

Supporting Integration

A Mentoring and Befriending Conference for organisations working with refugees and recent immigrants to the UK

A Free One-Day Conference

Friday, 4 March 2005

The Congress Centre,
28 Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS

SUPPORTING INTEGRATION

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TUC Congress Centre, London

Does your community support lots of individuals when they arrive in the UK? This conference, organised by the Mentoring & Befriending Foundation and funded jointly by the Active Communities and the Immigration and Naturalisation Directorates of the Home Office, will help you find out more about formalising your mentoring and befriending work with refugees and recent arrivals and provide guidance on actual and possible sources of funding.

It will also provide a forum to discuss good practice and help explore your support needs if you are new to mentoring and befriending.

The conference discussions will contribute to a report setting out the variety of mentoring and befriending opportunities available for immigrants to the UK and provide a framework for developing schemes and supporting best practice.

Who is the conference aimed at?

All organisations that are already working or are new to working with refugees and recent arrivals to the UK and, in particular, Refugee Community Organisations, organisations working to encourage integration into UK society, mainstream organisations, funders, policy makers and other voluntary organisations.

Conference Programme

- 10.00 **Registration and Coffee**
- 10.30 **Welcome and Introduction**
Mary Coussey, Conference Chair
- 10.35 **Opening Address**
Sir Bernard Crick, Chairman of the new Independent Advisory Board on Naturalisation and Integration.
- 10.50 **Keynote**
Fiona Mactaggart MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Race Equality, Community Policy, and Civil Renewal
- 11.10 **Programme Co-ordinator's Perspective**
Amna Mahmoud, Co-ordinator, Brent Refugee Forum
- 11.25 **Real Life Experiences**
Mentors and mentees will talk about their experiences of mentoring and/or befriending.
- 11.45 **Mentoring Practice Workshop**
A number of workshops looking at how mentoring/befriending works, including the key steps involved in setting up a programme, developing best practice and evaluating existing practice.
- 13.00 **Lunch and Networking**
During lunch there will be an opportunity to see some video footage of mentoring relationships in action. Delegates will be asked to complete a questionnaire highlighting the issues involved in developing a programme.
- 14.15 **Funding Issues**
Rodney Reed of Reed Consultancies will provide some useful advice when dealing with potential funding organisations.
- 14.30 **Discussion Workshop: What Works?**
Delegates will be invited to explore, through a number of facilitated workshops, the issues and challenges organisations face in setting up a mentoring or befriending programme and discuss what additional support they may need to help formalise their programmes.
- 15.45 **Plenary Session**
Results of the lunchtime questionnaire will be presented, plus an opportunity to ask the panel questions.
- 16.15 **What Now?**
Mary Coussey, Conference Chair, sums up and looks ahead to the future.

Mentoring & Befriending Practice Workshop Programme

Morning

These workshops are aimed at those who are both new to mentoring as well as those who are using mentoring or befriending, either formally or informally. Based on existing practice, these workshops will provide delegates with advice on the key steps involved in setting up a mentoring/befriending scheme, including the recruitment, selection and training of mentors and how to make the mentoring/befriending relationship work. They will also provide an opportunity to share best practice and examine the importance of monitoring and evaluation.

Afternoon

The purpose of the afternoon workshops is to identify what support works in different settings, and what additional support organisations need to help formalise their mentoring and/or befriending programmes. The workshop discussions will contribute to the development of a paper setting out the variety of mentoring and befriending opportunities available for immigrants and summarising good practice.

Workshop Presenters

The workshops will be presented by representatives from the following organisations who all have experience of setting up and running successful mentoring or befriending programmes:

121 Youth Befriending
Brent Refugee Forum
Chance UK
Refugee Council
Renewal Refugee and Migrant Project (RAMP)
RETAS
Timebank Time Together
Visionaries
Westminster Accommodation and Leaving Care
Women's Refugee Association

About the Mentoring and Befriending Foundation

The Mentoring and Befriending Foundation is the new national strategic body for mentoring and befriending. It aims to encourage more organisations to use mentoring and befriending as part of their support strategies and offers advice and support to those who wish to set up or develop a programme. The Foundation also plays a strategic role in promoting quality and standards in the sector and provides a forum for the exchange of information and good practice.

Terms and conditions

Travel Assistance

There will be some funding available to cover transport costs for those with limited resources, in particular, small voluntary sector organisations. Please indicate if you require assistance by completing the appropriate section on the registration form.

Confirmation

Please note that due to the high level of demand expected, there is no guarantee of a place being reserved. Please apply by 11 February 2005. Following receipt of all registration forms, places will be allocated by ensuring an appropriate geographical spread of organisations in the first instance and then on a first come, first served basis. Written confirmation and joining instructions will be sent out week commencing 14 February 2005. If you have not received this information two weeks before the conference, please contact the Mentoring and Befriending Foundation.

Cancellations

All cancellations must be made in writing to the address stated below no later than 7 days prior to the conference date. Mentoring and Befriending Foundation reserves the right to make changes to the conference programme and/or speakers without prior notice.

Acknowledgements

This conference programme has been put together with the support of the following organisations: Chance UK, Evelyn Oldfield Unit, Refugee Council, RETAS, Renewal Refugee and Migrant Project (RAMP) and Timebank.

active
communities



Home Office

BUILDING A SAFE, JUST
AND TOLERANT SOCIETY

Mentoring+
Befriending
Foundation



First Floor, Charles House,
Albert Street, Eccles
Manchester M30 0PW
Tel: 0161 787 8600
Fax: 0161 787 8100

E-mail: conference@mandbf.org.uk

Web: www.mandbf.org.uk