



Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network



“Linking communities together”

# Annual Report 2014—2015



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# **Welcome to the Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network (LRMN) Annual Report for 2014—2015!**

A brief introduction to who we are.....

Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network (LRMN) began life in 1991 as Lewisham Refugee Network, in response to the growing numbers of refugees in Lewisham and the surrounding boroughs. It was felt that the demand for an advice and information service for them was not being met, and newcomers to the country and community lacked the means to access the guidance or support that would equip them with the knowledge and understanding of the unfamiliar societal systems around them. In the years since, increasing demand from non-refugee migrant communities led to LRMN acquiring its M, and there have been many changes too in terms of premises and people. Its founding principles have remained a constant however, and 23 years on, LRMN is still providing that service.

Our mission is to empower refugees, asylum seekers and migrants to improve their quality of life by providing culturally sensitive support, advocacy and capacity development to individuals and organisations.

## **Message from the Chair—Diana Fawcett**

“With the plight of refugees and the scale of the world wide movement of displaced people hitting the headlines this year the ongoing importance of the work LRMN and other refugee organisations do has been highlighted. There have been positive signs that the British public are willing to welcome refugees and asylum seekers and a grass roots movement seen on social media and in public demonstrations has encouraged politicians of all parties to respond more positively to the crisis.

Locally the individual needs of refugees and migrants remain as challenging to meet as ever. The need for expert advice and support remains a constant priority and the LRMN team have worked tirelessly to deliver services and win funding to keep our doors open to those people in need of our help.

During the year we were delighted to be successful in retaining LBL funding and securing new grant funding from a range of trusts but we also sadly needed to end some services when funding ran out. The on - going pressures on public expenditure continue to impact both our clients and organisations like LRMN who seek to provide the much needed services but despite this we continue to try to drive up the standards of our work and were proud to have our AQS and OISC accreditation renewed with positive feedback from both assessors.

I would like to thank the Director, staff and volunteers including the board of trustees who all work tirelessly to deliver our shared aim to support our clients to improve their lives, achieve stability and integrate into the wider community”

## **Message from the Treasurer—Lydia Abu**

### **Financial Sustainability**

The Board of Trustees are pleased with another remarkable year, despite the economic recession, income streams increased by almost 38% although this increase is mainly restricted. This year, as you can see on the next page, our total income is £369,336 and total expenditure is £322,825 with surplus of £46,511(both restricted and unrestricted). The Trustees have responsibility for ensuring the financial health of the organisation. A quarterly meeting of its Finance & Staff Sub-committee provides opportunity for detailed examination of the management accounts and review of the budget. The Sub-committee’s recommendations are reported to the full management committee for decision.

### **Principal funding sources**

The principal funding sources were London Borough of Lewisham, Public Health Lewisham, Henry Smith Foundation, Comic Relief, Trust for London, City Bridge Trust, The Big Lottery, The Big Lottery (thru Advice Service Transition Fund)), Barings Foundation (thru Immigration Advice Partnership led by Southwark Law Centre), Tudor Trust, AB Charitable Trust and Lloyds Bank Foundation.

### **Reserves Policy**

LRMN holds the following types of reserves: Restricted reserves comprise funds available for expenditure in accordance with the funders’ strategies for giving. Grants are typically spent over 1-3 year periods. Designated reserves are funds set aside from unrestricted reserves at the discretion of the Trustees and comprise: Staffing; to cover staff redundancies and expenses in case of the organisation closing down, IT and Technology and Premises which included the costs of the move.

Free reserves which are the balance of LRMN's unrestricted reserves that have not been designated for a particular purpose and as such are freely available to the trustees for any of the charity's purposes. The free reserves held at 31 March 2015 were £51,000 (2014: £43,000). The increase reflects the extra donations received during the year. The Trustees believe it is prudent for the charity to hold minimum reserves equivalent to at least 3 months of annual expenditure and aim to maintain reserves equivalent to at least 6 months of annual expenditure.

The Trustees have decided to continue with the policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (the free reserves) held by the company should be three – six months of annual expenditure. At this level, the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of significant drop in funding, flexibility in achieving our objectives or if the organisation needs to close down. The trustees recognise that this year again, the balance of the General Funds and Designated Funds has reached the minimum target level of free reserves and it should remain so for the foreseeable future based on its planned activities and financial forecasts. The Trustees' aim is to maintain the maximum reserves level of six months of annual expenditure. The Trustees plan to review this policy in accordance with the Charity Commission's guidelines on a regular basis, at least once a year.

