



'Protecting Children in the Community' Final Report Round 4 training sessions 1st August to 30 April 2012

Background:

The work of Community Partnership Advisor Project as a 'conduit' in channelling the information from the statutory service providers to BME communities and faith organisations has been very successful.

Involving parents and carers from the targeted communities in the child safeguarding training planning and delivery is clearly helping the understanding of challenging cultural harmful traditions but also instilling faith about the roles and responsibilities of the Social Service, Health service providers, Education and Met Police when it comes to issues of child protection.

The innovative way of setting up partnerships at all levels of planning and implementing the training sessions has made the beneficiaries '*own*' the training session itself. Sessions are held at the time and dates that are convenient to the participants and in the location that would suit their needs. Hence, the goal of enabling the beneficiaries to voice their concerns in relation to child protection and of assisting in bringing solutions to their problems.

Delivered training sessions focused on child protection, the role of social care providers on safeguarding children as well as parental skills. It also focused on specific types of child abuse linked to belief, to harmful traditional customs such as spirit possession, Female Genital Mutilation and discipline in faith settings.

The beneficiaries have had little or no contact with child safeguarding service provisions. On the other hand, the majority of community/faith organisations had little knowledge of how to set up child protection system and comply with the legal requirements when dealing with children in distress.

Views of participants are being collated and used to analyse any change of attitude. Challenges are also being monitored for the continuation of the initiative.

In the previous 'Protecting children in the community' training sessions of Rounds 1, 2 and 3 (from Nov. 2008- April 2011) a **total number of 520 participants had been reached with the delivery of 39 sessions to 39 groups and supplementary schools.**

The total budget spent for all 3 Rounds was £18,651 thus illustrating the cost effectiveness of this project.

Aims and objectives

The overall objectives remain as per the previously held rounds. These are as follows:

1. Engage local communities, supplementary schools and faith groups into stronger working relationships and promote the safeguarding of children in all areas of life.
2. To gain trust and acceptance by community members and facilitate partnership between them and statutory service providers on safeguarding children.
3. Support the community to participate in the safeguarding children agenda and improve interaction with service providers.
4. Create true partnership work among statutory, voluntary and targeted groups.

Expected outcomes:

- Explain the role of Family Services and Social Work in safeguarding children.
- Trust and acceptance gained through a process of demystifying the Family Services and Social Work, Met Police, education and health roles within safeguarding children services.
- Know the laws and regulations around child safeguarding and bridge between them and statutory service providers.
- Describe how community groups can help protect children.
- Identify key people in getting support for developing child protection policies and procedures.
- Identify key issues of concern for their own community and start pulling ideas on possible solutions. E.g. FGM, forced marriage, un-ruling teens, substance abuse runaway children.
- Estimated participants for each session are 10-12 community members.

Timescale: 9 months

Number of Participants attending ' Protecting children in the community' Round 4, training sessions

Date Range: 01/08/2011 - 30/04/2012

Grouped By: Gender

Female 	53.29% (89)
Male 	46.71% (78)

Total: 167

Grouped By: Ethnicity

afgani 	1.80% (3)
Algerian 	1.20% (2)
Bangladeshi 	10.18% (17)
Brazilian 	4.79% (8)
British 	0.60% (1)
Colombian 	0.60% (1)
Congolese 	1.20% (2)
Egyptian 	1.20% (2)
English 	3.59% (6)
Eritrean 	3.59% (6)
Ghana	3.59% (6)
Indian 	1.20% (2)
Ivory Coast 	2.99% (5)
Kosova 	4.79% (8)
Kurdish 	5.99% (10)
Lebanon 	1.20% (2)
Nepalese 	0.60% (1)
Nigeria 	0.60% (1)
Pakistani 	3.59% (6)
Palestian 	1.80% (3)
Polish 	1.80% (3)
Russian 	0.60% (1)
Somali	29.34% (49)
South African 	0.60% (1)
Sri-lankan 	1.20% (2)
Sudanese 	9.58% (16)
Yemeni 	1.80% (3)

Total: 167

Grouped By: Referral Care Agent

Al Risaalah Mosque 	10.78%
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	(18)
Bismillahi Academy ■	4.79% (8)
British Albanian Kosovo Council ■	7.19% (12)
East African Society	0.60% (1)
FORWARD	1.20% (2)
FORWARD- Haringey East African Women	0.60% (1)
Ibn Abbas Mosque ■	7.78% (13)
Islington Islamic Centre	1.80% (3)
Ivorian & French Speaking African Women Action Gro ■	4.19% (7)
Jubba Homeschooling ■	8.38% (14)
Kurdish Community Association	5.99% (10)
London family Support ■	7.78% (13)
North West Islamic Cultural Centre	0.60% (1)
Seethrough Theatre Company ■	7.19% (12)
Somali Management & Development Centre ■	6.59% (11)
Somers Town Future ■	7.78% (13)
Southern Sudan Women's Skills Development	2.40% (4)
Southern Sudan Women's Skills Devlopment ■	7.19% (12)
ZAD Supplementary School ■	7.19% (12)

Total: 167

Output

- 167 participants from BME communities trained on child welfare and parental skills.
- 13 community and faith groups actively engaged with local service providers on child safeguarding.
- 4-5 statutory and voluntary organisations contributing to the training sessions and getting access to local BME residents.

Total budget spent in round 4 = £8,019

Exit strategy:

- Develop the project or aspects of the project to enable it to become more sustainable.
- Develop an initiative aiming to measure existing cultural challenges and changes in attitudes on the child safeguarding agenda.
- VAC has an exit strategy for each project and therefore will look at continue to raise funds at the end of the project. This will be in discussion with the Steering Group meeting.
- At the end of the project, information will be available on the VAC website portal with interactive blogs where existing participants who were part of the project can advise new participants about Child Safeguarding and share best practice.

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16th May 2012