



Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women Organisation

Violence against Women and Girls Should Stop!



Annual Report (2014-2015)



Run By Women for Women



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About us

The Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation (KMEWO) grew out of a merger between its predecessor, the Kurdistan Refugee Women's Organisation (KRWO) and the Middle Eastern Centre for Women's Rights. KRWO was established in 1999. It is a registered Charity (No. 1137055) and a Company Limited by Guarantee (No. 6978454). KMEWO operates from the following offices;

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The primary purpose of the Organisation is to champion the cause of abuse women and girls from the Kurdistan, Middle East and North Africa, particularly those affected by domestic and honour based violence, forced marriages, Sexual abuse and female genital mutilation. We are also seeking to help the women and girls start a new and productive life in this Country by providing them with the knowledge and skills that are necessary for their integration, successes and achievements.

KMEWO is managed by a team of seven dedicated trustees all of whom are resolute in their determination to help in bringing about an end to the evil acts of honour and domestic violence and other forms of abuse against women. Their names and position are as follows;

Mrs Janan Aljabiri	Chair
Ms Dr K. Rashid	Secretary
Ms Tanya Ahmad	Treasurer
Ms D. Jamal	Director
Ms Tina Saeed	Director
Ms Diba Alikhani	Director
Ms Gilda Partoandaz	Director
Ms Naz Jamal	Director

KMEWO current staff members

Ms Sawsan Salim	Director
Ms Gona Saed	Project Manager/Develop worker
Ms Zekiye Kartal	Development Worker
Ms Hannan Babakiri	DV Advice Worker
Ms Peshang Arkawazi	Administrative & It Assistant
Noel Hudson	Consultant
K. Saya	Design Consultant

During the last financial year KMEWO employed 10 sessional workers, namely;

Shahnaz Kinoo	ESOL (E1,E2,E3) & Literacy L1,L2
Diren Hamakarim	Word & Excel
Marina D'Arco	Confident building & Employability
Ozlem Ozdermir	IT, Parenting
Diane Miller	ESOL (E1, E2)
Peshang Arkawazi	Word & Excel
R. Farag	Childcare
Ameera Sulaiman	Childcare
Nasima Ali	Childcare
Asha Gaal	Childcare

The work of the Organisation is strongly supported by a pool of volunteers to whom we are very indebted. These are;

Sahar Nouhi	Kum Foowg Let
Siel Devos	Sussan Essah
Claudia Hernandez	Naceria Avirouche
Ezgi Akarsu	Nadaa Alssir
Safiya Cumar Muhudin	Yasmin Snouci
Ghada Al-Kady	Susan Hassan
Khalida Mosil	Sherin Fadula

Our Aims;

To relieve the distress and suffering of Kurdish and Middle Eastern women and children in necessitous circumstances resident in the UK and in such parts of the world as the Trustees may from time to time determine

To promote the human rights of Kurdish and Middle Eastern women through providing information, research and organising conferences and seminars on human rights issues.

To promote equality of opportunities of women particularly those within the Kurdish and Middle Eastern communities resident in the UK and elsewhere by providing information and educating the general public on such matters.

Chair's report

I am very pleased to report on the ending of another successful year of the Kurdish & Middle Eastern Women's Organisation. It is also the end of my second year as Chair and the experience has been exceedingly rewarding. Over the year I was privileged to meet a number of organisations, all of which are committed to helping disadvantage members of the community. I learnt a lot from these meetings and our exchanges have, I hope is contributing to the future development of our different organisations.

It is however regrettable that the incidence of domestic violence and female genital mutilation is still a cause for concern, notwithstanding the efforts of KMEWO and many other organisations to combat this twin problem. We are nevertheless committed to continue the struggle against these and other human rights violations until satisfactory progress is achieved. One of the approaches which KMEWO is pursuing in helping victims of domestic violence is the development of skills and knowledge that will enable them to become independent and less reliant on abusive partners. Over the last two years KMEWO's main focus has been the Learning for Living project, funded by the Big Lottery Fund. This project is progressing very well and for this I would like to thank our staffs, our sessional workers and our dedicated pool of volunteers for their hard work.

