuition classes for young people

Mondays, 17.00 – 19.00, starting 27 February 2012
Vestry Hall, London Road, Mitcham, CR4 3UD

Merton and Wandsworth Asylum Welcome are running Maths and English tuition classes for refugee, asylum seeking and recently arrived young people aged 14 - 16 who are in need of support. Places are restricted and allocated to those most in need. The sessions are free to attend but young people must register.

Please contact Stephanie McGreevy for further [information](#) on Stephanie@asylumwelcome.org.uk or 020 8646 6564

Creating Changes - Leicester

Monday 23 April 2012, 9.30am - 4pm
Voluntary Action Leicester, Orange Rooms, 9 Newarke Street, Leicester, LE1 5SN

Creating Changes is a project offering free community development training to a wide range of local support and development organisations, so that they can improve their practice in supporting small groups and networks.

This free one day training course is aimed at community activists and paid and unpaid workers who, within their ongoing roles, support the learning, development and actions of small groups and networks. It is a course for people who are interested in developing their skills, knowledge and understanding of how to use participative

approaches to community action and organising. Workers do not need to be generic Community Development Workers.

For more information call 0116 258 0666 or [click here](#).

Institute of Fundraising training: £20 per session

Various dates from February – March 2012 - London
9:30am-4:30pm

The Institute of Fundraising and the Office for Civil Society are offering a series of face to face training sessions for £20 per session. These fundraising courses are accessible to small charities with a voluntary annual income of £1million or less. The training courses will offer practical insight, tips, techniques and be led by practitioners with extensive experience of working with small charities. [Click here](#) for more information.

Report now available from Basis North East Regional Funding Seminar

Hosted by Investing in People and Culture in Newcastle on 28 October 2011, this funding seminar brought together refugee community organisations (RCOs), funders and second-tier organisations to share their experiences and knowledge in relation to current and future funding opportunities. The day was also an opportunity for RCOs to share their achievements and progress on funding and other areas of their development process. To read the full report [click here](#)

New guidance on access to health care for asylum seekers and refused asylum seekers

The British Medical Association has recently published fresh guidance on access to health care for asylum seekers and refused asylum seekers. It clarifies the position on patient registration and confirms previous guidance about not requesting proof of identity or immigration status, if this is not the normal practice of the Practice for other prospective new patients. There is also an update on entitlements to hospital treatment for these groups that reflect the changes implemented in August 2011.

[Click here](#) to read the guidance

New advice line for undocumented migrants in London

Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI) is delighted to announce the opening of a new advice line for undocumented migrants in London. The advice line launches on Monday 27 February 2012 and will be available for use between 10am and 1pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Fundraising opportunities

Reaching Communities Buildings - Your project could now be eligible

Changes have been made to broaden the eligibility criteria of the Reaching Communities programme. The funding of between £100,000 and £500,000, is targeted at projects that improve or replace existing buildings where a wide range of community activities take place.

The funding will only support buildings or sites based in the most deprived 'Lower Super Output Areas' (LSOAs) in England, using data from the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). They will only pay for a new build project where a sustainable facility does not currently exist. You can apply for an exception if your project is based near an eligible area and primarily serves beneficiaries in that area.

The Big Lottery have produced some examples of what they are looking for at their BIG Learning Zone website. Simply [click here](#) and read the aims and outcomes section of 'Getting Funding and Planning Successful projects'.

People's Postcode Trust - UK

Grants of under and over £2000 (only Registered Charities can apply for £2,000-£10,000) are available to small organisations operating in the areas of: Poverty Prevention, Advance of Health, Community Development, Public Sports, Human Rights, Environmental Protection

Projects can last for up to three months. Funding rounds vary region to region. For example: January and April 2012 (England) North East, North West and Yorkshire / Humberside. The Midlands round will open in early July 2012.

For more information [click here](#).

Next closing date: 24 February 2012

The Henry Smith Charity - Holiday Grants for Children, - UK

The Henry Smith Charity make grants to organisations and charities throughout the UK for initiatives and projects that address social inequality and economic disadvantage. Applications can be made for their Holiday Grants for Children towards holidays or outings within the UK for children aged 13 and under who are from areas of high deprivation, are experiencing disadvantage, or those who have a disability.

Schools, youth groups, not for profit organisations and charities are all eligible to apply. The maximum grant available is £3,000 for any one trip. [Click here](#) for more information.

The Tudor Trust - UK

The Tudor Trust want to help smaller, community - led organisations which work directly with people who are at the margins of society: organisations which support positive changes in people's lives and in their communities. They fund:

- Organisations working directly with people who are at the margins of society
- Focus on building stronger communities by overcoming isolation and fragmentation and encouraging inclusion, connection and integration.
- Organisations which are embedded in and have developed out of their community –whether in a local area or a “community of interest”.
- High levels of user involvement, and an emphasis on self help where this is appropriate.
- Work which addresses complex and multi-stranded problems in unusual or imaginative ways.

Tudor makes grants on a rolling programme and there are no deadlines. [Click here](#) for more information

Events

The Mazloom: theatre production on returns to Afghanistan

22 February 2012 - London

A key partnership of organisations and individuals have been working closely with unaccompanied Afghan minors to develop a theatre production on the subject of deportation to Afghanistan. The scratch production 'Mazloom' is a portrait of an unaccompanied asylum seeking child whose life is being torn apart by the impending prospect of deportation from the UK to a lawless Afghanistan.

A closed performance of the piece will be shown on 22 February 2012 at the Old Vic Tunnels and the partnership would like to invite funders, arts venues, MPs, human rights organisations, producers and others who may be able to assist in the further development of the piece. If you feel you may be able to support the work and would like to attend, please contact: Stephanie@asylumwelcome.org.uk for further information.

Human Rights Watch Film Festival- Tickets on sale now!

Human Rights Watch is one of the world's leading independent organisations dedicated to defending and protecting human rights. Through their Film Festival they bring to life human rights abuses through storytelling in a way that challenges each individual to empathise and demand justice for all people.

[Click here](#) for cinemas and tickets.

Film screening to celebrate International Women's Day - Sutton

8 March 2012, 7.30pm

Room 1, Civic Offices, st Nicholas Way, Sutton, SM1 1EA

The Women's Empowerment Project (TWEP) in conjunction with Sutton Equalities and Diversity Forum is screening *Pray the Devil Back to Hell* followed by a discussion led by Kau Belleh, Chair of TWEP. The film conveys the gripping account of a group of brave and visionary women who demanded peace for Liberia, a nation destroyed by years of civil war.

Tickets: £5 with proceeds going to support the work of TWEP. Call 020 8714 5566 to book.

Job vacancies and volunteer opportunities

Assistant Coordinator - London

15 hours a week post

Refugee Support has a new job vacancy, Assistant Coordinator, Home Learning Project. This is a 15 hour a week post, assisting in running of our successful home learning ESOL project for isolated refugee learners in Greater London.

Applicants must have a recognised ESOL or EFL qualification, and some experience of teaching adult ESOL learners.

Application deadline: 17 February 2012

For further information [click here](#).

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