

African Community Centre

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1124327



African

Community centre | Canolfan
gymunedol

Working together to break down barriers
Cydweithio i chwalu rhwystrau

2021-22

ANNUAL REPORT

AFRICAN COMMUNITY CENTRE



BOARD MEMBERS:

UZO IWObI

CHAIR TAIWO OKENEYE

VICE CHAIR FUNMI OLANIYAN

JEFFERY NSOFOR

AUGUSTINE EGWEBE

GRACE RUNGUA

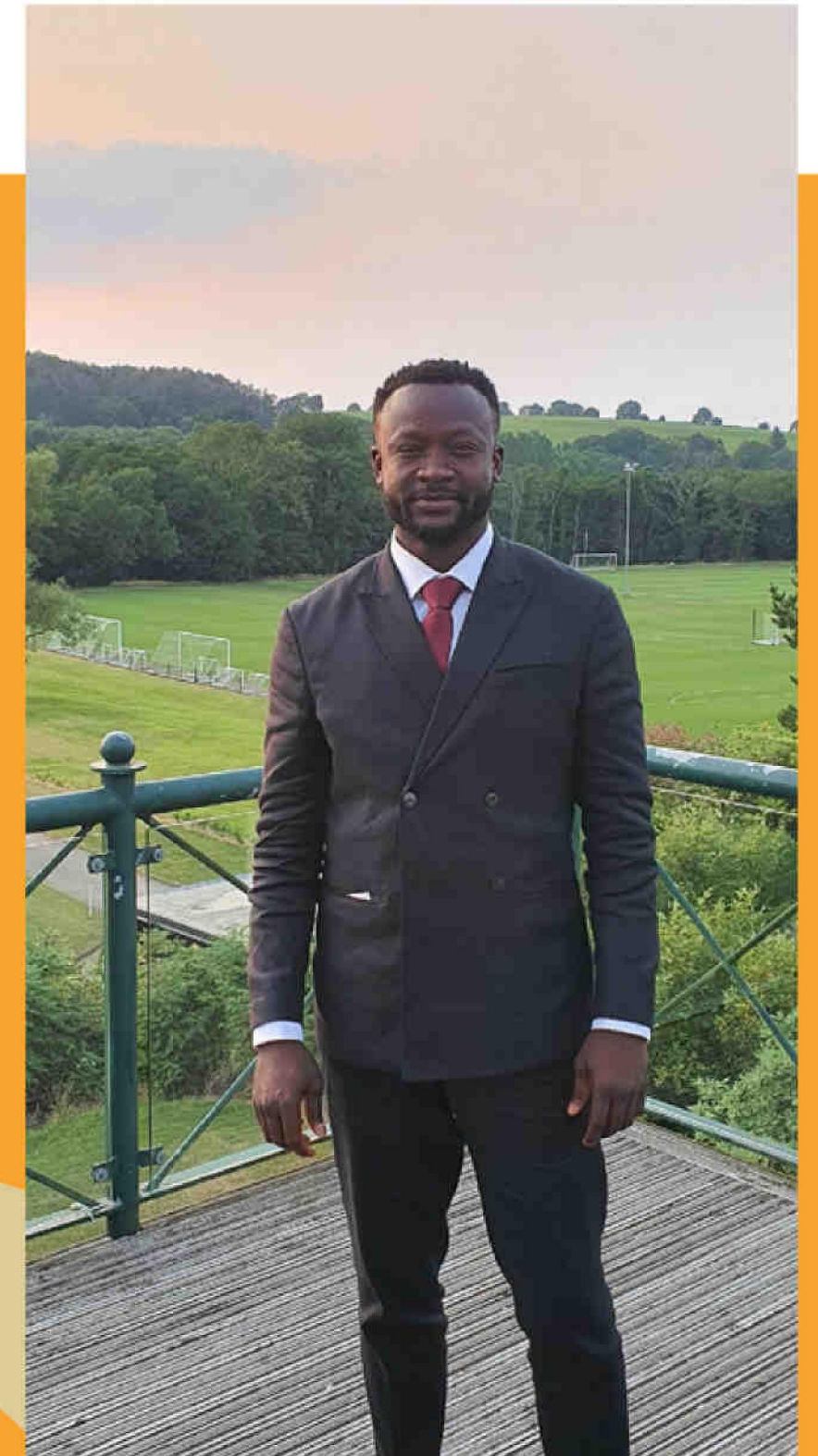
CHARLIE AJOMALE-EVANS

NKECHI ALLEN

Welcome And Forward

Welcome and Foreword – ACC's Annual Report 2021-22 I am pleased to introduce the Annual Report for 2021-22 for The African Community Centre (ACC). There have been some significant developments during the last year. As Chair, I now take on the responsibility of setting the scene for this report, reflecting on what we have achieved and what the future may hold as we look forward to marking our 15th anniversary of achieving charity status in 2008 and as the ACC continues to be recognised for delivering exceptional service, projects and catering to people and communities across Wales.

Having taken over from Aderinola O. Omole in 2020, I begin by expressing the Board of Trustees' very sincere thanks to Aderinola for her dedicated service to African Community Centre and for leaving matters of governance, which are the remit of the Board, in good order. She was an excellent chair. Amidst the current cost of living crisis, we have seen a rise in the number of people struggling with significant mental health, financial, social, and physical health burdens, and the likely toll has come to the forefront of our minds. This organisation's vision remains the same in encompassing our themes around health and well-being, community cohesion and education by remaining committed to breaking down barriers, promoting participation, and facilitating a better understanding of African and African Caribbean culture within our local community.



CHAIRPERSON
TAIWO OKENEYE



As we plan for our future, our strategic aims remain the same. Developing new and innovative partnerships to create broader social change, especially with community organizations that enable us to reach more and support underserved Africans and African Caribbean's alongside other communities that access our services. Ensured that the services and activities we develop are led and shaped by experts by experience. Continuous transformation of our internal ways of working to underpin our delivery.

Thank you to all our funders, past and present, who fund or have funded the ACC's core work and projects and to deliver the services that we do. Many have supported us over a number of years, and we are delighted to have the opportunity to work with them towards a shared vision. As always, we are hugely grateful to our hardworking staff team and volunteers for all their efforts and sacrifices in making our vision of a Wales where everyone is welcomed and valued. In addition to thanking our staff and volunteers, I want to thank those who partner in our work and our loyal and dedicated members and supporters. With your help and support, we are changing lives.

Finally, I thank my fellow Board colleagues for their unwavering dedication and commitment despite the pressures of their jobs and family duties. I am incredibly thankful for their support. I looking forward to next year, where we work with partners to bring about real change in society and a lasting positive impact on our members and service users.