<b>LEWISHAM REFUGEE AND MIGRANT NETWORK</b>						
<b>Statement of Financial Activities ( Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account )</b>						
<b>for the year ended 31 March 2015</b>						
			Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2015	Total 2014
	Notes	£	£	£	£	
<b>Income Resources</b>						
Grants, Contract income	2	350,150	9,000	359,150	263,501	
Donations & Sundry Income	2	-	9,962	9,962	4,251	
Investment income	3	-	224	224	179	
<b>Total Income Resources</b>		<b>350,150</b>	<b>19,186</b>	<b>369,336</b>	<b>267,931</b>	
<b>Resources Expended</b>						
Charitable activities	4	312,176	6,514	318,690	232,899	
Governance	4	-	3,012	3,012	2,848	
Fundraising costs of grants	4	1,038	85	1,123	805	
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<b>313,214</b>	<b>9,611</b>	<b>322,825</b>	<b>236,552</b>	
<b>Net ( Outgoing ) / Incoming for the year before transfers</b>		<b>36,936</b>	<b>9,575</b>	<b>46,511</b>	<b>31,379</b>	
Transfers Between Funds	9	(31,933)	31,933	-	-	
<b>Net Movement In Funds</b>		<b>5,003</b>	<b>41,508</b>	<b>46,511</b>	<b>31,379</b>	
Total Funds as at 1 April 2014		<b>74,809</b>	<b>138,424</b>	<b>213,233</b>	<b>181,854</b>	
<b>Total Funds as at 31 March 2015</b>	13	<b>79,812</b>	<b>179,932</b>	<b>259,744</b>	<b>213,233</b>	



## **Message from the Director—Rosario Guimba-Stewart**

I'm glad to say that despite the economic gloom, we have managed to stay afloat and believe it or not flourished! Our paid and unpaid staff members continue to provide quality services to our clients. This year we saw around 1000 clients and about 600 of them accessed information and advice and one to one counselling. Majority of our clients are from Lewisham but we also received clients from other boroughs. We have more partners that we collaborate with and even our geographical reach has widened!

In addition to our current funding from London Borough of Lewisham, Public Health Lewisham, The Henry Smith Charity, City Bridge Trust and Comic Relief, our new funding comes from the Big Lottery and Tudor Trust for the continuation of our very successful Women's Project and Barings Foundation thru Southwark Law Centre. Trust for London has funded us again, but this time it's for immigration service to provide support mainly to those with No Recourse to Public Funds in partnership with Project 17. Lloyds Foundation and Awards for All both funded our Young Refugee and Migrant Carers project to provide them educational, social and recreational facilities. AB Charitable Trust also contributed to the young carers' project operation as well as to our core costs. London Churches Refugee Fund and our generous supporters donated some money for our Hardship Fund. From the Fund, we give our clients a small amount of money, which, to many of them means food for the week, or a journey to important hearings or heating during cold winter nights.

Partnership work is crucial in our success and development. This year, in addition to maintaining our current partnerships with Advice Lewisham, BAN and Immigration Advice Partnership, Project 17 and others, we joined Greenwich Community Advice Network (GCAN), Advice Providers Forum in Thamesmead and Bexley, Bromley Advice and Information Network (BAIN) and Greenwich Migrant Hub.

Our ESOL classes as per previous years are run by our ever committed volunteer teachers. The knitting and sewing classes have been very valuable to clients who want to learn new skills, socialise and make dresses for families or friends.

After more than 15 years of operating in Parker House, LRMN has a new office! Where we are is smaller but warmer! We are all now looking forward to winter where we don't need to wear coats, woolly hats and gloves whilst working! Our move involved a huge amount of work and expense! We built up links during the move with the builders, Mitie whose apprentices helped refurbish the building and HSBC staff who volunteered to help decorate the offices. We are very grateful for their help and hope that these links will continue. We were very pleased that the Mayor of Lewisham Sir Steve Bullock was able to open the newly refurbished offices on 13<sup>th</sup> March.

This year too, Margot Lawrence, the most senior member (not age but number of years!) of staff at LRMN has left. We would like to say thank you for her commitment and dedication and for her selfless support to our clients. Marina, Sheila and Emma have left the organisation too, although Emma still continues her link with LRMN through volunteering. Thank you all for your brilliant work!

As always we are grateful to our funders especially to Lewisham Council who continue supporting us amidst the economic crisis. We would like to extend our appreciation too to Brockley Community Church for their lovely lunch enjoyed by our clients, to Perry Rise Baptist church and Lewisham Churches for Asylum Seekers for their food donation for our destitute clients. Special thanks to our volunteers and students on placement (present and to those who have left for greener pasture) for their valuable contribution and to my staff and trustees for their commitment and hard work.



“... very practical, cheerful and helpful which was just what I needed.”

## Immigration Advice and Support

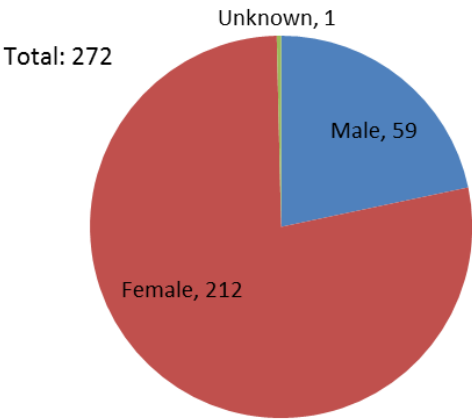
This year we saw 272 clients who come to our office in Lewisham needing immigration advice. In Greenwich where we hold our outreach, we saw 142 clients, where 92 had No Recourse to Public Funds. We also provided brief advice over the phone and email to 57 clients. Due to lack of capacity, we need to make a hard decision of not providing service to everyone. Our priorities are those who have asylum and immigration issues who are vulnerable, destitute and with young children.