So far over 500 women have been recruited on to the Learning for Living project, which covers ESOL (Entry 1, 2 and 3), Literacy, Confidence Building, IT and Employability. I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to our funder's and partners for their generous support without which we would not be able to support our many vulnerable service users. I would also like to express my appreciation and gratitude to the staffs and volunteers for their hard work and I look forward to another equally productive year.

Janan Aljabiri



Director's Report

This has been another successful year for KMEWO. Our Learning for Living project continue to progress and has exceeded all expectations. Over 500 women have so far joined the project and all seems to be enjoying the atmosphere, building their confidence and developing valuable life skills. During the year KMEWO also ran a series of workshops on FGM which attracted a total of 209 women and girls along with a few men.

I am pleased to report that not only are our activities attracting a greater number of women and girls they are also being delivered at an increasing number of venues. Venues from where we have been delivering our projects and other activities are; the Muslim Welfare House and Finsbury Park Mosques, Jannaty women Group and a number of primary and supplementary schools. I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to the Managers of the venues for allowing us to use these buildings and for their support in helping to make our projects a success.

Much of our work over the last twelve months has been to help Kurdish, Middle Eastern and North African women with human rights issues access the welfare benefit systems, develop their confidence and to achieve essential employable skills. There has also been increasing requests for help and support to deal with the growing problem of prevention, extremism and radicalisation within the community and the attraction of ISIS amongst young people. Unable to understand the strange behaviour of their children, KMEWO is one of the organisations the mothers turn to for help and advice. All these factors are disproportionately affecting women from the Kurdish, Middle Eastern and North African communities who lack the support network which is available to other community groups.

KMEWO is best positioned to help these women and is working tirelessly in providing them with the advice and support to overcome their difficulties. Over the last twelve months we have dealt with over 500 cases of domestic violence and other issues, helping many victims to move to places of safety and to start new independent lives. Our confidence building training and skills development programmes have help some to become volunteers, secured paid employment, go on to further studies and to move closer towards their goals.

Looking ahead I believe that two of the main challenges will be female genital mutilation and radicalisation. Although FGM is now widely acknowledge as barbaric, cruel and illegal in this Country, there is a belief that the practice continues and is justified on the ground of cultural tradition. KMEWO is working unstintingly with the women to reorient the community against their traditional beliefs and to conform to expectations of modern societies. We have made some progress but much remain to be done

Each year we supported in excess of 2000 women and girls in total. KMEWO is one of the partners in a new violence against BAMER women project in Islington with IMECE and LAWA is committed to work with others to bring about a demise of the many issues affecting women and girls.

The leaders of the local Mosques, community centres, primary and supplementary schools local schools have assisted KMEWO, in various ways, in delivering our projects and to them all a big thank you. We look forward to receiving their on-going support over the coming years.



Sawsan Salim

Projects

The following are some of the projects delivered by KMEWO over the period of this report;

Advice and Support – A total of 523 women were given advice from our Archway and Southwark Offices, some on multiple occasions. A range of issues were dealt with, including; domestic violence, honour base violence, divorce, early and forced marriages, FGM, NRPF, welfare benefits, debt and housing.



The services were essentially for women facing DV and HBV, needing shelter and MARAC referrals, support in applying for welfare benefits and housing entitlements and those needing information and access to specialist legal and immigration advice. KMEWO also provided one to one employability advice and support including helping women with CV writing, job search and volunteering opportunities.

The Samira Project – this is a partnership project between IMECE, KMEWO and LAWRS which is progressing very well and on target to meet its milestones. Two cases were referred to MARAC and a total of 52 one-to-one crisis intervention sessions were held. Under this project we established the BMEAR network which bring together members of minority groups to discuss different issues, including a lack of funding from statutory bodies.