CHAIR Taiwo Okeneye



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Vision

Our vision is of a society in which members of the African and African-Caribbean communities are fully included in everyday life in Wales, their wellbeing is a priority and justice is promoted.

Our Services

Our services have made a tremendous impact on the lives of people from **All Cultural Backgrounds**, Faiths, Gender, Disabilities and **Age Groups**.

The ACC provides support through various mediums from **Holistic and Therapeutic Trauma Counselling to Information, Referral Services and One-to-One Support Sessions, Employment Support, Training, Workshops and Other Support Services are offered**

MISSION STATEMENT

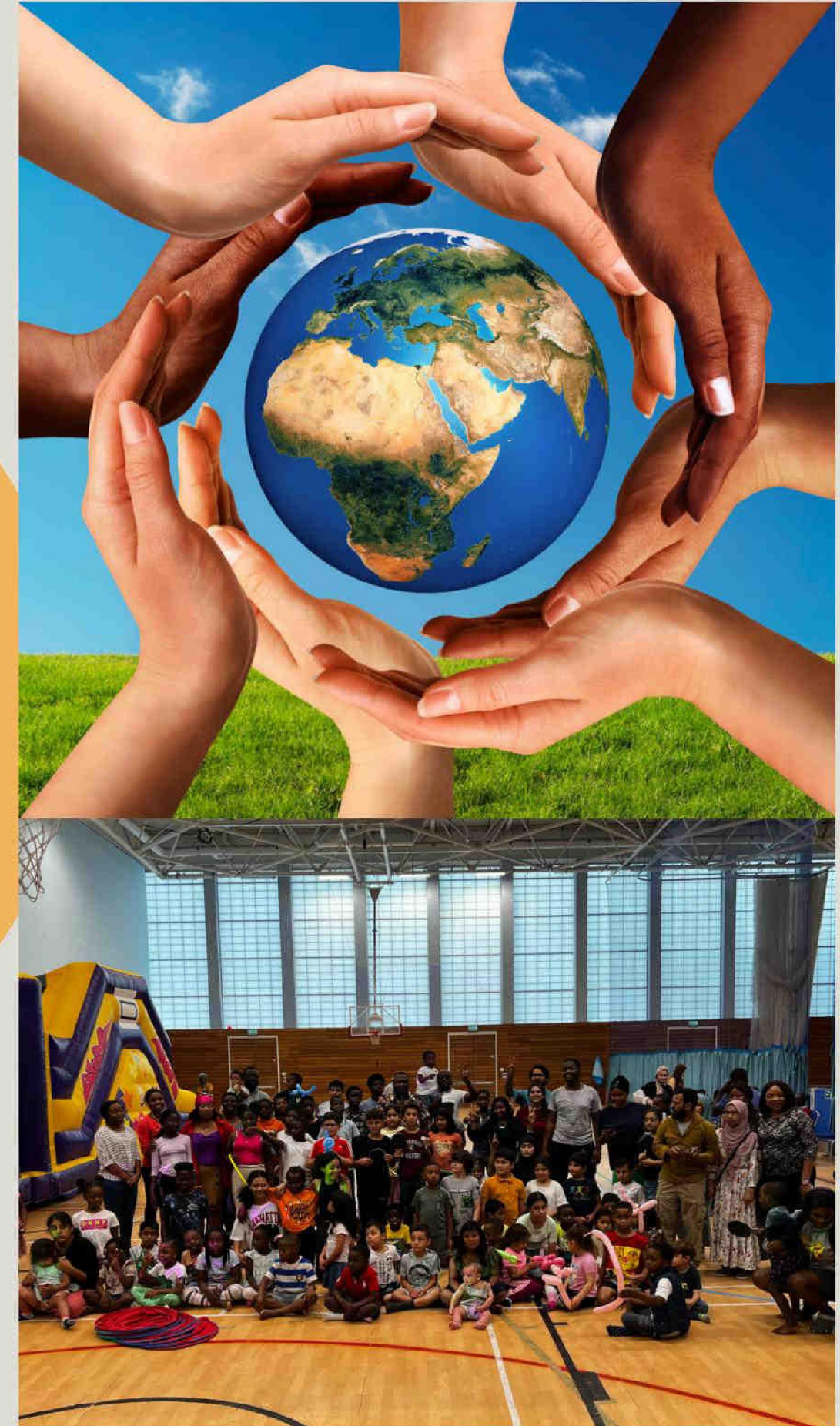
To advance education amongst African, African-Caribbean people and other ethnic minority service users, including those seeking asylum and those granted refugee status - particularly, but not exclusively, by the following: providing guidance, signposting and assistance to those seeking asylum and those granted refugee status.

Advancing education and raising awareness about different ethnic groups.

To improve the health and wellbeing of ethnic minorities and other vulnerable groups by the provision of arts, therapeutic and counselling services and other recreational activities, regardless of, and not limited to age, gender, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, faith or other economic circumstances. In accordance with the Equalities Act 2010.

Our Service Users

At the ACC we pride ourselves for not only catering to the needs of people from African and African Caribbean descent but also people from other Ethnic Minority Background who have made the African Community Centre their channel for integration



MEET THE TEAM

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS



**Chizobam
Ekenna**

General Manager



**Jill
Duarte**

Lead Counsellor



**Saheed
Bashir**

Project Manager



**Jessie
Jones**

Project Manager



**Chinyere
Chukwudi**

Administrator



Moji

Volunteer/
Coordinator



**Dennis
McGregor**

Project Manger



**Edith
Melendez**

Project Manager

								
Abdikarim Abdi Adan	Sara Madi	Awder Ahmed	Kemi	Triston Henry (Trizzy)	Sean Parry	Suzanne Brown	Belinda Thomas	Jodie Brown
Business Development Manager	Coordinator	Finance Officer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Counsellor	Counsellor	Counsellor-in- Training

INCLUDING 8 INTERPRETERS

MOHAMMED NAHAR MJ

Little is known of the plight and journey of unaccompanied asylum seeking children and their development here in UK. Mohammed Nahar came to UK from Sudan aged 16yrs. He was placed in supporting housing and in effect became a LAC (Looked After Child) This young man was referred to the African Community Centre REACH one to one counselling project by the manager of his supported housing. Mohammed was quiet, appeared shy and was unsure whether he would be able to disclose what had happened to him and how integration into Swansea society was affecting him, but with assurances of confidentiality and an explanation of what counselling is Mohammed chose to continue and that decision was according to him 'Life Changing'.

In 2021 the ACC were approached by an independent arm of the Home Office who wanted to set up a young person's focus group with the aim of influencing Home Office policy and improving the experiences for young unaccompanied asylum seekers . Mohammed agreed to join this focus group.

