

FINAL REPORT
RENEWAL COMMUNITY CHEST
YEAR 2000 - 2007



Exhibition picture from Western Kurdistan Association

Renewal Community Chest Final Report

Introduction:

Renewal Community Chest was set up by Renewal to help Refugee Community Organizations based in six west London boroughs Brent, Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham, Harrow, Hillingdon and Hounslow. Community chest grants allowed refugee community organizations to access wide range of resources that were not normally accessible from other funding sources. Since the start of community chest, the scheme has supported 204 refugee community organizations based in six-west London boroughs. Ealing and Brent boroughs have the highest number of refugee community organizations supporting the needs of refugee population in West London. The breakdown of refugee community organizations supported from renewal community chest per borough: Ealing 59, Brent 53, Hammersmith and Fulham 28, Hillingdon 23, Hounslow 21 and Harrow 20.

Renewal Community Chest Aims and Objectives:

The aim of the Community Chest is to help Refugee Community Organizations to increase their organizational capacity to deliver effective services to refugee communities who live in the six west London boroughs. Monitoring or Routine evaluation refers to ongoing data collection of a programme's activities and outputs. It provides feedback on whether programmes are fulfilling their work or having improved their programme and what they learned from the experience. This report will mainly concentrate on the process and the outcome of the scheme where possible.

Renewal Community Chest operated on a quarterly basis grant scheme so all organizations that received funding under the scheme are required to submit a monitoring report at the end of the project as this enables Renewal to measure the effectiveness of the grants awarded for equipments. Project activities seek to achieve one or more of the following project activities which improve communication links i.e. through information technology, enhance staff and volunteer skills through training & development, improve capacity and skills in fund-raising, helping an organization with start-up costs for office equipments and strengthening organization through business planning to offer support with consultancy, research and community consultation or events etc.

Monitoring and evaluation:

The self-evaluations forms were given to randomly selected six groups from different refugee community organizations for in depth interview as sample for our community chest monitoring. Following were taken from organizations funded from renewal community chest. To check how they are going to maintain their organizations work, which was supported from renewal community chest with capacity building. Some of the organizations interviewed filled self-evaluation forms that clearly indicated they have sustainability plan to continue their organizations activities beyond renewal community chest scheme. They showed in the community chest evaluation forms that they have applied for further funding from different funders to support their organizations activities to deliver services to their communities in a grass-root level as well as continue to build their organizations capacity.

Some of the organizations mentioned self – evaluation forms that they have already applied funding for both short term and long term plan from Brent council ‘Wembley Trust’, Ealing council, Local Network Connexion, London Council previous name ALG, Bridge House Trust, Baron Foundation, Lottery,

To assess the impact community chest had on refugee community organizations and their users. Self-monitoring questionnaire were given to six organizations.

Following reasons were taken into account.

- Community they represent or deliver services
- Area organization based in West London
- The impact community chest had on their organization
- The impact community chest had on their users
- To find out if they have sustainability plan to continue their services beyond renewal community chest that supported them with capacity building of their organizations.

Self-evaluation information collected from six different refugee community organizations:

Organization name	Impact on organization	Impact on users	Sustainability beyond Community Chest
Dituria Albanian Community	Community chest funding has made our organization to improve services we deliver to our community. Also provide Albanian newspaper to our community informing them relevant information with regard to immigration issues, housing, employment, education etc.	Newspaper has played a vital role to the community (Albanian & Kosovan) to keep them informed and understand the services they receive. Also access services available to them	Applied funding from ALG to continue our work beyond Community Chest.
Brent Ladies Football Club Mixed Community	Community chest funding, it increased Club capacity, membership, we become the only multicultural football club that deliver anti-racism projects.	Young people united in one community, for example when we host anti-racism football tournaments everybody are equal according to race, age, religion, gender and parents are happy our project.	Apply funding hillside, genesis housing, Brent council, award for all, BH partnership
Hillingdon Chinese Community	Community chest funding Has improved skills, capacity building and enabled our organization to establish better services to the community	Community chest funding our group, our clients, volunteers and management committee all benefited greatly with the training and development that we done, and grateful to receive	Applied to Hillingdon pct, Scarman trust, Award for all