Learning for Living Project – In year 2 of Learning for Living project we planned, organised and delivered a total of 35 activities, covering 26 educational courses, 6 workshops and 2 group outings, for Kurdish, Middle Eastern and North African women. All the women are resident in Islington, Haringey, Hackney, Camden, Westminster and Southwark. The number of direct beneficiaries who participated in the various activities in, year 2 of the project were 435, 270 individual women attended different courses and workshops. 26 different courses were delivered from 11 venues, each over a 13 week period and varying between 10 and 26 hours in length. The level of the courses did vary in order to accommodate the learner's abilities but were informed by Big Lottery outcomes and the Organisation's development plan.

The classes covered were;

- 4 x ESOL Entry 1
- 3 x ESOL conversation & support
- 5 x ESOL Entry 2
- 2 x ESOL Entry 3
- 4 x Literacy L1 & L2
- 2 x Word & Excel
- 3 x Confidence Building (focused on Employability, office management and parenting skills)
- 1x IT basic
- 3 x Employability

Volunteering – A total of 22 volunteers were recruited by KMEWO during the year 2014/15, of which 16 were recruited from the courses. The volunteers were all very



enthused and motivated and willingly took on the various tasks they were assigned, e.g. assisting teachers in IT classes, helping peer participants who might have lower level of English or IT; representing the class with teacher or KMEWO on issues arising, participating in KMEWO's events such as promotional information stalls, consultation with local authorities, assisting other women to access KMEWO's advice and support services.

Campaign and lobbying — Our campaign and lobbying activities remain a key and vital part of our work, the core of which are honour

based and domestic violence, forced marriages and female genital mutilation. Various methods are used to gather information and to convey our messages, including; primary and desk research, sending letters and press releases to Members of Parliament and statutory bodies, giving interviews to the press, radios and TV's. On 7 February a statement on FGM was issued by the Organisation as part of our campaign and lobbying activities. The Middle East conflict, in particular the situation in Syria, Iraq and the brutality of IS, is of great concern to the world and KMEWO has been playing an active role in campaigning and lobbying for the release of the kidnapped women and girls.

Welfare reform — over the period of the report six workshops were held on welfare reform benefit systems. We were assisted in the delivery of these workshops by the Citizens Advice Bureau (Hammersmith) and Black Friars Advice Centres and were delivered in the London boroughs of Islington and Hammersmith. The workshops raised the women's awareness about the changes and the likely impact on their families. We also received some positive feedbacks from the attendees regarding the value of the workshops. They highlighted the fact that they learn about what to expect, what to do, what agencies that could offer support and where to go for legal advice. It is also interesting to note that the benefit of the workshops was not restricted to those attending but to the wider Kurdish, Middle Eastern and North African communities, with whom the acquired information was shared. The following are some of the feedbacks received;

".. yes I will feel more confident in dealing with the problem (changes in the welfare benefits)"

"The session made me aware of further help and support with money and housing problem".

"What I learnt from the session today is what I need to do to stay in my home"

"after today's session what I'll try to do is to maximise my income and manage my finances by planning to set up a personal and household budget"

"I'm 25 weeks pregnant and I will benefit from another session to know exactly what benefits to apply for"

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) — nine workshops and one seminar on the practice of FGM were delivered by the Organisation during 2014/15. The Director, staffs and volunteers also attended a number of networking



groups and conferences on the issue of FGM, where the focus was on the practice of FGM in Middle Eastern communities. The workshops and seminar were funded by Rosa and it was agreed that we should aim for a target of 170 attendees. We actually exceeded the target by attracting a total of 209 women and girls, along with a few men. The attendees were mainly from Islington, Westminster, Southwark, Haringey and Enfield, and the workshops delivered in Arabic, Kurdish and English. Seven of the workshops were for women and girls only and one entirely for men.



The feedback was very positive, many stated that their knowledge of FGM has been improved, especially the information on the different types of FGM, which they were not previously aware of.