Following another interview Mohammed secured a placement with a healthy bursary under the Cultural Ambition project. He spent 4 months at the Waterfront Museum learning the skills needed for working in the heritage sector. He also achieved a level 2 Arts certificate, researching and writing about his favourite Sudanese rapper. On completing this placement Mohammed secured a temporary contract as part time administrator at the ACC . He became part of our busy team and was a great asset. Mj became a young Advisor at the 2022 Commonwealth Games hosted by Streetgames. His contributions and resilience made him a recipient of two awards in the volunteer sector.



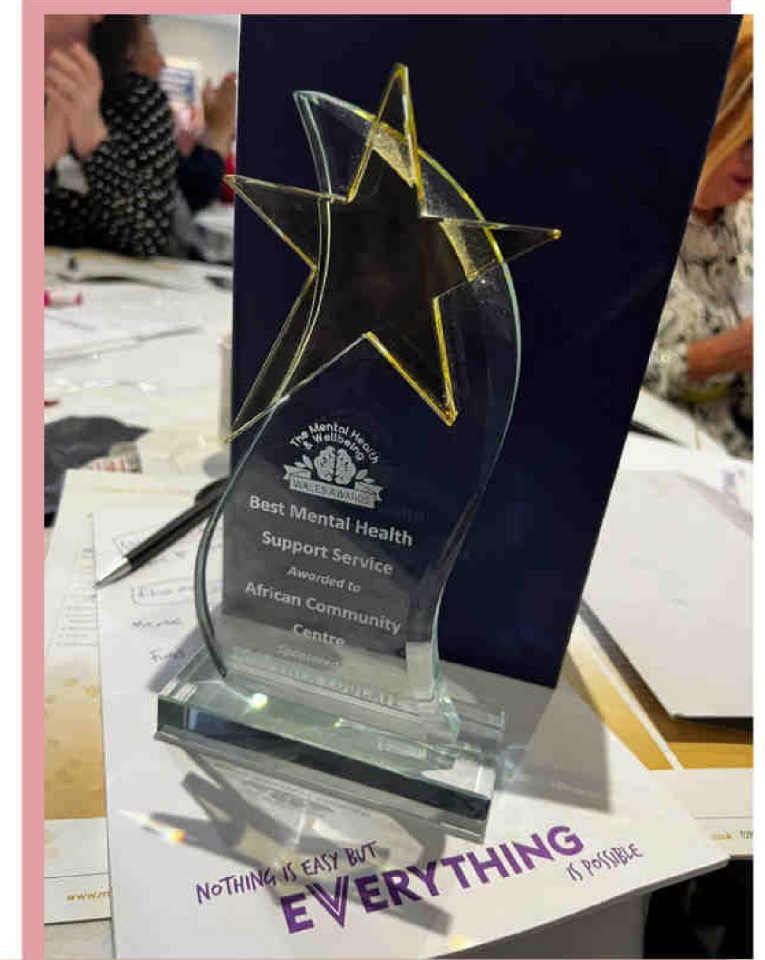
REACH ME: ADULT

During 21 – 22 we have seen our REACH ME counselling grow and become really successful. We have had funding from SBUHB (Swansea Bay University Health Board), The Community Foundation and Moondance. Our referrals for one to one counselling have come from The Health Access Team, SCVS, BAWSO, GP surgeries and also self-referrals. We have two safe and comfortable counselling rooms in the Multicultural Hub and clients are made to feel at home and welcome.

96% of clients engaging in counselling see an improvement and though often there can be hesitation in engaging to begin with clients appreciate the ability of our counsellors to build trust and safety and their skill in 'active listening'.

We have a great team of counsellors, all registered with BACP or equivalent. Below are comments about the effect of ACC's Counselling services

'Life changing ',
'I see things differently now',
'I would recommend to anyone – just give it a go'
'I have been helped to move on with my life and feel that I now belong'





REACH ME: YOUNG PEOPLE

2022 was another successful year for the REACH CYP counselling services. Since June 2019, over five 100 asylum seekers/refugees and BAME CYP have been supported with our counselling service. We have not only expanded by branching out online to reach more CYP but we have also managed to support CYP outside of the Swansea area, reaching places like Birmingham and derby. We currently have over 8 interpreters, which means we are able to keep breaking down barriers of communication and reach those who may have language barriers and also we are currently supporting a student play therapist.

Our goals have stayed the same throughout the project, which is to help build resilience, friendship and a purpose to the CYP on our project but also to offer them a safe, non judgmental space, where they can explore anything they'd like, in hope they gain not only emotional resilience but a sense of belonging.

As for our clients that we have seen/are seeing, the CORE scores which we take at the start of therapy and at the end have shown a 65% or above increase. Which shows our clients are benefiting hugely from this therapy and if that doesn't reflect how important this service





ASYLUM SEEKERS TRANSPORT SCHEME

Since the launch in June 2018, we now have 1100 asylum seekers have registered for the service. We have 3 drivers who work weekly. The project outcomes are to decrease isolation, improve access to education, vital services, social opportunities and improve the quality of life and overall well-being for asylum seekers.

Asylum seekers Transport project also acquired our own mini van which has made such a difference to the project

The ACC Asylum Seekers and Refugees Community Transportation Scheme has remained relatively stable. We have engaged many drivers who have contributed in no small measure to the smooth running of this scheme, thereby recording an estimated total of 459 movements for varying purposes, ranging from medical appointments, shopping, DVLA Reporting, Educational-related requests and lots.



Baby Bank

Our Baby Bank activities have remained stable, with The ACC Baby Bank recording about 340 baby bank-related transportation movements (pickups and deliveries).

Food Bank

The ACC has now partnered with the Swansea Food Bank recorded which has led to the expansion of our options from the St Thomas Food Bank to Life Forte and Penlan Food Banks Transportation and delivery of foodbank rode to an all-time high of 780 food-related transportation arrangements (pickups and deliveries).

Medical Appointments

caters to the medical appointments of service users to their places of medical appointments. Most of our transportation requests are medical: paediatric appointments, prenatal/postnatal appointments, dental appointments, GP General consultation appointments and lots more

MENTORING PROJECT

Our MENTOR project is funded by the National Lottery Awards For All funding and has engaged with people from different backgrounds and ethnicities including Afghanistan, Latin America, Namibia amongst others. We have been able to link young people with mentors related to their interest and needs. These include Life Coaching, Music, English improvement and Volunteering. We have also been able to deliver Inspirational Speakers sessions including Entrepreneurship, Business and TedX speaker and a black female Politician. There have been lots of opportunities to engage with a mentor in a fun and relaxed setting. The project has been well received by participants and we have seen self confidence and ability and a sense of vision arise and improve.