With funding cuts to Legal Aid which affected many agencies that provide free immigration advice, the demand for our service has soared in the last year. We deal more and more with destitute clients; many are women with young children.

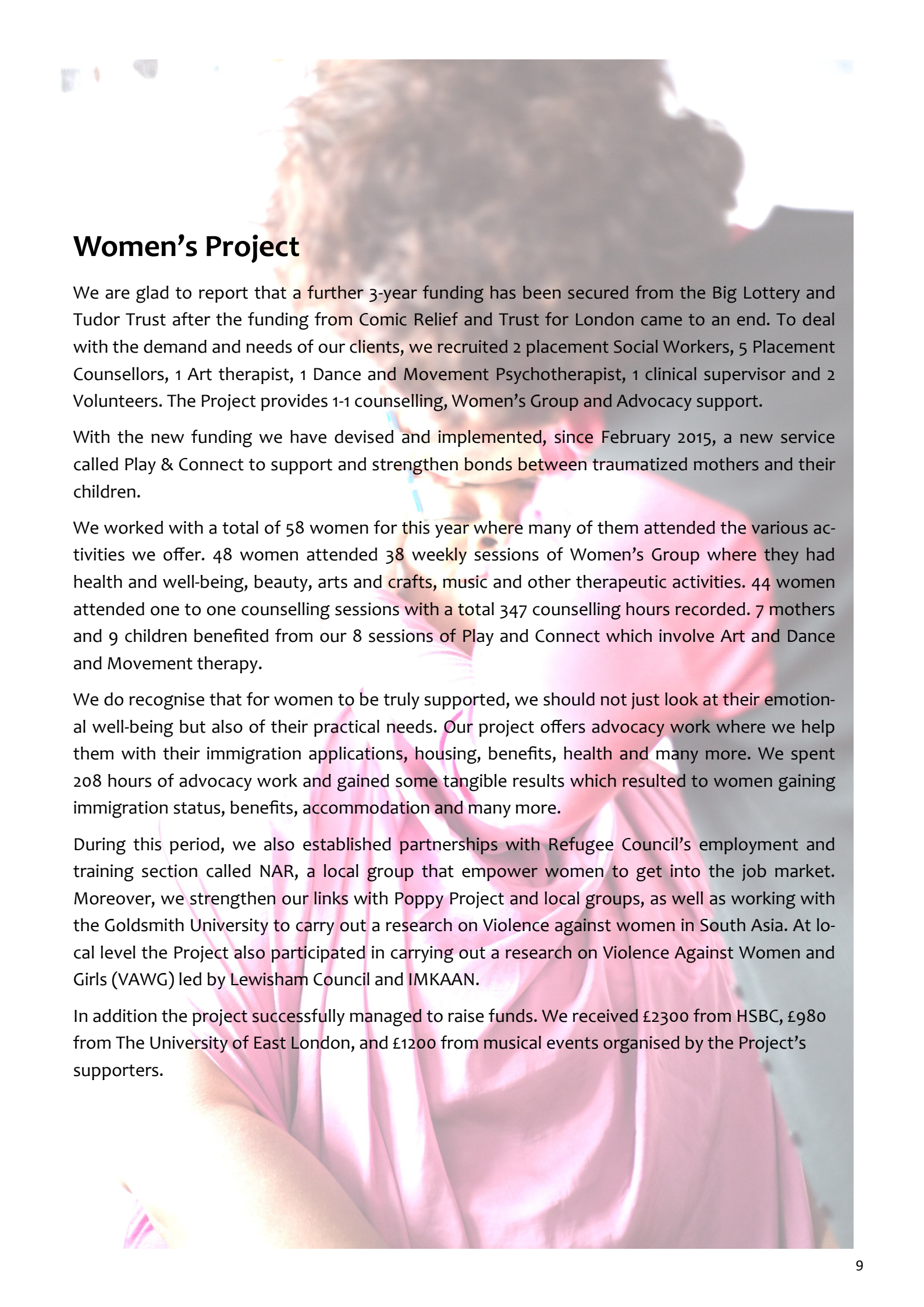
Immigration work takes time and we don't normally get results very quickly, but in the last year, 38 of our clients gained immigration status! These clients are now able to rebuild their lives in the UK; they are now eligible to get mainstream welfare benefits, housing support and get into education and or join the labour market. To many, it is the beginning of proper integration and contribution in their community and the society as a whole.

“ Thank you very much for helping me on this matter. It has been priceless.”

**Number of Immigration cases taken up**







## Women's Project

We are glad to report that a further 3-year funding has been secured from the Big Lottery and Tudor Trust after the funding from Comic Relief and Trust for London came to an end. To deal with the demand and needs of our clients, we recruited 2 placement Social Workers, 5 Placement Counsellors, 1 Art therapist, 1 Dance and Movement Psychotherapist, 1 clinical supervisor and 2 Volunteers. The Project provides 1-1 counselling, Women's Group and Advocacy support.

With the new funding we have devised and implemented, since February 2015, a new service called Play & Connect to support and strengthen bonds between traumatized mothers and their children.