On 13th November 14 KMEWO organised a seminar on the subject, 'Changing attitude toward FGM', which was attended by 70 people – (professionals and men and women from Middle Eastern communities). The guest speaker at the seminar was lawyer and FGM activist, Falah Shakaram from Kurdistan. He gave an insight on and shed some light on the work being done to end FGM in the Middle East and his desire to build relationships with KMEWO and other women's charity organisations in the UK.

As a result of our success in delivering the FGM workshops, we were invited by Islington Council to deliver a one-day FGM training to a group of teachers from Islington Adult and Community Learning. It was attended by 18 teachers from local schools. The teachers were also made aware of symptoms indicating that FGM had taken place or that there was a likelihood of it happening. They were also instructed on what to do if a child is suspected to be at risk of FGM, including reporting their concerns to the police, social and health workers. The workshop raised a lot of discussion around the background of the practice and whether or not it was a religious or cultural tradition.

In a special issue of our Al-Nisa magazine (issue No. 19), published in July 2014, there were a number of articles on the practice of FGM in Kurdistan, the Middle East and North Africa. Interviews with a number of specialists were also included in this edition. Through the magazine, which was published on-line and distributed widely within the UK, we were able to communicate the universal objections to FGM and the fact that the practice is illegal in this Country.

Social and cultural activities – KMEWO has organised a range of social and cultural activities over the period of this report as part of its support to the women and girls from Kurdistan, the Middle East and North Africa. The following are some of the events we arranged.

International Women's Day Celebrations:

In common with the practice of previous years, KMEWO again celebrated International Women's Day with peer and sister organisations, along with many women and their families from Kurdish and Middle Eastern communities in London. The achievements of the Organisation was also celebrated at the event and those present encouraged KMEWO to continue its hard and dedicated work in raising the voices of Kurdish and Arabic speaking women in the UK and raise awareness of issues affecting women within these communities.

On 6th March 2015, Gona Saed, Sahar Nuhi and Ghada Al-Kadi represented KMEWO in the 'Supporting Refugee Women: Domestic Violence event organised by Evelyn Oldfield Foundation at the London Metropolitan University. The event was enriched with contributions from many inspirational migrant and refugee women from different communities. The day was packed with networking and knowledge-sharing

of the challenges faced by refugee and migrant women in accessing mainstream services and overcoming these challenges. Gona Saed gave a presentation about KMEWO's services for women, such as supporting them to assert their rights and get out of violent relationships and threats of Honour Based Violence, securing their safety and supporting them to become independent and rebuild their lives in the UK. Gona spoke of the challenges and divided them to three types. First there are the cultural and religious barriers preventing women from seeking help. Second, there are challenge caused by lack of understanding and training amongst service providers and the women's past experiences of institutional racism. Finally, there are organisational challenges such as funding cuts and the lack of resources and recognition of the many life-saving services of organisations like KMEWO.



On 7th March 2015 , KMEWO and International Federation of Iraqi Refugees Co organised a seminar and social event for Kurdish community residents in Islington and the neighbouring boroughs. KMEWO's Director, Sawsan Salim, spoke about the new challenges facing Kurdish women at the times of war in Iraq and Syria. She talked about the kidnapping and sexually enslavement of thousands of Yazidi women by Islamic State ISIS, and expressed the need for an international voice to lobby for their immediate release and rehabilitation. Sawsan also talked about the victories of women in Kobane and their brave resistance against fundamentalism and terrorism in the region and praised the women's participation in rebuilding their society in Syrian Kurdistan. Further, she addressed the most progressive Personal status law "Social Contract by Jazira canton" and called for a similar Equality Law for Kurdish women in Iraqi Kurdistan. Sawsan announced that KMEWO is supporting women's struggle for full equality in Kurdistan and the region. The event continued with traditional Middle Eastern food and music until late.