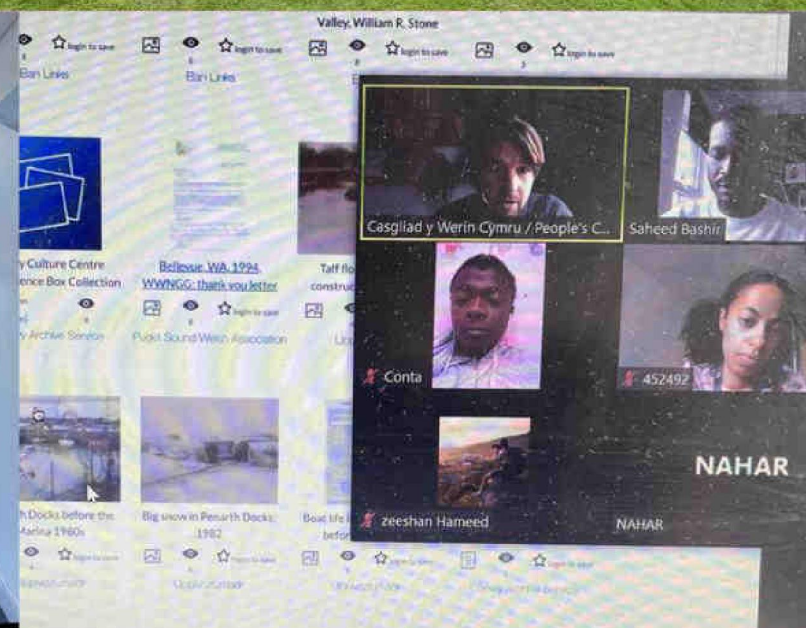
Our Winning Women Breaking Borders Speech Series witnessed inspiring presentations by three notable women across three days; Herat Soviat, Bernie Davies and Patience Bentu. There were transportation refunds and engaging interactive sessions with these multi-sectoral leading women.



DIGITAL DIVERSITY EXCHANGE PROJECT

This project was introduced with the aim of exploring and celebrating culture and heritage through lens of the young people in the society, particularly people from the ethnic minority as a tool to promote diversity and community cohesion. The project is also aimed at understanding and highlighting the diversity of people from Ethnic minority background while promoting Welsh Black History and ultimately a better understanding of their respective local community. Young people participating will be taking to different heritage sights in Wales and desired location where they will highlight what they want to share about their heritage with the rest of the group while (food, music, culture, games etc)

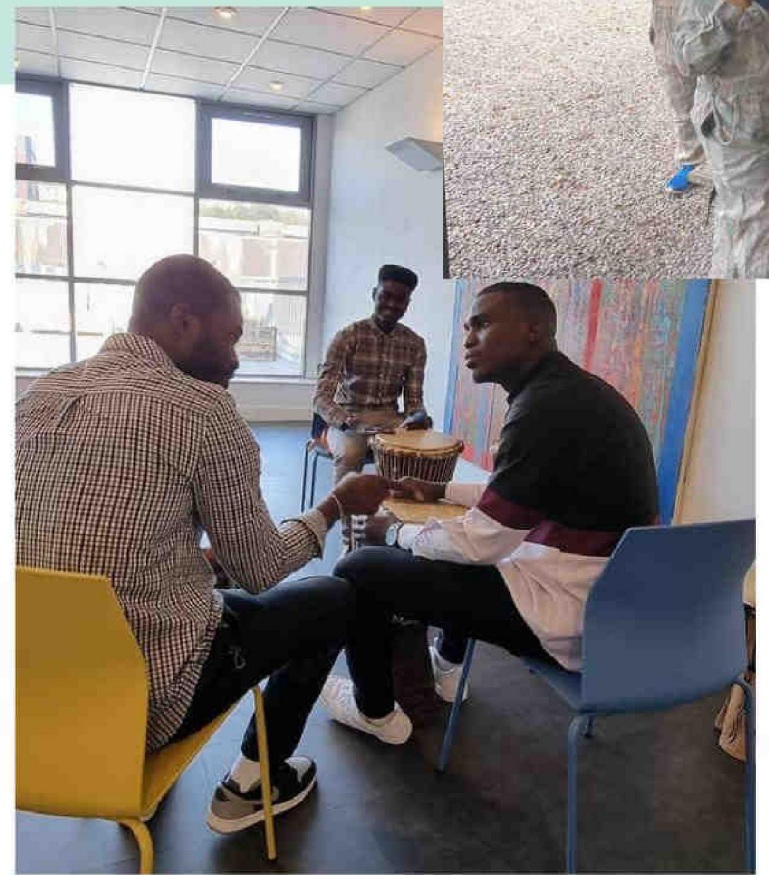
Over the past 12 months of the project, young people have registered their interest and we at the ACC have created a group of very diverse young people to take part in the project and have engaged in various sessions aimed at understanding each other's cultures and heritage.