We worked with a total of 58 women for this year where many of them attended the various activities we offer. 48 women attended 38 weekly sessions of Women's Group where they had health and well-being, beauty, arts and crafts, music and other therapeutic activities. 44 women attended one to one counselling sessions with a total 347 counselling hours recorded. 7 mothers and 9 children benefited from our 8 sessions of Play and Connect which involve Art and Dance and Movement therapy.

We do recognise that for women to be truly supported, we should not just look at their emotional well-being but also of their practical needs. Our project offers advocacy work where we help them with their immigration applications, housing, benefits, health and many more. We spent 208 hours of advocacy work and gained some tangible results which resulted to women gaining immigration status, benefits, accommodation and many more.

During this period, we also established partnerships with Refugee Council's employment and training section called NAR, a local group that empower women to get into the job market. Moreover, we strengthen our links with Poppy Project and local groups, as well as working with the Goldsmith University to carry out a research on Violence against women in South Asia. At local level the Project also participated in carrying out a research on Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) led by Lewisham Council and IMKAAN.

In addition the project successfully managed to raise funds. We received £2300 from HSBC, £980 from The University of East London, and £1200 from musical events organised by the Project's supporters.

## Welfare, Health and Well-being

In the last year, 523 face to face appointments were given to clients. Some of the cases were complex and required referrals to several agencies. 110 successful welfare benefit applications were gained and these include; Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payment, Employment and Support Allowance, Child Tax Credit, Child Benefit, Carer's Allowance, Pension Credit, Jobseekers Allowance, Housing Benefit, Income Support and National Asylum Support Service.



9 Tribunal Hearings were attended by the worker during this period and she was successful on 8 appeals. She also worked to ensure our clients have better access to primary and secondary health services, thus improving mental and physical health. This has been achieved by:

- \* Applying for HC2 certificates to help with health costs
- \* Working in partnership with Lewisham Hospital Maternity Services by referring pregnant clients with health problems and trauma (including gender-based violence) to the safeguarding midwife.
- \* Getting clients signed up to GP's.
- \* Working with local GP's and hospitals to obtain health reports for clients used in evidence at tribunals, immigration cases and benefit claims.

Increased access to mental health services through:

- \* Referrals to Freedom from Torture
- \* Referrals to LRMN Women's Project for therapy for women who have suffered gender-based violence
- \* Referrals to local mental health services

The project improved *access to housing thus reducing homelessness*. This has been achieved by:

- \* Advocating for homeless clients to get housed by Housing Options in Lewisham.
- \* Improved housing for clients by lobbying housing departments and MP's.
- \* Referring destitute clients with children with no recourse to public funds to social services and Project 17.



The advice, advocacy and support provided have, for many clients, been a life-line. Families and vulnerable individuals have been provided essential advice on and assistance in accessing housing, applying for welfare benefits and accessing much needed health services. Clients presented with various issues (homelessness, poor physical and mental health, lack of financial resources, experiencing domestic violence, debt). 56 successful welfare benefit and NASS applications were achieved.

We also reduced homelessness by referring and advocating for 10 homeless clients and families to get housed by Lewisham Housing Options and Social Services, referring 4 clients to community care solicitors to challenge refusal to or termination of support to families with no recourse to public funds by the London Borough of Lewisham and referring 2 destitute clients with children with no recourse to public funds to Project 17.



Reduction in hardship suffered by destitute clients who have no recourse to public funds or awaiting benefits was achieved by:

\* The Hardship Fund. The project has raised money to help clients in difficult times with payments of £20 for food, emergency travel, utility bills.

\* Christmas hampers. Through partnership working with the Lewisham Homelessness Forum every year we are given Christmas Hampers for our destitute clients.

Reduction in loneliness and isolation, and improved integration was achieved by:

- providing weekly sewing and knitting classes with up to 18 client each week
- leading a weekly Health Walk in partnership with Lewisham Health Improvement Team and the Ramblers Association with up to 7 walkers each week advising 5 clients on volunteering opportunities in the local area.

Led by our Health Access Officer, we organised Healthy Walks around Deptford and New Cross attended by our clients!



## Advice Service Transition Fund

This project was funded by the Big Lottery and participated in by key advice providers in Lewisham including LRMN. It does not only aim to provide general legal advice but also aims to empower clients; giving them options and also helping them to make the decisions for themselves .

The adviser saw 246 Clients face to face with 189 successful cases. Cases we dealt with include Housing and Welfare Benefits and the majority of them were concerning ESA ,JSA ,DLA HB and CTB (Benefit Cap) Debt ,Consumer ,(Utility Bills) and Employment .

## Because We Care Project

We work with Youth Clubs which provide opportunities for young people to participate in activities that foster good health and wellbeing. In partnership with them, we organised various activities and projects participated by young people. One project was participated by 20 young people which involved developing their skills in communication, teamwork, confidence building and problems solving. Activities such as outdoor trekking, healthy eating, endurance testing, personal development and team sports were organised. Feedback from the young people was very positive. For some it was the first time they had been to facilities like this. They commented the combined activities had left a lasting positive impression and had in some cases significantly enhanced their self-confidence and sense of achievement.