On Sunday 8th March, KMEWO and a number of other Kurdish and Middle Eastern women's organisations including Kurdish Women Rights Organisation, Kurdish Women's project , Rojhalat Women's Organisation and Gorran Women organised an afternoon of

panel discussion, poetry and socializing in Greenford London. The event was attended by several hundreds of Kurdish families. Gona Saed and Sawsan Salim from KMEWO were amongst the panellists.

The panel discussion focused on the challenges women are facing in different parts of Kurdistan and the Middle East in their fight for equality and liberation. Among the issues discussed were institutional discrimination by states and political forces, the effects of war in Iraq and Syria, the sexual violence and sexual slavery faced by Kurdish women after the emergence of ISIS in the Middle East since June 2014 and the role of women in opposing religious fundamentalism. In



her speech, Gona questioned the widely held beliefs on women's rights in the Middle East before the recent conflict.

She explained that women did not, in fact, live carefree lives, but for many years were subjected to continuous discrimination as a result of the significant influence of religion in Kurdish society and the limitation of personal freedoms through various laws and legislation, religious institutions, policing and doctrine. Lack of equality and human rights, she said, were perpetrated by almost every government in the region which resulted in mass inequalities and widespread practice of Domestic Violence and Honour Based Violence. Women were struggling for better rights and freedoms at almost every level in Kurdish society, and the arrival of ISIS and the subsequent war practically killed all hope for better rights for women.

The women of Kobane stood up and demonstrated that a different role for women is possible: most striking are the women warriors and the armed mothers against terrorism in the front line of the war on fundamentalism. Women regained hopes for a better future and more rights and although they are conscious of the fact that the struggle for freedom and equality in the Middle East will still be a long and complicated one, it can succeed with the determination of progressive-minded women and men.

Returning to the rostrum, Sawsan Salim spoke about the need for change regarding the current Personal Status Law in Iraqi Kurdistan with Equality Law. She highlighted all the articles of the current law that lead to discrimination against women, such as allowing for polygamy, giving women half the share of inheritance compared to men, inequalities in divorce rights, custody of children and the list goes on. Sawsan explained that although women in Iraqi Kurdistan are actively participating in society at the political, economic and social level, the Kurdish Regional Government is still preventing many women from obtaining and exercising their civil rights. One of the ways the Government perpetuates inequalities is through keeping in force the discriminatory laws that haven't changed since the government of Saddam Hussein more than 24 years ago, such as personal status law and the Iraqi penal code.

Sawsan explained that as a result of some articles still in force in Iraqi Kurdistan women are severely punished for crimes such as adultery and abortion while men receive a smaller punishment for killing women under the name of honour killing. Finally Sawsan introduced the Equality Law, an alternative proposal to Personal Status law, and asked for the support from those present. Many people at the conference signed a petition to urge the Kurdish Regional Government to abolish the current outdated personal status law and replace it by the new Equality Law.

Museum & Library Visits - visits were made to museums and libraries in order to assist the women in learning about British culture and to facilitate their endeavours to integrate fully into the society. The women had not previously visited a museum or a library but following introductory presentations by the librarian, they each took out membership and are now regular users of the library.

Interpretation & Translation – changes to the welfare benefit systems along with a surge of refugees and asylum seekers has meant that the demand for these services continues abated. The organisation regularly provides interpretation and translation support to women at interviews with the police, solicitors, colleges, housing departments, refuge, job centres, etc. Over the last twelve months we supported 92 women.

Promotion & Publicity – KMEWO has become acutely aware of the need to promote and publicize its work, partly to secure funding but also to raise its profile within the community. It has been agreed that we should continue with the following activities in order to bring these about;



AL-Nisa Magazine – We have published a special issue of Al-Nisa magazine (No. 19) in July 2014 on FGM in both Arabic and English. The issue included interviews with FGM activists and specialists who shed light on this practice in Middle East, Africa and the UK. The magazine was distributed widely in the UK and online.