Afghan Culture and Arts Association	Community chest funding has enabled us to build capacity of our organization; office equipment bought allowed us to deliver better service to our community particularly to Afghan youth. Without renewal community chest help we would not be able to establish our organization capacity and link with other organizations.	Afghan youth come to our office and use computers for networking with others	Applied to Award fro all, Bridge house trust, Baron foundation, local network connexion and APU Partnership
Western Kurdistan Association	Community chest funding with your little money we have achieved a lot because we improved our office environment and capacity to deliver better services to our Kurdish community	It helped our users by conveying important information about social events, research human rights, their rights in the United Kingdom about services they entitle to receive, also give computer training, English classes that help them to understand better.	Applied to Hammersmith council, Lottery.
Tallo Information Centre Somali	Community chest funding has enabled us to train our volunteer members of tallo management committee for them to support and advice to our community members to access	The community were able to obtain advice from training volunteers who support them to overcome their barriers particularly language and mainly access mainstream	Applied to local network fund, Youth opportunities fund and Ealing council (IEG)

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	the mainstream services.	services.	
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One of the refugee community organization supported from renewal community chest has really more than the eye can meet as they had the opportunity to present their organization to the top official to address their Kurdish community issues. Here is a picture of the chairman of Western Kurdistan Dr. Jawad Mella with Prime Minister Tony Blair. This indicates that refugee community has greater abilities and skills to present their work all the way to the top.

British Prime Minister His Excellency Tony Blair welcomes Dr Jawad Mella



Below is all the refugee community organizations funded from renewal community chest since the project commenced from 2000 – 2007. As mentioned above there are 204 organizations funded from renewal community chest as numbers were rounded up because some organizations were funded different rounds for different projects. This is the break down of refugee community organizations supported from renewal community chest

per borough: Ealing 59, Brent 53, Hammersmith and Fulham 28, Hillingdon 23, Hounslow 21 and Harrow 20.

Organization	Organization
Brent	Ealing
African Women's Care	Access for support and development
Al-Zahra Women Centre	Abyssinia Support Foundation
Angolan Youth Foundation	Armenian Youth Network
African Community Support Association	African Aid for Orphans
Ankole Development Association	Appropriate Support and Training
Benedicta Project	Common Community Group
Bosnia Herzegovina Community Advice Centre	Dalmar Newsletter
Brent African Association	Darsan Group
Brent Great Lakes Community	Ealing Somali Welfare and Cultural association
Brent Initiative Community Action	East African Women Support Network
Brent Ladies Football Club	Ealing Community Action
Brent Support Centre	Education and Skills Development Group
Brent Refugee Welfare Association	Excluded Somali Women Support Service
Brent Somali Community Organization	Family Assistance and Support Trust
Brent Women's Centre	Family First
Dayah	Family Foundation Group
Hiiraan Women's Action Aid	Gargaar
Horn of Africa Refugee Association	Gargaar Wayeel
Horn of Africa Youth Group	All Afghan Association
Horn Stars Sports Club	Golden Opportunity Youth Association
Cricklewood Youth Club	Great Lakes Development Network
ICIC	Horn of Africa Disability and Elderly Association
Congalese Development Project	Horn of Africa Advice Centre
Common Community Agency	Kurdistan Women's Union
I Serve	Live and Learn Employment Services
Iska Waran Somali Mental Health Project	London Transport Training Ltd
Kenyan Women Group	Ogaden Community Association
Kulan Organization	Northolt Community Care for Elderly and Families
Kulmis Advisory Services	Ray of Good Hope
Middle East Art	Refugee and Asylum Support
Liibaan Welfare Association	Red Sea Health and Community Care Association
Muslim Youth Helpline	Refugee Custodial Care
Noor Youth Club	Refugee Aid and Development
Oasis Education Alliance	Refugee and Asylum Advice Group
Universal Youths Ltd	Somali Advice Group
Refugee Employment Network Association	Somali Career Development and Media Services