Another club organised an activity on healthy eating. This involved a number of sessions in which 15 young people learnt nutritional values of the food they eat and how to get the most health related benefits from cooking. Young people involved in this activity were pleased to receive information on diets, food preparation and cooking that could be of benefit not solely to themselves but also to their families.

Another youth club of 20 young people went to an adventure activity centre. This was an opportunity for the young people to get fully immersed in exciting and fun activities that required them to use their skills and abilities to succeed in the activities. The young people positively received this fun event as a great way to get away from their normal every-day lives. Most said they seldom got the opportunities to take part in activities such as this.



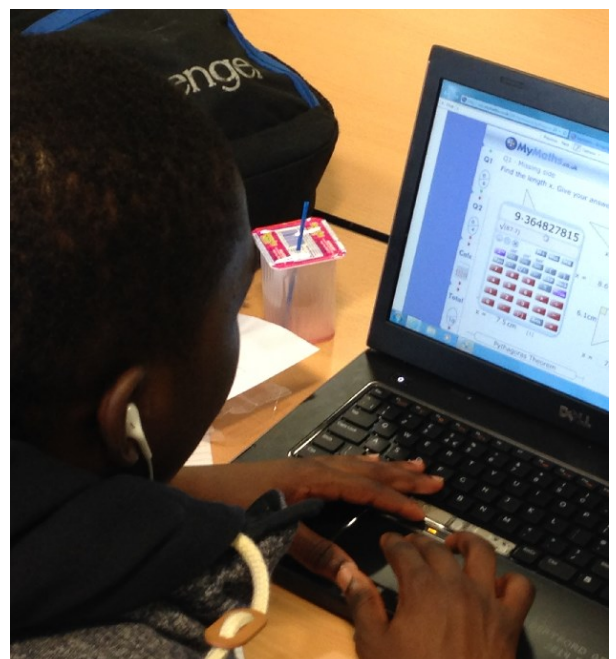


## Homework Club

The Homework Club has been running every Thursday since October 2014, during term times, at Deptford Green School. The Homework Club has created a welcoming positive atmosphere, with students visibly comfortable with the Homework Club teachers. We provide refreshments for each session, which has proved popular and a big draw for young people. At the end of each half term, we have provided a fun session with games or a movie and popular food such as pizza.

Most attendees have very low levels of English, many having moved to the UK within the last two years. Many of the young people come from countries experiencing political turmoil, violence, war and/or economic disadvantage including Somalia, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Ivory Coast, and Ghana. Some students had no or little formal education before they started at Deptford Green School. For this reason, they have required intensive assistance with their homework.

Science was the subject students most regularly required help with (with 23 occasions recorded), with Maths the second most regular subject. Geography and IT were also popular.



Pamela an African woman has a child aged six years. Her previous representatives submitted an application for her to be issued a Derivative Residence Card under European law as the Zambrano carer of her child. This was refused and she was informed that the Home Office would take enforcement action against her. The Home Office asserted that they did not have proof the child was in the UK.

The child has serious medical problems requiring specialist care. The child's father is in prison. Pamela was desperate; she owed her previous representatives money as she could not afford their fees. Her confidence was harmed by repeated domestic violence at the hands of her child's father. She had by the time we accepted her case, lived in the UK for over ten years; her ties to her home country were broken.

We submitted a detailed application for leave to remain on the basis of human rights. We drew attention to Home office's stated policy that leave should normally be granted to the parent of a British Citizen child. We provided evidence that Pamela is her child's sole carer. We asked that the application be considered under the Fee Waiver policy as Pamela is destitute, she was supported under section 17 of the Children's Act by a South London Council.

Pamela has been granted Discretionary Leave to remain on the basis that she is the sole carer of her British Citizen child. She will be allowed to receive public funds so that she can alleviate her poverty. She will now be able to rebuild her life in the U.K.



## OUR CLIENTS AND THEIR STORIES

(please note the clients' names have been changed)

Sita is a 30 year old woman who came to the UK from Sri Lanka in January 2014. In 2013 she was arrested by the Sri Lankan army in suspicion of being a Tamil Tiger member. She was separated from her husband and 2 young daughters and imprisoned for a few months where she was badly tortured. With the help of her uncle she managed to escape and was sent to India. From there Sita and her younger daughter were brought to the UK and Sita lost track of the rest of the family.

Her first Asylum application was refused and she filed for appeal. Sita came to the Women's Project (WP) in November 2014 following a referral from her GP. When we first met her, Sita was very tense, extremely depressed and not able to communicate with us, not just because of language barriers (she only speaks Tamil) but also because of fear of the unknown, which made her feel in constant danger of being sent back.



Sita was assessed and we offered her 1-1 counselling in Tamil and invited her to take part in Women's Group. These two services were instrumental in helping her to trust us and the ladies in the group, with whom she started to build relationships. Sita was not just in need of emotional and psychological support but she presented a number of practical issues too, such as delays in NASS financial support, lack of housing and her daughter's integration difficulties at school. Psychological reports were written in support of her immigration appeal application and eventually she was granted status. We further supported her with her welfare applications.

We could see Sita flourishing in confidence, self-esteem. She has been able to open up and talk about her past trauma and current difficulties and is now comfortable to ask for help. She felt tremendously supported by the WP staff, her counsellor and also by the members of the group, especially the ones from her country.