CASTLE TOURS



FUN AND CULTURE DAY



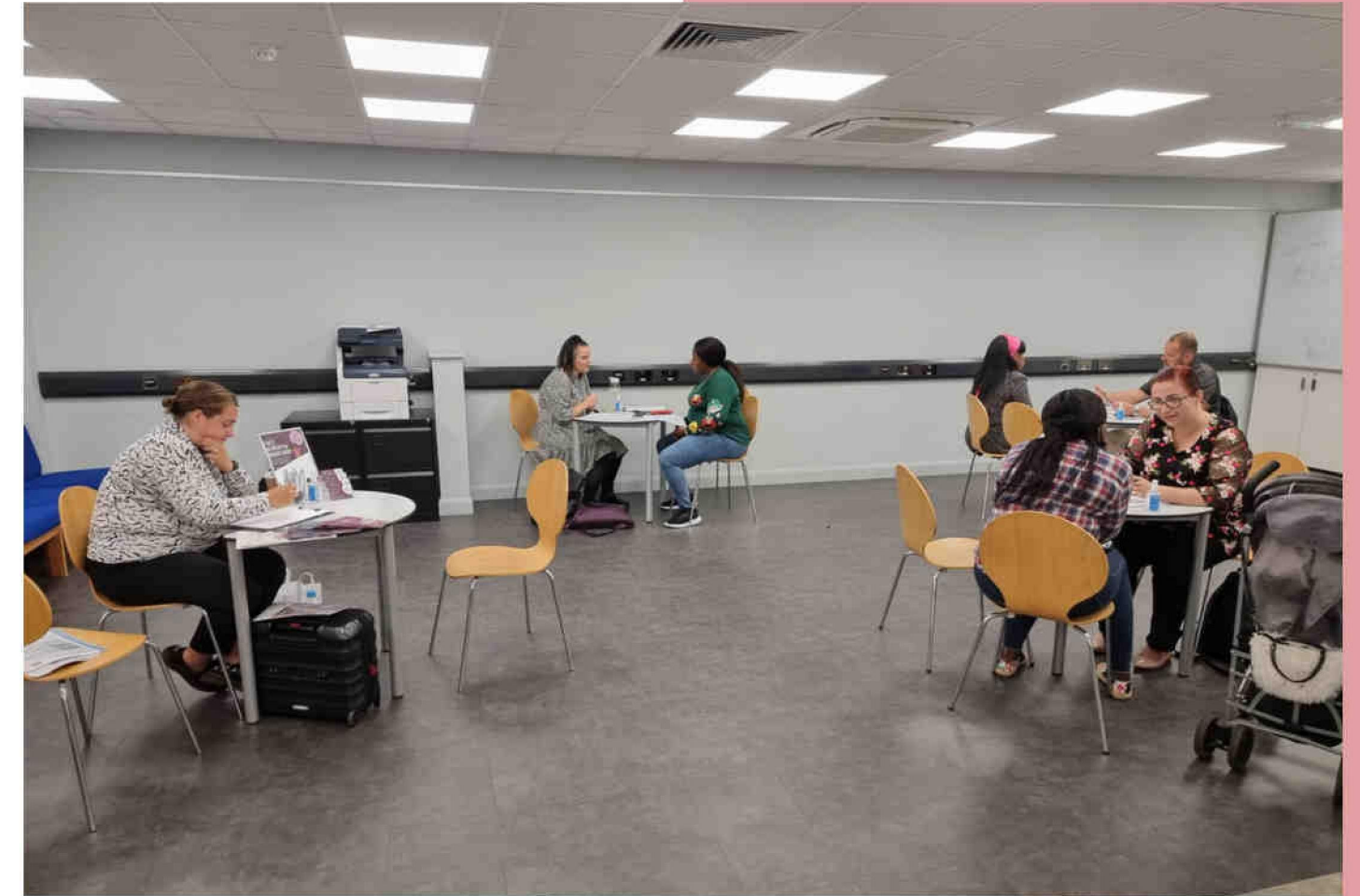
DIVERSITY IN SPORTS





INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

The care work among BAME Communities in the Neath and Swansea area has experienced staff shortage due to the pandemic Covid 19. In- order to combat this staff shortage, caregivers, in the Swansea and Neath area, joined together to alleviate some of the pressure felt within the local community, so they wanted to assist the BAME community to build on the care skills they had by providing online training, and which will develop their skill set, so that they may apply for positions within the health and social care settings. The Program consisted of online training which lasted for three days and then the ACC and partner would hoist a job fair where the candidates would meet Job employers and seek employment. Which has been be a huge successful. This has had 3 cohorts consisting of candidates





TOTAL NUMBER OF CANDIDATES

33

Total number of Employed

19

Total number of agencies /bank

11

Total Permanent Employment

9

Total number of unemployed

6

CONTINUOUS SUPPORT

33



YOUNG CARERS/ UNPAID CARERS

Provide support to Carers in areas such as transportation, counseling and recreation. Unpaid Carer or Young Carer is a two-year project designed to support caregivers in three different areas:

Many carers have trouble getting to their medical appointments, social gatherings, shopping, and the transport sometime can be unreliable, infrequent and costly, Unpaid Carer offers free transportation at accessible times.

Emotional stress, desolation, are some of the emotional problems faced by most caregivers, since the fact of having other people in their care can be a very heavy emotional burden, for that reason this project offers free counseling sessions, with fully trained counselors. Sometime the carers need for breaks, respite and time away from the sometimes stressful and often unrecognized unpaid work they loyally carry outday-to-day.

Day trips will give respite, recognition, connection and relationship building with others and fun.

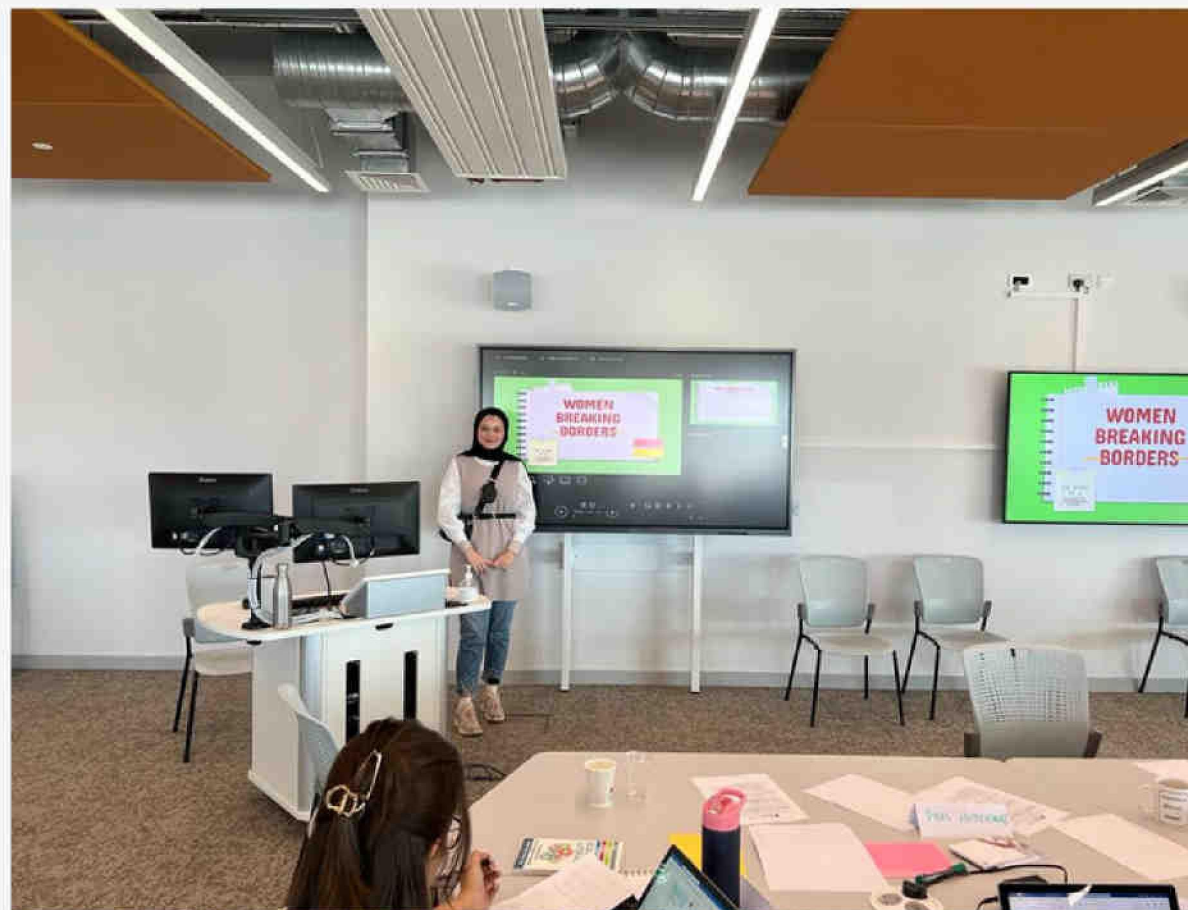
CARERS JOURNEY

Are you an Unpaid Carer or Do you know someone who Carer for a member?

