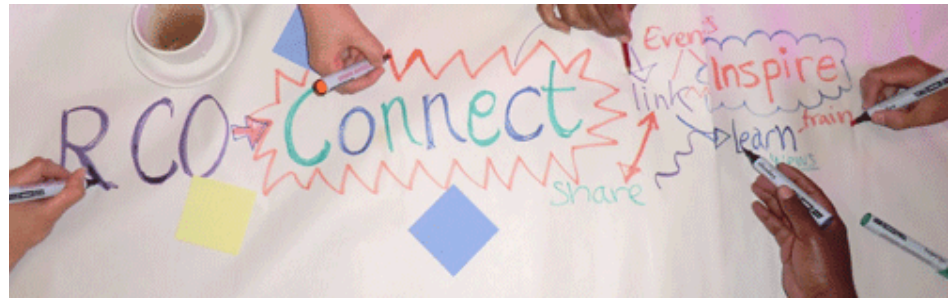


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News for refugee community organisations (RCOs)

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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

250 delegates come together for Basis Project National Conference

The Basis Project conference on 24 January 2012 saw around 250 delegates from RCOs, funders and second tier organisations come together to look at practical ways forward for refugee community organisations. Inspiring RCO leaders and speakers from a range of refugee and other voluntary sector organisations shared their experience and ideas.

You can find out much more in the ['storify' report](#)

Communities secretary to intervene in Nottinghamshire voluntary sector cuts

Thirdsector magazine reported this week that the communities secretary, Eric Pickles has agreed to intervene in the case of Nottinghamshire County Council over its disproportionate funding cuts to the voluntary sector, according to the National Council for Voluntary Organisations.

The Conservative-led council has cut its voluntary sector grants budget for 2011/12 by about 34 per cent, compared with a cut of about 8 per cent in its grant from central government. [Statutory guidance](#) published by the Communities and Local Government department in September said local authorities should not make "disproportionate" funding cuts to the voluntary sector.

Click here to [read more](#).

MPs attack private security guard immigration removals

According to a report by MPs, private security guards employed to forcibly remove people from the UK have used racist language and inappropriate force. The Commons' Home Affairs Committee said the UK Border Agency should challenge unacceptable behaviour by some of its contractors. The report comes 15 months after a deportee died on a flight. Jimmy Mubenga, 46, fell ill and collapsed on a British Airways plane bound for Angola on 12 October 2010.

The MPs did not comment on the case, which is still being investigated by the police, but said that Mr Mubenga's death had triggered their own investigations into the way that the UK Border Agency managed the

deportation of people on flights from the UK.
[Click here](#) to read more.

Training and resources

Free media training for migrants - London

Media training workshops in Journalism, Movie Maker, InDesign, Photojournalism and Podcasting will take place in February and March at various locations in London.

Please contact either Sylvia Sylvia@migrants.org.uk or Sara saraw@migrants.org.uk for further information or to register.

Everyone who registers to attend these events will also need to register with the Migrants Resource Centre.

Free two-day course for refugee community organisations - London

1 & 2 February 2012
1 & 2 October 2012

Charities Evaluation Services (CES) is offering a free two-day course for RCOs on: making your services more effective. This course is essential for RCOs because it will help them to:

- Review their service provision
- plan more strategically
- improve their funding applications
- demonstrate effectiveness

Refreshments and meals provided on each day. To reserve a place on one of the training courses, please call CES on 020 7713 5722 or email training@ces-vol.org.uk

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.

Free ESOL classes and life skills training – London

West London Somaliland Community Inclusion Centre - Hayes

The West London Somaliland is providing free ESOL classes and life skills training in partnership with Promise Training Centre and Barnet College. The training is free for people claiming benefit and for those who are on low income.

For more information call 020 8848 1180 or 0787 0515 334

New Health Outreach Project

Refugee Council has a new Health Outreach project. They aim to reach asylum seekers and refugees living in the community and assist them to navigate the healthcare system. They are planning to run this service from interested refugee community organisations (RCOs).

The worker will undertake comprehensive assessments of clients' physical and psychological well-being, providing information and referrals as appropriate.

Any RCOs wanting more information or interested in this service should contact Christine Hyde Page at christinehyde.page@refugeecouncil.org.uk.

Fundraising opportunities

Tesco Charity Trust (UK)

The Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards Scheme provides one-off donations of between £500 and £4,000 to local projects that support children and their education and welfare, elderly people and adults and children with disabilities.

There are four rounds of funding each year. Please [click here](#) to find out more about their criteria and application deadlines.

People's Postcode Trust - UK

People's Postcode Trust is the grant giving independent charitable trust of People's Postcode Lottery. They distribute funds to small organisations, community groups and registered charities. Funding is available for 3-month projects ranging from £500 up to £10,000 in Scotland and England, and up to £5,000 in Wales.

Applications are now open for both under and over £2,000 in Scotland, England and Wales. For more information [click here](#).

Deadline: 5pm, 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.

Applications can be considered for holidays or outings that have the objective of providing children with a break they would not otherwise have the opportunity to experience. Holidays or outings can be to countryside or city locations, but must be outside the children's immediate locality.

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.

Comic Relief - Common Ground Initiative (UK)

The Common Ground Initiative is co-funded by the Department for International Development and seeks to make a more strategic investment in small and African Diaspora organisations.

This grant programme aims to support small and Diaspora organisations to enable them to implement effective programmes and bring about lasting change in communities in Africa. This programme will be making grants totalling over £20 million over the next three years.

For criteria and details [click here](#).

Events

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. Hear from expert speakers and 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
John Hume, Chief Executive, People's Health Trust
Noelle Gilbert, Grant Officer, Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

For more information [click here](#)

For more information [click here](#)

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

APPG on Refugees seminar - New Challenges in Refugee Integration

15 March 2012 - 5pm
Portcullis House, UK Parliament, London

The sixth seminar in the "New Challenges in Refugee Integration" series, organised by Refugee Council will be an open debate with the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Refugees and will be chaired by Julian Huppert, Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament for Cambridge.

The theme of refugee integration is of critical importance to societies worldwide, not least at this time of policy change and funding cuts to refugee services in the UK.

Admission free - All welcome. Please email to reserve your place RLI@sas.ac.uk

Community Matters Consultancy Roadshow - Leeds

If you work with, or are developing work with children, young people and families, Community Matter's free Consultancy Roadshow can offer you a day of free in-house support. Whether you have hit a stumbling-block, need a critical eye cast over your organisational strategies, or have a specific project you would like to develop they can help. Find out more/book by [clicking here](#).

Job vacancies and volunteer opportunities

Resources and Admin Manager - London

Salary: ££36,050

Asylum Aid is currently recruiting for a Resources and Admin Manager, to manage the core functions of the charity.

Deadline for applications: 10am, Monday 6 February 2012

[Click here](#) for more information.

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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