



# Refugee Women Of Bristol



# Background to RWOB



- Established February 2003
- Refugee women group supported by Refugee Action.
- 5 different countries
- Meet women's needs and create safe space to socialize and sharing information and support



# Aims and objectives



- Education
- Advice and information
- Raising Awareness
- Reduce barriers
- Social networking and integration
- Health and general wellbeing
- Influence decision- making



# Overview to RWOB work



- Drop-in centre
- 1 day a week
- Service user from refugee and asylum seeking background
- Representing 13 different countries
- A wide range of activities- English Classes, fitness session, massage session, sewing, lunch club and workshops, childcare facilities.



# How we support women



- English classes
- Advice and signposting service
- Volunteer and employment programme
- Actively encourage participation of refugee women in volunteering and paid work



# Partnerships



- Bristol NHS
- British Red Cross
- FORWARD
- Bristol City College
- Bristol Police
- Others(womankind,SPAN,  
Employment links and Shelter)



# Funding



- Current funders for 2010 – 2011
- Local government (BCC)
- Local and national grant giving organisations (Hilden Charitable Trust, HCD Memorial Fund and Allen Lane Foundation)

# My background

- My arrival to the UK
- Volunteering
- Paid employment



# Challenges women and families



- Language, childcare, transport
- Poor education/ low skills level
- Unemployment
- Health inequalities



# Challenges for the organisation



- Shift from 3 years to 1 year funding and from Grant to Commissioning
- Increased competition for fund
- Sustainable fund
- Negative stereotypes



# Women's aspirations



- Secure better life for their children.
- Build up confident and self-esteem
- Improve English language levels
- Education/ skills recognition
- Independent income
- Leaders in their communities  
/decision- making



# Appeal to funders



- RCO management of services
- Community Cohesion
- Long-term funding



THANK YOU