WE CAN PROVIDE **FREE SUPPORT**

SERVICES

- Transport**
Hospital Appointment / Shopping Trips etc.
- Activities**
Fun Trips
Swimming ticket
Cinema Ticket
Events and many more
- Counselling**
We can also help you to manage your felling, build resilience and look at other issues that may affect you, via our one-to-one counselling.



WOMEN BREAKING BORDERS

The project is mainly targeting young women aged 13 till 24. We are focusing on aspects such as education, integrating into society, speaking out, making friends, and breaking any borders women are facing. Our aim is to help young women find their passion after passing through any unfortunate circumstances which is something really challenging. Planning trips for young women in the Community and let them get imbedded in the Welsh Community.

This is through having historical/educational trips, swimming sessions, motivational talks, English classes, hiking trips, counselling sessions, period essentials, mental health awareness workshops, yoga/spa sessions and many more.



REACH COUNSELLING CARDIFF

Key aim is to move away from sporadic grant funding to a more reliable and sustainable long term service level agreement
Build and develop relationships with agencies



AFRICAN COMMUNITY CENTRE

REACH COUNSELLING SERVICE

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

**FREE CONFIDENTIAL
ONE TO ONE COUNSELLING
FACE TO FACE OR ZOOM**

REFERRALS ACCEPTED

- From Health Providers
- Third Sector Organisations
- Family & Friends
- Self Referral

**NOW AVAILABLE
IN
CARDIFF**

ACC'S CARDIFF DEVELOPMENT PHASE

CARDIFF COUNSEL

Offering free training and workshops to improve employment chances. this partnership is in collaboration with **INTO WORK** advise service

COLLABORATIVE WORK WITH AGENCIES

Time to change Wales (**let's end mental health discriminantion**) this initiative is to ensure a lasting change within workplace to help breakdown mental health stigma

SUPPORTING ETHNIC MINORTY COMMUNITY GROUPS

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

We have run Group welbieng sessions to help build resilience and confidence with young people in the community



ESOL CLASSES AT THE HUB

At the African Community Centre, we offer a range of educational services. ranging from English Classes for Beginners, IT Skills training, Family Learning, various Workshops and Seminars

Workshops

Seminars

Surf School Wales:

**Surfing
Classes**

Let's Ride The Wave

AGES 12+

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A Workshop
With **NICK TOULSON**
Social Value Advisor
South Wales & Wales
(BOUYGUES UK)

Session Will Cover:

- WORKING IN CONSTRUCTION
- EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
- RECRUITMENT PROCESS/STRUCTURES
- SKILLS REQUIREMENT



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CLASSES @THE ACC

The African Community Centre
Swansea Grand
Multicultural Hub
Singleton street
SA1 3QJ

Tuesdays
10:00-12:00
Conversation Class For Beginners

- Food vocabulary cooking
- Talking to your GP
- Learn language for shopping

Starts 13/9

Tuesdays
12:15-2:45
IT SKILLS

- Learn typing skills
- Form filling
- Word/Excel
- PowerPoint

Starts 13/9

Mondays
12:15-2:45
Family Learning Class With Creche

- Learn new songs
- Learn about events in the school year
- And so much more

Starts 19/9

Addysg Oedolion Cymru
Adult Learning Wales



HEALTHY SPINNING EXERCISE

Healthy Spinning Exercise is a project with vision to ensure that women from black and Ethnic Minority in our community stay healthy and have good wellbeing by engaging in basic exercise routine. The aim is to encourage and support this part of our community who have interest in doing basic exercise but prefer a private and safe space.

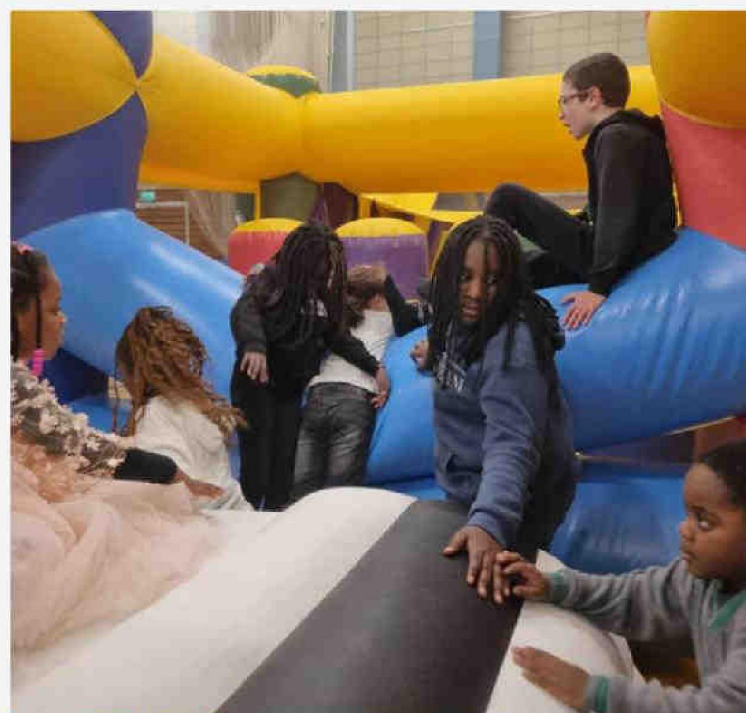




 **ACC FOOTBALL
CLUB**

SUMMER OF FUN

Ice skating @ Winterland



Folly Farm Visit





Our women went through the process of pottery making to foster the bond within the community and they produced beautiful pieces as well as gaining skills in pottery

POTTERY AT THE ACC

Coffee and Cake Mornings

In the face of the new law which enforces the No-Smacking-Ban in Wales, the **ACC** in collaboration with Race Council Cymru **RCC** invited parents in Swansea to an interactional meeting with stakeholders in the social care industry. These stakeholders clarified and brought closure to the misgivings and misinterpretation of the ban and how sanctions can be avoided.