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Refugee Women and Children Welfare Association	Somali Civil Rights Group
Samal Trust	Somali Community Regeneration Project
Shabab Al Mehdi	Somali Youth Sport Association
Somali Adult Education NW London	Somali Drugs Awareness and Prevention Association
Somali Women Group	Somali Family Learning and Regeneration Project
Somali Community Education and Cultural Assoc	Somali Family Support Group
Somali Education and Development Project	Somali Civil Rights Trust
Somali Medical Association	Somali Messenger Project
Somali UK Sports and Cultural Association	Somali Resources Centre
Somali Support Expatriates Support	Somali Refugee Development Group
Tusaale Association	Somali Support Centre
Stonebridge Somali Centre	Somali Teacher Association
Tawakal Refugee Family Association	Somali Women's Community Group
The Greater London Somali Community	Society Afghan Residents in the UK
Phoenix African Development Action	Stars Club
Way Forward Organization	Somali Youth Action
Yemeni Community Association	Somali Youth Association
Hammersmith and Fulham	Somalian People with Disabilities
African Health and Education Service	Somali Daryeel Association
Afghanistan Culture and Arts Association	Swahili Support Network
Arab Women's Group	West London Somali Society
Community Education Forum	Youth and Single Parents Support Network
Eritrean Community in Hammersmith & Fulham	Znaniye The Russian School
Ethiopian Advice and Support Centre	Hillingdon
Fulham Somali Women's Organization	Albanian Speaking Women Group
Harambee Development Network	African Women in Action
HF & KC - RTP	Change For All Network
Iranian Association	East African Community Support
Iraqi Community Association	Eritrean Community Development Initiative
Kosovo/Albanian Community in Hamm & Fulham	Eritrean in Hillingdon and Environs
Kurdish Association	Hillingdon Chinese Community Organization
Mozambican Community - UK	Hillingdon Somali Women's Group
Refugee Development Association	Horn of Africa Youth Association
Refugee Elderly Support Association	International Society for Women and Children in Need
Sahil Housing Association	Kosovo Support Group
Somali Caring and Educational Association	Kulmiye Somali Media
Somali Community Support Centre	Migrant Aid International
Somali Refugee Learning and Support Centre	Refugee Drug and Crime Action
Somalian Integrated Relief Organization	Refugee Into Employment
Somali Women's Support and Development	Refugee Support Service
The Lute School of Music	Sahan Society Centre
The Mandaean Association of UK	Self - Help for Quality Life (SHQL)

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Western Kurdistan Association	Somali Advice and Training Service
Kurdish Association for new generation/Abroad	Somali Community Advice Centre
Young Refugee Rights Project	Somali Education and Cultural Society
Zimbabwe Women's Network Uk	Somali Youth Education and Development
Harrow	Tageero
African Women's Welfare Association	Hounslow
Anglo - African Youth Association	All Nepalese Association in Hounslow
Angolan Civic Communities Alliance	Albanian-Kosovan Macedonia and Gorani Group
Community and Refugee Enlightening	Afghan Resident's Community Organization
East African Welfare and Development Concern	Dituria
Harrow Iranian Community	East African Youth Group
Harrow Somali Women's Action Group	Horn of Africa Human Rights & Rehabilitation Forum
Iwanaaji Harrow & Hillingdon Somali Disabled Assoc	Horn of Africa Somali Women's Organization
Kenyan Society of London (KESOL)	Refugee Advancement and Health Care Promotion
Kuwaiti Community Association	Hounslow African Welfare Association
Okapi Women's Association	Hounslow African Health Project
Persian Senior Citizen Club	Hounslow Asian and African Youth Association
Refugee Youth Development Group	Hounslow Refugee Health Promotion
Russian Immigrants Association	Hounslow Somali Community Newsletter
Somali Cultural Association	Hounslow Somali Association
Southern Sudan Women's Concern	Hounslow Somali Youth Organization
Swahili Cultural Association	Horseed FC Club
Horn Response Project	Hounslow Somali Consortium
Tanganyika Youth Community Association	Kenya Development Programme UK
Harrow Association of Somali Women Voluntary Org	Middle East Christian Minorities Advice Centre
	Migrant Community Housing and Care
	Ramal Health & Social Care Agency
	Refugee Welfare and Development
	Somali Education Advice and Counseling Service
	Somali Mental Health Project
	The Arab Group in Hounslow
	West London RETI
	Ethnic Health and Education Development
	Ethnic Health and Education Development

Current Financial Year:

This financial year we had three rounds or quarters so the funding for the last round was allocated to the forums for the refugee week in June 2006. Consequently this made it one round short and last quarter for January 2007 was cancelled. Twenty-seven organizations applied to community chest grant and the panel awarded 19 organizations for grants and total spending for the year was **£48,478**. Most of the grants applied were for capacity building as the whole reason for community was to support organizations with capacity building of their organizations.