After a big gap in publishing (Aweza) Newsletter in Kurdish-Sorani, it has started again. Issue 17 just published electronically from KMEWO's website focusing on FGM amongst Kurdish women, information on prevalence of FGM, world statistics, types of FGM, policy and legislation in the UK, reports and analysis about how to tackle FGM.

Press, TV and Radio Interview – over the last twelve months the Director and Project Manager gave a number of interviews to the newspapers, televisions and radios on the work of KMEWO. Issues discussed include; the Middle East conflicts and the role of women, honour based violence, female genital mutilation, divorce and forced marriages.

Website – during the period of this report KMEWO replaces its website with something more up-to-date and user friendly. We invite everyone to visit the new site and to feedback any comment they might. Please note the new address; www.kmewo.com

Meetings – these continues to be an essential part of the way the organisation promotes and publicizes its work. The Director and Project Manager attend and speak at various meetings about the activities of KMEWO, which has helped to raise the profile of the Organisation significantly.

Case Studies;

Masha attended several of our Learning for Living courses in Finsbury Park Mosque, including IT for beginners and ESOL E2. Masha is originally from Sudan and a mother of 4 children. She finished her Arabic degree in Sudan and she got a clear plan of what she wants to achieve through the courses after the teacher set up for her an individual journey: "I would love to study more English and IT to find a job as an Arabic teacher for children in London". As she lives closely to our venues in Finsbury Park, Masha is very happy about the easy access to the English and IT courses. Masha says: "When my children were little and at home I couldn't practise, I didn't have time or a free mind to study for myself." Now that my children are attending school fulltime, I finally had time to take the courses I always wanted to take.

"I attended KMEWO's previous computer course in the Finsbury Park Mosque. Here, I learned to set up an email account and practised using my email account. It took me a while until I started writing emails. I'm really glad to get a place in your IT workshop where the class is smaller and the teacher has more time for the students. I get more attention from the teacher to express what I like to learn. This smaller group of women is better for us beginners, because we need more one-to-one help. I like to be good and do all my homework, and the teacher gives me good feedback. Since I've come to this computer workshop I started shopping online, before my husband did this for me. Now I use the computer to look at my children's school website, to keep up to date with activities, as they often forget to tell me what is happening at school. When my children see me at the computer at home they say very proudly "look at mum using all this technology and Internet, nobody can stop her anymore!" And they are right, I am even thinking of getting myself a laptop." Our IT teacher says: "Masha is an excellent student, she doesn't miss any classes, and she does her homework and always comes well prepared. Although she is attending the IT workshop for beginners, she has already written a very good cover letter."



FH

F was a young woman when she came to the UK from Somalia over five years ago. She left school with only one GCSE and got married shortly thereafter. She now has three children and before making contact with KMEWO she lack confidence and suffers from very low self-esteem. Subsequent to completing one of our confidence building courses she asked to become a volunteer with the Organisation. Over a period of six months with the Organisation FH has developed her confidence and self-esteem and is now able to interact positively with other members of the group and other service users. Having identified a lack of emotional support to young Somali women in the area she volunteered to explore what could be done to address the situation. She came up with an idea for some workshops for young Somalia girls, which she planned and organised with support from Muslim Youth Helpline. F is now working part-time with an humanitarian aid charity.

After a period of six months with KMEWO, FH left the Organisation to take up a part-time paid position with a humanitarian aid charity.

HH

HH initially joined one of our ESOL classes in order to improve her English knowledge before deciding to become a volunteer. Originally from Morocco she came to the UK to help her daughter who had a breakdown and was unable to adequately care for her two young children. As a volunteer she came to the Office regularly each week for four months where she learns how to use the computer and to carry out simple administrative tasks. Her English is improving very well indeed, along with her self-esteem and confidence building. This is what HH said about her experience with KMEWO;

"I loved coming to the office. I feel that I learnt many new things.

