

Violence against Women and Girls Should Stop!



RUN
BY
WOMEN
FOR
WOMEN

Annual Report (April 2017 - March 2018)

Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women Organization

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About us:

The Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation (KMEWO) began as a merger of 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 started as a self-help organisation to provide help and support to Kurdish, Middle Eastern and North African (KMENA) women who were fleeing civil wars, state and gender persecution, domestic violence and harmful traditional practices, in particular threats of "honour" killings. KMEWO was initially set up to call for justice in response to the poor investigation by UK authorities in the murder of a British citizen "Sobhia Nadir", who was murdered in the city of Sulaimanya in Iraqi-Kurdistan in a suspected honour' killing murder during her visit to her in October 1997. Founders of KMEWO have participated in a number of campaigns against violence against women (VAW) calling for improvement to the protection measures for UK women in general and to Kurdish and Middle Eastern women in particular. Since then, KMEWO has grown into a well-known organisation that is highly respected within the Kurdish and Middle Eastern Communities, the statutory and public sector organisations.

KMEWO's Aims:

- To relieve the distress and suffering of KMENA 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 KMENA women through providing information, research and organizing conferences and seminars on human rights issues.
- To promote equality of opportunities of women particularly those within the KMENA communities resident in the UK and elsewhere by providing information and educating the general public on such matters.

KMEWO's Vision:

All women should have equal rights!

Our Mission:

To ensure that the Kurdish and Middle Eastern women in the UK are supported, empowered and provided with advice, advocacy, education opportunities and training they need, to have a better life, free from violence and can enjoy the freedom they aspire for.

Our Values:

- (1) To have respect for beneficiaries and staff
- (2) To be consultative and inclusive
- (3) To commit ourselves to the human rights of all women
- (4) To embrace diversity

Trustees:

KMEWO is managed by a team of Nine dedicated trustees, all of whom are resolute in their determination to help in bringing about an end to honour and domestic violence and other forms of abuse against women. They are;

Dr. Janan Aljabiri	Chair
Dr. K. Rashid	Member
Tanya Ahmad	Treasurer
D. Jamal	Member
Tina Saeed	Member
Gilda Partoandaz	Member
Naz Jamal	Member
Tara Ahmed	Member
Suham Karim	Member

KMEWO current staff members:

Sawsan Salim	Director
Gona Saed	Project Manager/ Development Manager
Zekiye Kartal	Development Worker/
Avan Dawood	VAWG/Advice Worker
Nawal Asous	Transitional Support Coordinator
Nada Bucur	Admin & IT Support Worker
Sazan Saleh	Development Worker
Leila Hashemi	Career Advice
Anne Clarek	Project manager

During the last financial year KMEWO employed 9 sessional workers:

Shahnaz Kinoo	ESOL Tutor
Arinola Oladejo	ICT Tutor
Marie Ramoutar	Childcare Tutor
June Haely	Childcare Tutor
Rosemary Colen	ESOL Tutor
Sega Habtom	Counsellor
Soraya Mohammadi	Counsellor
Monika Schwartz	Clinical Supervision
Ftima Ally	ESOL Tutor
Ozlem Ozdemir	ICT Tutor
Jeanne Sonzi	ESOL Tutor
Rosemary Cohen	ESOL Tutor

Chair's report :

We established KMEWO two decades ago with a crystal clear aim in mind, that is to improve the life of Kurdish and Middle Eastern women (KMEW) community in the UK and also in the Middle East as much as possible. 20 years on, we can say easily that some of the KMEW women's lives have improved, in particular those who live in London. Through discussions, women have mentioned an increase in their self-esteem. Which have had a positive impact on saving lives. Women now have moved from being dependent to being independent, securing jobs, self-confident and the feeling of empowerment.

I think you would agree with me that a group as small as 7 staff and 5 volunteers were able to support around 2067 women and families in a year, is a massive achievement. This came as a result of tireless work of our volunteers and staff, and the great support of the wider community.

We have been working for twenty years supporting KMEW, and we are deeply and widely aware of their needs. This range from domestic violence, sexual violence, forced marriage, honour based violence, GGM, faith based abuse, depression, anxiety, emotional and mental health issues etc.