Community Chest Spending Year 2006 - 2007 three rounds or quarters 22, 23, 24.

Organizations	Borough
Round 22	
Horn of Africa Elderly and Disability Assoc	Ealing
Afghan Resident's Community Organization	Hounslow
Abyssinia Support Foundation	Ealing
Ramal Health and Social Care Agency	Hounslow
East African Community Support	Hillingdon
Supporting African Youth Development	Brent
Round 23	
Somali Career Development & Media Service	Ealing
Migrant Community Housing and Care	Hounslow
Ditura	Hounslow
Sahan Society Centre	Hillingdon
Development Support Agency	Harrow
Zimbabwe Women's Network UK	Hounslow
Refugee Advancement and Health Care	Hounslow
Darsan Group	Ealing
Round 24	
Somali Family Support Group	Hillingdon
Kosovan / Albanian Gorani Women Group	Hounslow
Golden Opportunity Youth Association	Ealing
Darsan Group	Ealing
Hounslow Refugee Health Promotion	Hounslow
Community Services Agency	Brent
Brent Ladies Football Club	Brent
Sahan Society Centre	Hillingdon

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Family First	Ealing
African Community Support Association	Brent
Riana Development Foundation Network	Hounslow
Refugee Advancement and Health Care Promotion	Hounslow
Somali Daryeel Association	Ealing

Some of the information are extracted from current financial year monitoring forms are as following; Renewal Community Chest has helped groups with capacity building such as

- Office equipments
- Community consultations events to share and exchange information with service users.
- Interpretation and translations; improve communication with other voluntary groups, volunteers and users via email, letters.
- Produce newspapers in community languages.
- Broadcast relevant news through local radio in their community languages
- Publicity enabled groups to market their services through to the internet, helping users with housing problems, immigrations problems through interpretation and advocacy.
- Trained management committee members of how start up own organization business plan and become registered charity.

Conclusion:

Renewal community chest helped refugee community organizations with capacity building of their organizations. While doing the self-evaluation interviews all the organizations mentioned difficulties they will face without renewal support. They all wished that renewal had continued the work they have undertaken for the last six-year as they the main supporters of refugee community organizations in West London. They also mentioned their refugee community organizations lack the capacity to get bigger funding from the central government. They said they were very grateful to Ealing Primary Trust for all the good work they done on behalf of their organizations. As it was Ealing Primary Trust initiative that brought and allowed them to get the Single generations Budget from the Government to address refugee issues in West London.

Refugee community supported from the community chest grant, some of them lack the capacity to have office premises, some of them operate from their own homes to help their communities to overcome some of the problems they face, some have hot desk space once or twice a week while other have access to full office space. Also most of them rely on volunteers for most of their work, as they do not have full time staff to deliver services. This show the commitment and sacrifices refugee community organizations are making on behalf of their communities irrespective of how hard its to work without proper resources to handle the work and overcome barriers that prevent them to access services and advocacy.

Renewal community chest has helped refugee community organizations to help their communities by supporting them with capacity building. They strongly agreed that the community chest application form and process was very straightforward and easy to understand. This has given them the opportunity to start and develop their organizations capacity and appreciated the training their volunteers done because of the grants they received from renewal community chest to deliver better services for their users and enable them to access services available. Build youth support drop in centers, some organizations developed media communication services for their communities such as Afghan radio, Kurdish radio and Albanian newspaper all these services inform their communities issues relating to their communities and deliver services in their languages.

This shows how renewal community chest made it possible for the refugee community organizations to deliver services to their communities in grass-root level.