Before I did not know how I could turn on the computer. Now I can turn on the internet and use word. I hope I can go to learn more about computers and continue to be a volunteer in the future"

FZ

FZ came to the UK in October 2010 after she was exposed to torture in her home country Iran. She applied for asylum. We referred her to Helen Bamber Foundation and the Medical Foundation. She is still doing counselling sessions with the Medical Foundation. We supported her with her asylum claim and it was successful. She has been offered a flat by Islington Council and we are trying to help her settle there. She attends ESOL classes that we provide for women. She is also attending a gardening and mentoring training projects. She is currently studying Accounting at Islington College. We still supporting her with on-going emotional issues and benefit problems and always encourage her to attend activities to develop her skills and build her self-esteem. FZ is very interesting because she was always helping others, for example she spend a lot of time helping an illiterate woman for Iraq to learn English in our Office on a one to one basis

The following are some of the outcomes we have achieved from our various activities. During year 2 of learning for living Project;

- ◆ 93 women participated in activities exploring volunteering at schools and attending school activities.
- ◆ 64 women were specifically prepared to search for volunteering and paid employment.
- ◆ 138 women participated in discussion held about education and social systems.
- ◆ 30 Women have found safety away from violent partners and started to rebuild their lives. They are more aware of their legal rights and can decide for themselves what is in their best interest. Women are able to develop varied and adequate coping strategies.
- ◆ Forced marriages is now a criminal offence and Female genital mutilation is at the centre of government policies; KMEWO was one of the first organisations to campaign for the criminalisation of these harmful traditional practices and to bring more awareness to education, health and criminal justice departments.

- ◆ We worked with over 400 women building their confidence to access further education, employment and volunteering; a large number of these women are accessing KMEWO's advice and information services.
- ◆ Women are more informed about their rights and entitlements to welfare benefit.
- ◆ 7 women have obtained the right to stay in the UK in the last year and a further 10 women are helped and awaiting their results.
- ◆ Women and men are aware of the legal, health and psychological objections to FGM in this country.



SERVICE USERS FEEDBACK

IT: Word and Excel

- ◆ I have understood much better word it was easier I have learned a lot of things it was very interesting
- ◆ Learnt how to type a letter put pictures in the letter documents do its help me with doing my work for college then writing my assignments
- ◆ I learned so many things that I did not know before
- ◆ I learned more about word and excel and am more confident in using it.
- ◆ Informative, good clear teaching with lots of examples, easy to learn and understand.
- ◆ Well explained, but needs to slow down when speaking in the classroom. This makes the student to be able to understand and picks things up.
- ◆ For me this ICT course was very new I have done first time and it was very helpful I have learnt all new things which I have never done before I am very happy this course and the tutor was very helpful all the weeks and in future what I have learnt will help me a lot - thank you
- ◆ Very good for those student how knows basic about word and excel. Lots of new thing I learn in this course. Everything was well prepared and explained.

Networking & Partnership Building – KMEWO continues to work with other organisations, in order to share good practice, inform and be informed about each other's work, support and participate in the work and activities of each other, etc. Amongst these are; Safer Islington Partnership, IMECE Women's Centre, LAWA, Imkaan, MARAC sub group, Islington and Southwark VAW&G, Right of Women, Women Resource Centre, International Federation for Iraqi Refugees, Female genital mutilation forum, Islington Voluntary Action, Evelyn Oldfield and Islington Refugee Forum.



We would particularly like to highlight our special relationship with the Muslim Welfare House Mosque, Finsbury Park Mosque, Imece Women's Centre, Turkish Education Group, Kurdish Advice Centre (Komkar), Jannaty Women's Group, Newington Green Primary School, Copenhagen Primary schools, Zagros, Azadi, Goizha Kurdish supplementary school and all of which provided us with valuable support in the delivery of our ESOL classes and FGM awareness Seminars.

UBLIC BENEFIT OF OUR WORK;

Our work fully meets all the requirements of the Public Benefit test;

Our benefits are clear – we provide advice and advocacy on domestic violence, honour based violence, forced marriage, health, education, housing, etc. to vulnerable and disadvantaged women

The benefits are related to our aims – all the benefits that we provide are consistent with our aims and objectives.