Our starting point is that we believe that women, are looking forward to making change in their lives and most likely they are at the point of transition from violent and abusive environments towards violence free life and independence and hope to live with integrity.

To address our community needs, we designed our projects to have both short term and long term impact. Our first action towards those seeking help from our organisation is to focus on their urgent and immediate needs. This means focusing on providing crisis intervention, addressing their safety and recovery needs. The second action, or long term strategy, is encourage women to take advantage of our services that aim to build their confidence, provide them with knowledge and support them to make decision for their lives. Our achievements in this year, as this report will present clearly, is two sided;

Firstly: on the immediate and short term impact, we supported women suffer from the domestic violence, depression, anxiety, emotional and mental health issues. We endeavoured to promote their emotional wellbeing, reduce the sense of isolation in order to start rebuild their lives. For this aim, we provided them with counselling sessions, information and support on housing and benefits entitlement, face to face sessions, workshops, meetings, celebrations not only those organised by our organisations but also those lead by other refugee community ones.

Secondly: On the long term we organised wide range of programmes, for example our Big Lottery funded project "Woman Learning for Work Project", we provided mentoring training to become mentors and peer supporters, we worked to enhance their integration into the wider society, empower women and prepare them to gain skills and experience for their professional development, providing them with career advice, CV enhancement, Mock interviews, and help with online job search and access to other services.

Most of our services provision and activities were carried out in partnership. We strongly believe in join forces and working in partnership to increase our impact and influence the life of our KME women. We worked closely with many different sister organisations LAWA,, IMECE, to name a few.

I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and say a big thank you to our women supporters that is: Islington Council VCS, Big Lottery Reaching Community Fund, Trust for London, MOPAC Fund, Lloyds Bank Foundation, FSGF-DWP, Great together Fund, City Bridge Trust, Islington – VAW&G, Islington –CCG.

Also, I would like to confirm that the need of Kurdish and Middle Eastern



women community is wide, and in a dire need for support. By supporting them, we are not only helping individual persons but also, children, families and the wider community. Thus, more support for our organisation is needed to ensure that they could live the life they inspire for.

Dr. Janan Aljabiri Chair

The work of the organisation is supported by a pool of volunteers to whom we are very indebted. These are:

Noel Hudson	Consultant
Leila Hashemi	Sheverlin P McIndoe
Suzan Nazaniny	Shahla Barziny
Khalida Mosil	Yasmin Snouci
Jawan Faris	Suha Sabah
Duin Ghazi	Naz Ahmad
Saya Design Consultant	Khadra Ali

Director's Report:

April 2017 – March 2018 for the Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation has been a successful year in terms of projects and funding achievements. Building on the successes of the last few years we are now reaching out to more community organisations in various boroughs of London. This has enabled the organisation to support and cater for an diverse ethnic group of women.

The past financial year for KMEWO has also been a success. There have been a number of funders that has continued funding the organisation since 2016; for a three year term, securing our work until the year 2019.

In this past year, we have formed new partnerships and have expanded our projects to reach more women. This has been achieved by setting up courses in new venues and locations, namely Rumi Mosque and Seven Sisters Primary School.

All KMEWO projects are running smoothly, all the VAWG projects: MOPAC (Pathway to Recovery project, Samira Project and Thriver's project as well as our Education and Employability Project. All these projects have been meeting and exceeding expectations set out buy our funders whose support has been on-going.

I also want to mention the dedication of the staff and volunteers who worked together relentlessly to help reach as many women as possible and give them the hope and the means, through our courses, to find jobs and achieve some of their personal aims for the future.