Following our successful referral to Red Cross Tracing Unit, they managed to locate her husband, elder daughter and mother. Since June 2015 she has been able to communicate with them over the phone.

Sita cannot stop smiling and is showing pictures of her wedding and family to share her joy with all of us. We are now supporting her and hoping that her family will be able to join her under the Family Reunion Program.

Kalyani came to the UK two years ago from India with her two sons to join her husband who had been granted Refugee Status in the UK. She was waiting for a decision on her application for leave to remain when her husband died suddenly from a stroke. She was told it was due to stress; he worked every day of the week, as many hours as he could, as a security guard to support his family. Not only had she lost her husband and her sons' father but because of her immigration status she did not have the right to work or claim benefits so she could not keep up on the rent payments. She had no money to feed her family and relied on her church and LRMN for food parcels and hardship payments. We also referred her to the Food Bank for additional support. We helped the family request help from Social Services but they turned them away so we referred them to a solicitor who helped them get support. After a long battle, they are now in temporary accommodation and receiving some financial assistance from Social Services. Just after they were evicted from their home, Kalyani received a positive decision on her application and she was granted Limited Leave to Remain. She is now looking for work and we have signposted her to organisations that can help her look for work and help with writing her CV. We also referred her to a Bereavement Counselling service and applied for Bereavements benefits which she has found very helpful. We also referred them for family counselling as a way of helping her sons deal with the loss of their father.



Nadim is a 65 year old Burmese client who came here originally as an asylum seeker and was granted refugee status. Two years ago, he had a severe stroke leaving him physically incapacitated. He has other health problems including diabetes requiring insulin injections. His wife and son care for him around the clock, helping him with all daily functions, such as dressing, washing, eating, etc. He rarely goes out except to the doctor or hospital. He applied for Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) which he was initially granted. Then his benefit was stopped after a medical assessment by ATOS, where he was declared fit for work. Our worker appealed against the decision and represented him at the ESA tribunal. We won the case and the judge ruled that he was significantly limited due to his disability. They rejected the evidence of ATOS and the DWP, and stated that the evidence provided by our worker and the client's own account was more credible. The client had his benefit re-instated with the recommendation not to assess him for 2 years. He was also placed in the support group which means they have accepted he is not capable of work, and that he needs extra support for his care needs.

## REFUGEE WEEK CELEBRATION – June 2014



The Refugee Week 2014 celebration took place from 16<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> June. This annual event is an opportunity to celebrate the presence of and contribution refugees make to our locality, communities and nation. The theme of Refugee Week 2014 was Children and Young People.



To celebrate Refugee Week this year, LRMN collaborated with Federation of Refugees from Vietnam in Lewisham (FORVIL), Lewisham Churches for Asylum Seekers (LEWCAS), Lewisham's Young Mayor's Team and Lewisham Ethnic Minority Partnership (LEMP).



We also celebrated in schools to engage the students of Deptford Green School and Prendergast School.

In Deptford Green School the event consisted a 10 Minute talk and 10 minute Q&A session by the six representatives from Lewisham's Young Mayor's Team. This presentation and Q&A was given to a Study Group of 30 young people.

The presentation began with a contextual introduction in which the background and issues of refugees in the UK were discussed. This was followed by the question and answer session designed to challenge negative myths and mistruths about refugees and asylum seekers. Time also allowed for the short film 'Refugee Kids' to be shown here too.

Members of the Lewisham's Young Mayor's Team explained what they had learnt and previously knew about refugees and asylum seekers, including background to Refugee Week. They also spoke of the need for tolerance and encouraged students to become actively involved in future Refugee Week events and activities.

The session concluded with a song written and sung by a local singer-songwriter about refugees and the things we share and have in common with them.



In Prendergast School, the Young Mayor's representative and the LRMN Project Coordinator gave a presentation to the whole of Year 10 students which is about 120 young people. The representative from the Young Mayor's Team spoke eloquently about famous refugees and how they had made an impact on the lives of many people. He spoke of the importance of a tolerant society and how refugees can become icons.

The LRMN presentation again addressed the mistruths and myths prevalent in society and the media about refugees. It talked about the numbers seeking asylum, the numbers granted or returned, their entitlements and the history of migration and seeking refuge in the UK. However, it made the point that the UK does not overall have very high levels of refugee and asylum seekers compared with many other countries in Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

The purpose of the presentations in schools was to raise awareness and increase understanding amongst young people of the issues faced by people fleeing their country of birth and seeking refuge and asylum in the UK. At the end of each presentation young people were able to list at least 2 challenges young refugees face in school, list at least 2 contributions made by refugees to the community/society, knew proportionally how many refugees seek asylum in the UK compared with other countries, state reasons why people typically flee their country to seek asylum and know why Refugee Week is celebrated.

Feedback from the schools suggests that the young people found the presentation interesting with many stating they had learned something new from the presentation. Representatives from the schools also spoke of their willingness to take part in a similar event for Refugee Week in the future.