Income & Expenditure

Over the financial year April 2014 to March 2015 the Organisation received income of £93K and incurred costs of £134K. (A detailed audited Account for the period is available)

<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2015 Total	2014 Total
	£	£	£	£
Voluntary Income:				
Big Lottery	0	77,311	77,311	77,515
Henry Smith Charity	0	0	0	34,500
Islington Council	0	10,000	10,000	10,000
Southwark Cab	0	3,000	3,000	0
Imece Womens Centre	0	1,666	1,666	0
Leeds City Council	0	62	62	0
Healthwatch	0	60	60	0
Rosa Fund	0	0	0	5,000
London Catalyst	0	0	0	6,000
Donations/Other Income	1,053	0	1,053	871
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	1,053	92,099	93,152	133,886
Out Going Resources	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	2015 Total	2014 Total
Charitable Expenditure				
Salaries	0	69,612	69,612	64,266
HMRC	0	22,341	22,341	22,737
Travel	0	1,179	1,179	1,445
Refreshment	0	1,502	1,502	1,246
Training	0	128	128	0
Office Need	0	624	624	444
Telephone	0	1,731	1,731	1,705
Stationery	0	1,377	1,377	2,811
Teacher	0	11,162	11,162	12,845
Rent/Rates	0	15,831	15,831	14,388
Publicity/Photocopy/Photographs	0	1,206	1,206	433
Stamps/Postage	0	72	72	100
Volunteer Expenses	0	2,564	2,564	1,785
Accountancy fee written off	0	-112	-112	0
Quality Mark	0	0	0	945
IT Support	0	100	100	160
Childcare	0	1,502	1,502	2,571
Recruitment	0	60	60	0
Music (Kurdish Band)	0	0	0	250
Cooking	0	200	200	0
Office Equipment	0	349	349	0
Depreciation	0	907	907	907
Sundry Expenses	0	0	0	58
	0	132,335	132,335	129,096
Governance Costs				
Accountancy Fee	0	550	550	550
Consultant Service/Fundraising Activities	0	0	0	1,500
AGM Expenses	0	625	625	0
Membership	0	82	82	39
Insurance	0	458	458	458
Companies House	0	13	13	14
Design	0	140	140	150
Web Hosting	0	10	10	313
	0	1,878	1,878	3,024
Total Resources Expended	0	134,213	134,213	132,120

PUBLIC BENEFIT OF OUR WORK;

Our work fully meets all the requirements of the Public Benefit test;

- ◆ Our benefits are clear – we provide advice and advocacy on domestic violence, honour based violence, forced marriage, health, education, housing, etc. to vulnerable and disadvantaged women
- ◆ The benefits are related to our aims – all the benefits that we provide are consistent with our aims and objectives.
- ◆ Benefits must be balanced against detriment or harm – none of our activities are considered to be harmful to others or to the environment
- ◆ The beneficiaries must be appropriate to the aims – all our benefits are appropriate to our aims and are directed towards a significant number of women in the community.
- ◆ Where benefit is to a section of the public, the opportunity to benefit must not be unreasonably restricted: - our services are available, nationwide, and are provided completely free of charge.

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Supporters

all our dedicated volunteers, Caxton House- staffs, Noel Hudson, Feride Baycan (IMECE), Jeremy Corbyn MP, Rosalind Miller (Islington Faith forum) , Chezerina Dhaliwal/Anne Clark/Katie Furness (Islington Council), Sally Causer (Southwark CAB Service), Muslim Welfare House, Finsbury Park Mosque, Michael Pitchford , Shawnem Baram (Goyza Supplementary School), Parul Monnan—(Newington Primary School), Engin Durmaz (KAC) and Blackfriars Advice Centre.

Funders

Big Lottery Fund	Islington Council
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