Without the advice, partnership, working guidance, and positive encouragement of many people, this year's achievements would not have been possible.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank everybody involved in our success. They include the Grant Officers whose guidance have guided us through the many funding applications; members we network with and through which we were able to share best practice and obtain informed comments related to our projects; our partners in the delivery of the SAMIRA project and Pathway to Recovery (PRP), and venues such as the Muslim Welfare House, Finsbury Park Mosque and Caxton

Services:

In this reporting period KMEWO supported around **2067** women and families through a range of, already established as well as new, services. All services are provided free, confidential and non-judgemental in a women only, safe and friendly environment. Services and activities included:

- General Advice and information – Housing and Welfare benefits
- Outreach and Language support
- Specialist Advice and Advocacy support on DA, HBV and HTP
- Counselling and Therapy in Kurdish, Arabic, Tigrinya, Farsi and English languages
- Bi-weekly Therapeutic Support groups
- Educational outings – visits to Libraries, Local museums and farms
- Confidence building workshops
- Awareness raising seminars and celebrations
- Mentoring training for volunteers
- ESOL and IT courses
- Employability skills courses and support for women
- Child Care and Teaching Assistance tester courses
- Skills building training for women
- Networking and partnership building
- Lobbying and campaigning
- Volunteering opportunities



House for allowing us to use their premises to deliver some of our courses.

Finally, I would like to especially mention of our VAWG team and Big Lottery team; Project Manager, Development Workers, Admin Worker and other members of staff as well as our many volunteers whose work and support was unflinching.

To everyone who helped us in any way I would like to express my deepest thanks and appreciation.

Sawsan Salim Director

Projects

1. Advice, advocacy and Support projects

400 women received One to One advice, advocacy and/or counselling support services, some on multiple occasions. A range of issues were dealt with, including but not limited to; housing, welfare benefits, domestic violence, honour based violence, divorce, FGM, NRPF, debt, education, and immigration. The services provided through either or a combination of:

- Face to face by appointments or Drop ins from KMEWO offices in Caxton house
- Telephone via KMEWO's main office advice line and two emergency mobile numbers.
- Outreach surgeries from community centres, GPs, solicitors' offices and Primary schools.
- Home visits (or other places chosen by users – for example Café shops).

Services are funded by different Trusts or Local authority through a number of projects:

Samira Project

A specialist Domestic Violence support service for BME women in Islington with high to medium risk and a partnership initiative between IMECE, LAWA and KMEWO which is progressing very well and on target to meet its milestones. Under this project we established the BAMER (Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee) network which brings together members of minority groups to discuss different issues, relating to refugee women in Islington.

Achievements:

From April 2017 to March 2018 we were able to provide crisis interventions to fifty women from Islington and other North London boroughs supporting them to reach safety away from violence.

Feedback from each session indicates the satisfaction of the women about the quality of the service they received, improved self-esteem and confidence session after session and increased hope and positivity of women in regard to their future.

Pathway to Recovery Project:

This project, funded by MOPAC delivers specialist support services to for BAMER women who are fleeing domestic violence, sexual violence and harmful practices such as: forced marriage, honour based violence, GGM, faith based abuse, etc. The project provides crisis intervention and aims to address the immediate safety and recovery needs of BAMER women and their children's safety with a specialist and multi-agency approach. The PRP project offers advice, information, counselling, confidence building activities, referrals and signposting, and outreach surgeries for easier access in English, Kurdish, Arabic, Persian and Tigrinya.

Achievements:

216 women were supported through this project to reach safety and to access a range of other support services to start rebuilding their lives. 44 of these women have attended 352 counselling sessions by BACP accredited counsellors to deal with longer term consequences Domestic abuse such as of depression, PTSD and other emotional and mental health issues.

All 216 women felt more empowered, confident and stronger after our interactions.

Thrivers Project

This project provides a **long-term holistic support service for women who are at the point of transition from violent and abusive environments towards independence.** The main purpose is to provide the necessary assistance and support for survivors who have decided to escape from abusive/exploitative relationships, and to rebuild their lives in a safe and secure environment. KMENA women are supported through one to one sessions, the opportunity

to attend six months' support group, access to confidence building and motivational workshops and to participate in a mentoring/mentee programme.

Outputs for this project from April 2017 to March 2018, this project:

- 68 women engaged with the project
- 260 individual face to face and/or telephone advice and support sessions.
- 488 session, one to one follow up phone calls.
- 48 women were supported emotionally in dealing with the short and long term impact of domestic violence, depression, anxiety, and isolation.
- 20 women engaged and attended support and confidence building groups.
- 45 women were given advice on housing and benefits entitlement.
- 45 women have participated in nine Bi-weekly support group sessions.
- 30 women recruited and attended four days mentoring training to become mentors and peer supporters.

