

GREENWICH BME FORUM – BULLETIN March 2010

Welcome to the March edition of the Greenwich BME Forum e-Bulletin! This monthly bulletin is sent to all community, voluntary and faith organisations in Greenwich whose services and activities target black, Asian, minority ethnic and refugee communities. If you would prefer not to receive this, please let us know by replying to this email.

The highlight of the month:

[BME Forum Action Plan 2010 – details below](#)

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Greenwich BME Forum

- **BME Forum ACTION PLAN 2010**
The BME Forum Steering Committee drafted an Action Plan for 2010. This was based on Forum members identified priorities and suggestions from the 18th Nov meeting. Please see the draft Action Plan attached. All comments and feedback welcome – please send feedback to Jo at GAVS or any committee member **by 31st March**.
- **Greenwich BME Forum meeting: 24th February**
The Forum meeting was very well attended, with excellent speakers and fruitful discussion – thank you to all who came. Employment, training and volunteering for BME communities was the focus with panel members from GLLaB, Job Centre Plus, GCRE and Volunteer Centre Greenwich. See Minutes of the meeting attached.
- **Next BME Forum Meeting: 26th May, 11am-1pm**
The next meeting will **focus on BME Forum members** – an opportunity for all groups to promote their work and to get to know other groups. If you would like to have a 'stall', please contact Jo at GAVS.
- **BME Forum Steering Committee**
Following the Forum meeting on 24th Feb, Advocacy in Greenwich expressed an interest in being represented on the Steering Committee, which the Committee welcomed. If any other organisations are interested, please get in touch with Jo from GAVS or another Committee member for details. The Committee met again on 4th March and began auctioning the Action Plan!

BME Sector News

- [Female Voice in Violence](#) report, by ROTA. The report details the experiences of gang-affected females, the role of the BAME women's and wider third sector in responding to the issue, and the response of statutory policy and decision makers.

Funding

- **The Prince's Trust Community Cash Awards are aimed at young people to design and set up projects on a voluntary basis that will benefit their local community.** To find out more please visit www.princes-trust.org.uk.
- **The Comic Relief / Sport Relief grants for Greenwich will be closing for applications on 2nd April.** The grants are available to support small locally based groups with projects that benefit those who are excluded or disadvantaged. For more information please go to www.capitalcf.org.uk
- **The Small Grants 2010/11 from the Arts & Culture Office, London Borough of Greenwich are available now.** The first application deadline is 26th March. Grants are available up to £4000 for organisations or groups involved in creative projects or activities for the benefit of Greenwich residents. For more information please visit www.greenwich.gov.uk.
- **The BBC Children in Need - Small Grants Programme is open until 15th April.** Financial assistance is available to support projects aimed at helping children in difficult circumstances, for more information please visit www.bbc.co.uk.
- **Greenwich Council has just agreed the draft commissioning framework for its grants budget.** From now until May 2010 the Council intends to consult on its framework and commissioning priorities. This is our time to get involved! GAVS will also be delivering tailored support to groups to help them get 'commission ready', we will be announcing our programme in April.

Training and Events

- **National BME Forums, 15th March:** BTEG are holding an event for all BME Forums. If you are interested in going on behalf of Greenwich BME Forum, please contact Jo. Further information [here](#).
- **Writing That Winning Tender, 23rd – 31st March,** London, provided free by BTEG & LCRN. For more information and to book a place, click [here](#).
- **Invitation to the House of Commons:** How select committees work and how to influence Parliament on equality issues, **30th March**. See invitation attached.

- **Social Enterprise in Health & Social Care – opportunities for BME health & social care providers, 25th March**, Hammersmith. Free, organised by TAHA. See flyer attached for information and booking
- **Hate Crime & Restorative Justice training: 12th April**, London, provided free by ROTA. For more information and to book a place click [here](#).
- **GAVS' training programme**: Is getting booked up very quickly, so book your place now! For a training brochure and booking form, contact GAVS or go to: [GAVS ' Training](#).

BME Forum Members' News and Information

- **Women's Therapy Centre** are providing information, advice, counselling and therapy taster sessions for refugee and asylum-seeking women. For further information, contact info@womenstherapycentre.co.uk or tel 020 7263 7860.
- The **Her Centre** are holding an **International Women's Day event on 12th March**, 10am-12pm. Workshops, massage, henna, lunch & more! See poster attached.
- **Uber-Shy**, a Greenwich-based independent fashion label, is offering the chance for fashion students, and in particular those from BME backgrounds, to gain relevant experience in all areas of the trade such as catwalk shows, production, commercial presentation, distribution etc. If you are interested, please send an email to marie-louise@ubershys.com.
- **PushArts** are looking for Somali dance and singing tutors. See flyer attached. Contact pusharts@yahoo.co.uk.
- **Greenwich BME Forum website page** with meeting minutes and monthly bulletins on GAVS' website www.greenwich-cvs.org.uk.

If you would like to include anything in the April bulletin – events, information, news about your work - please send it to jo.deverson@gavs.biz by 6th April 2010.

Best wishes

Jo

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