The workshops were run in Swansea and Cardiff

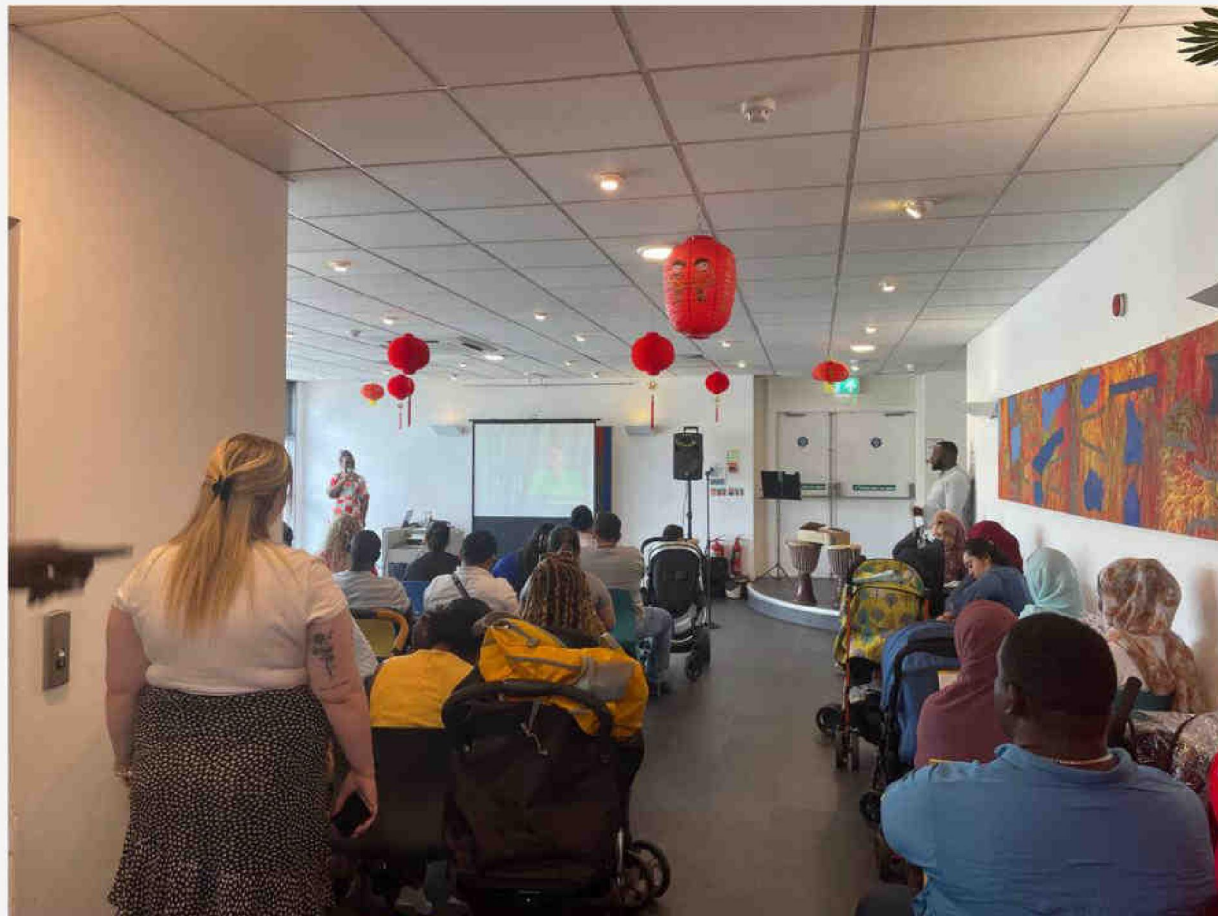


WORLD REIMAGINED

The cultural image of the organization has, through the coordination and curation of our artistic and aesthetic presentations, witnessed a phenomenal leap. This revolves around drumming, singing, storytelling and lots more.

We have covered events in Neath, Port- Talbot, USWTSD, Refugee Week cultural rendition, D and storytelling sessions at the ACC Waterfront Museum, ACC Black History and discussion of Black History across schools.