## Our New Office

Our new office was opened by Lewisham Mayor Sir Steve Bullock on 13<sup>th</sup> March after being partially painted by Mitie apprentices and completed by HSBC staff after we have physically moved in the building. Thank you to you for giving us a fresh looking building!!





### Tea, Cakes and Karaoke ↑

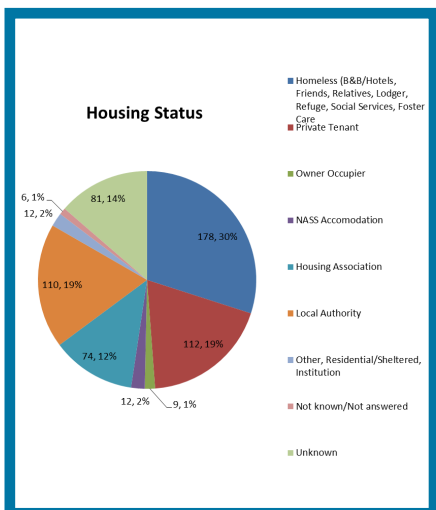
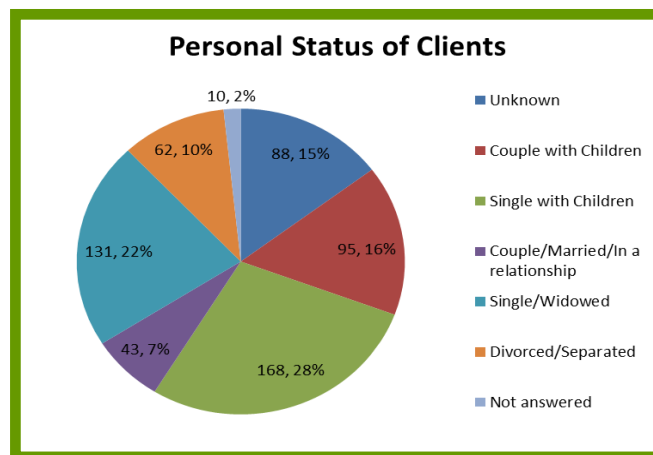
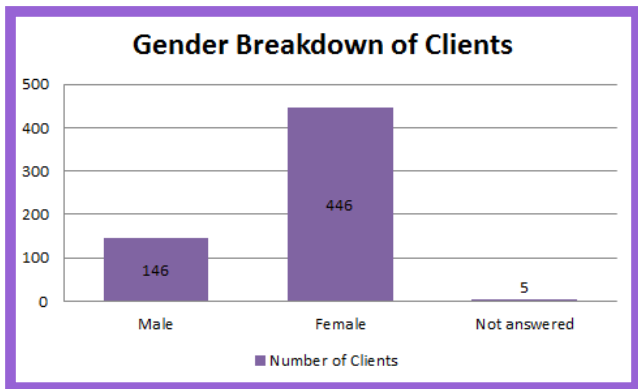
A fundraising event was held on 13th September where we served tea and cakes and allowed people to belt out a song or two! We also played bingo to raise funds. In total we managed to raise just under £200 from this fun and relaxing event.



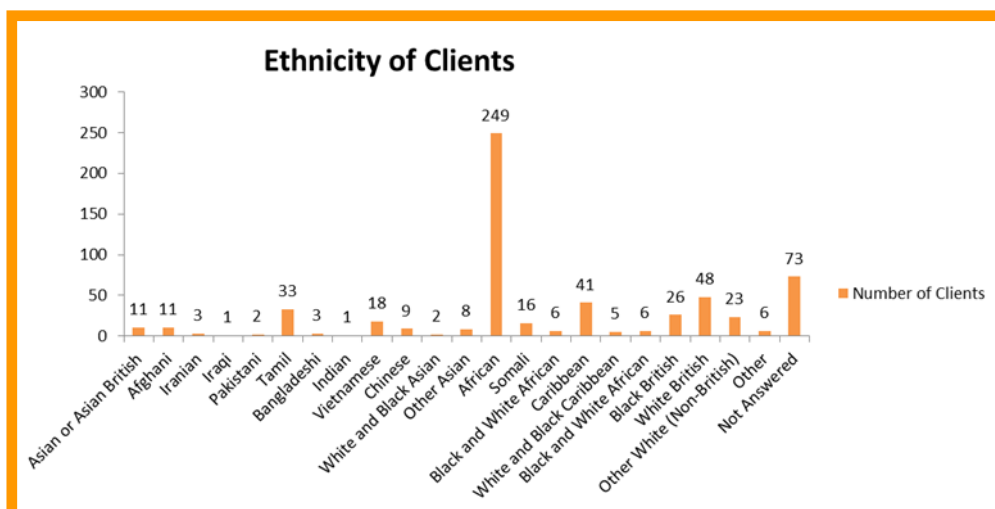
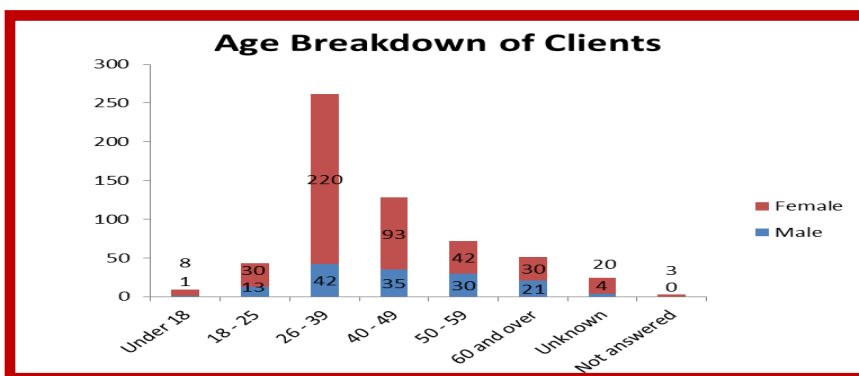
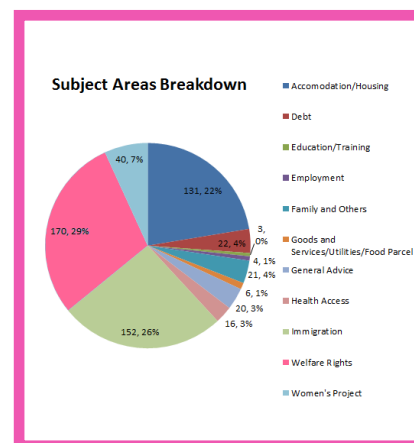
↑ Client's Christmas party ↓