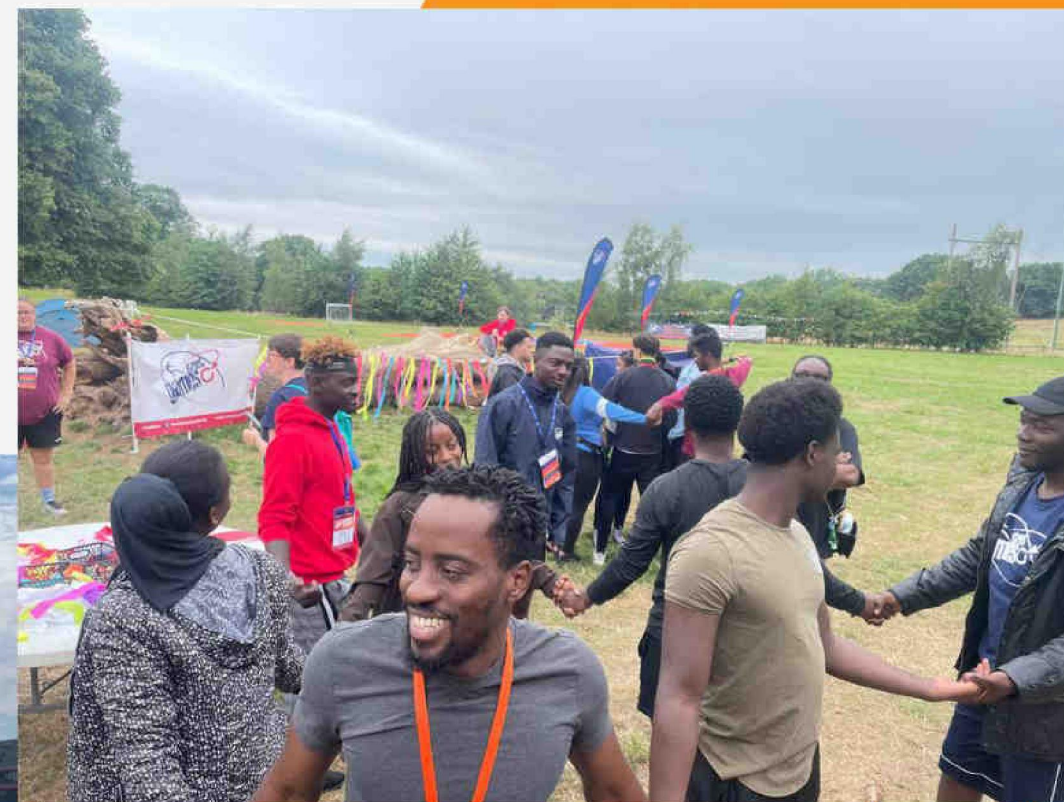


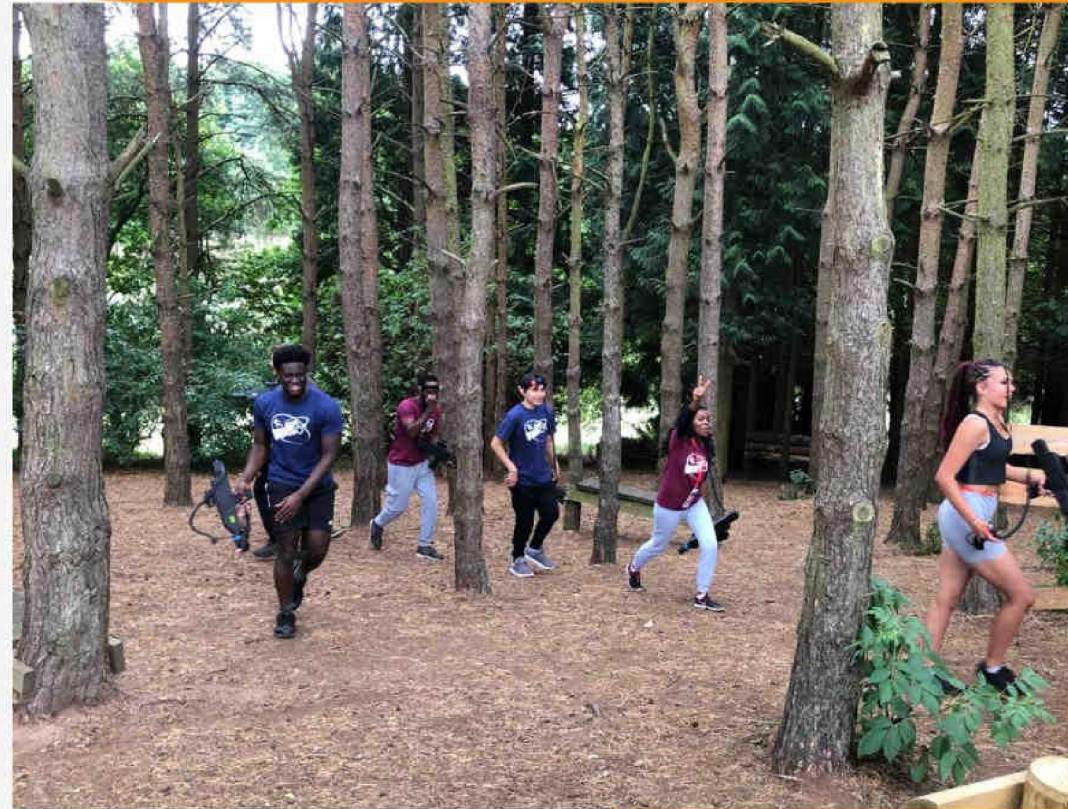
REFUGEE WEEK

The cultural image of the organization has, through the coordination and curation of our artistic and aesthetic presentations, witnessed a phenomenal leap. This revolves around drumming, singing, storytelling and lots more. We have covered events in Neath, Port- Talbot, USWTSD, Refugee Week cultural rendition, Drumming and storytelling sessions at the ACC Waterfront Museum, ACC Black History and discussion of Black History across schools.

SUMMER CAMP

COMMONWEALTH GAMES





SUMMER CAMP
COMMONWEALTH GAMES

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

African community Centre (ACC) will continue to work with all organisations to break down barriers so that all communities can feel at home here in Wales

GLYNN VIVIAN

Gofalwn .cymru | **WeCare** .wales



LLOYDS BANK



Race Council Cymru



Swansea City of Sanctuary
Abertawe Dinas Noddfa



Partneriaeth
Ranbarthol
Gorllewin
Morgannwg

West
Glamorgan
Regional
Partnership



**CONGOLESE
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**



AFRICAN COMMUNITY CENTRE

DIRECTORS' REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
TURNOVER		398,114	288,658
Cost of sales		<u>(260,033)</u>	<u>(271,351)</u>
GROSS SURPLUS		138,081	17,307
Distribution costs		(8,958)	(19,787)
Administrative expenses		(71,648)	(17,127)
Other operating income		<u>5,734</u>	<u>12,028</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) AND SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		<u>63,209</u>	<u>(7,579)</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

		2022		2021	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	3		20,499		-
			20,499		-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	4	11,375		34,641	
Cash at bank and in hand		164,243		51,412	
		175,618		86,053	
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	5	(47,923)		(1,068)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)			127,695		84,985
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			148,194		84,985
PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES					
Provisions For Charges			2,958		2,958
NET ASSETS			151,152		87,943
Income and Expenditure Account			151,152		87,943
MEMBERS' FUNDS			151,152		87,943

Notes to the Financial Statements For The Year Ended 31 March 2022

1. Accounting Policies

1.1. Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the FRS 102 Section 1A Small Entities - The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2. Turnover

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, net of discounts and value added taxes. Turnover includes revenue earned from the sale of goods and from the rendering of services. Turnover is reduced for estimated customer returns, rebates and other similar allowances.

Sale of goods

Turnover from the sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods has transferred to the buyer. This is usually at the point that the customer has signed for the delivery of the goods.

Rendering of services

Turnover from the rendering of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. The stage of completion of a contract is measured by comparing the costs incurred for work performed to date to the total estimated contract costs. Turnover is only recognised to the extent of recoverable expenses when the outcome of a contract cannot be estimated reliably.

1.3. Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of the fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Motor Vehicles	18
----------------	----

2. Average Number of Employees

Average number of employees, including directors, during the year was as follows: 3 (2021: 3)

3. Tangible Assets

	Motor Vehicles £
Cost	
As <u>at</u> 1 April 2021	-
Additions	24,999
As <u>at</u> 31 March 2022	24,999
Depreciation	
As <u>at</u> 1 April 2021	-
Provided during the period	4,500
As <u>at</u> 31 March 2022	4,500
Net Book Value	
As <u>at</u> 31 March 2022	20,499
As <u>at</u> 1 April 2021	-

4. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	11,375	34,641
	<u>11,375</u>	<u>34,641</u>

5. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	-	284
Other taxes and social security	47,923	784
	<u>47,923</u>	<u>1,068</u>

6. Company limited by guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company, in the event of a winding up, such an amount as may be required not exceeding £1.

7. General Information

African Community Centre is a private company, limited by guarantee, incorporated in England & Wales, registered number 06331619. The registered office is C/O City Church Dyfatty Street, Swansea, SA1 1QQ.

Stay In Touch



Main Office:
Multicultural Hub
Singleton St.
Swansea
SA1 3QJ

 **03302292995**



African

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Cydwethio i chwalu rhwystrau

 **website: africancommunitycentre.org.uk**

 Info@africancommunitycentre.org.uk

 @ACCWALES

 **African Community Centre Wales**

Branch 2:
CCHA Building, Level 2
Room 2
Loudon Square , Butetown
Cardiff CF10 5HW



THANK YOU