↑  
Staff and Volunteers Party



# Statistics for 2014 - 2015



## **STAFF, TRUSTEES AND VOLUNTEERS**

### **Our Staff**

Rosario Guimba-Stewart – Director

Margot Lawrence – Welfare and Health Adviser (Left July 2015)

Hana Hamaz – Health Access Officer

Cristina Zorat – Women’s Project Manager

Ellie Mahsoori – Women’s Project Manager

Terry Adams – Young Refugee and Migrant Carers Co –ordinator

Shepherd Ziko—Health Access Officer (Left September 2015)

Marina Themistocleous – Immigration Adviser (Left March 2015)

Emma Noble – Immigration Adviser (Left June 2015)

Sheila Kaul Grewal – Immigration Solicitor (Left July 2015)

Alex Adeyemo – Immigration Solicitor

Andrew Jordan – Immigration Adviser

Ardita Rexhepi – Advice Lewisham (AL) General Adviser

Tannasha Alcendor—Administrator

Rabecca Kambwili—Finance Officer

Anne Crouch - AL General Adviser (maternity cover, left April 2015)

Bea Mgabi – Creche Worker

Arezu Izats – Creche Worker

Yasmin Sharples – Homework Club Teacher (Left July 2015)

Katie Leach – Homework Club Teaching Assistant (Left July 2015)

Rebecca Sharples - Homework Club Teacher

Mariam Williams – Sewing Tutor  
(Left June 2015)

Julia Gemie – Knitting Tutor (Left  
March 2015)

### **Our Trustees**

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Amina Ismail – Vice Chair

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Jumoke Adejimiola—Trustee

Carol Cadogan Ifill - Trustee

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Mo Obadina – Trustee

Jim Kanter – Trustee

Pawan Dhillon - Trustee

### **DMP therapists on placement:**

Laila Baha Aldeen Elboukhari

Verity Danbold

### **Clinical supervisor**

Caroline Stedman

### **Social Workers on placement**

Emma Frampton (Left April 2015)

Karamjit Larh (Left May 2014)

Maria Moody-Wyse

Blessing Offiaeli

### **ESOL and Literacy Teachers**

Clare Maclure

Charles Williams (Left March 2015)

Nolita Randall

Lolita Cocking (Left July 2015)

Linda Woodhams (Left Oct 2015)

Christina Jackson

### **Volunteers**

Emmanuel Pyne

Pamela Moncrieff

Emma Noble

Danielle Hart

Zoline Makosso

Sian Munkhai (Left April  
2014)

Iris Wickham (Left Dec 2014)

Emem Nsek

Yvone Lennon

Nichole Tostevin-Tagbo

Tanya Cook

Alice Horton

Lisa Hamas

Myra Berg

Yvonne Lennon

Peter Stewart

### **Counsellors on placement:**

Adela Mrkaljevic

Anna Wachowska

Emma Punter

Maia Franzetti

Nazia Mahmood

Sandra Miller

Sonya Levin

Thila Vellisamy

Yema Ferreira

Nibarna Kannathasan

### **Play & Connect therapists**

Karin Angstrom Ludwig

Mihaela Popp Baduta

With huge thanks to our funders—the work of LRMN wouldn't be possible without you.



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Thank you to everyone who has gone to the effort of finding the time among the many other things on their to-do-lists to contribute to this report.

We hope that anyone and everyone who has taken the time to read it will have enjoyed it and found it interesting, and that it will have served in broadening your understanding of all that goes on at LRMN, and hopefully goes some way to demonstrating the value of the work of our organisation.

If it has inspired you to want to know anything more about any of the strands of LRMN or the services that we offer, or to make a referral, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Equally, if you're at all interested in getting involved in our work, we'd be extremely glad to hear from you.

With many thanks for your interest, engagement and support, and the best of wishes,

All of the staff, trustees and volunteers at LRMN



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