The support group sessions offered participants a safe space to discuss and share experiences, to build self-confidence, explore and promote their emotional wellbeing, reduce the sense of isolation and enhance integration in the wider society. Topics included: Parenting skills, and the challenges of cultural issues, overcoming feelings of loss and grief, Self-care and relaxation, personal development and Setting goals for the future and discussion on hope, money management, healthy eating. Inspirational KMENA women, who made it to success in their personal and professional lives and were willing to tell their stories, were invited to inspire women in the support groups.

The mentoring training aim to train and support women in supporting other women and at the same time to empower them and prepare them to gain skills and experience in their professional development. Topics mainly were on communication skills, Facilitation skills, Safeguarding, Active listening, Empathic understanding, Domestic violence awareness, action plan and target settings. Each mentor support One or two mentees.

All 68 women felt an increase in their self-confidence and inner strength due to our support. Sixteen women attended further education.

Case study XY 6.6.2017

Our client, XY, was being financially and emotionally abused by her husband. One day, he beat her and she called the police who came and took him away. After extreme pressure from her extended family, she agreed to drop the case and her husband was released. However, he was angry with her for reporting him to the police and couldn't forgive her. XY is an ambitious, highly intelligent woman and wants to pursue a degree that would allow her to work as a nurse in London. However her husband refuses to support her financially and pay her tuition fees and she wasn't eligible for financial aid because he earns a good salary. XY felt helpless, powerless and trapped.

XY was referred to our organisation by the police for additional support, advice and help. Realising her potential and skills, we applied for a DBS check for her and offered her a volunteer position within our organisation. She began by doing translation work (from English into Arabic) for us. Then she became an active member of our support group and went on to complete our childcare course successfully. She also took an IT course and completed our mentoring course and is now mentoring one of our most vulnerable clients.

Before coming to KMEWO, I was helpless and suffering in silence. Counselling by KMEWO therapist helped me to resolve my internal emotional conflicts and difficulties. KMEWO helped me with my emotional issues via therapy, group support, meeting peers and making friends and with my legal issues by giving me the chance to speak with a solicitor. KMEWO also helped me progress with my quest for education by offering me free courses and training. Finally, KMEWO increased my confidence by employing me as a volunteer and a mentor

educational outings. **Achievements:** In this period, 47 educational activities consisting of 25 courses that were 7–11 weeks long and 22 half day workshops or outings were delivered from 17 different locations. Delivery venues included Mosques, primary schools, local libraries, local farms, cafés and community centres. All 47 activities attended by a total of 340 women. The women have improved their English and IT skills, increased their confidence to talk to their GPs and children schools and deal with their day to day life in the wider society. Most of women who attended the higher level courses have increased their employability and vocational skills

Healing and Confidence Building in groups:

In this period twenty seven group sessions were organised that were attended by 259 women; topics covered, include communication skills, personal strength and limitations, social and gender identities & healthy relationships etc. Ten women were trained to become mentors and provide peer support to other women.

2. Education, volunteering and Employment projects

1. **Woman Learning for Work Project** – This is an education and training service funded by the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Programme until August 2019. The project provides a range of educational courses and confidence building workshops and outings to empower women build their skills. Courses consist of ESOL (Entry 1 to 3), IT at two levels, employability skills, childcare and teaching assistance skills courses and arrange of information workshops and



BIG LOTTERY ACTIVITIES FROM APRIL 2017 TILL MARCH 2018

Activity	Venue	Course Duration	Start date	End Date	No. registered	No. attended
BASIC IT	N4 LIBRARY	9 hrs	22/05/17	12/06/17	3	3
IT FOR EMPLOYABILITY	CH	21 hrs	24/5/17	12/7/17	7	6
ESOL E2	NGPS	33 hrs	7/6/17	27/9/17	12	10
ESOL conversation	MWH	30 hrs	11/9/17	06/11/17	32	26
ESOL E1	Seven Sisters	33 hrs	20/9/17	6/12/17	10	10
ESOL E1	Seven Sisters	33 hrs	21/9/17	7/12/17	13	12
ESOL 3	MWH	33 hrs	18/9/17	14/12/17	16	10
IT FOR BEG.	NGPS	33 hrs	9/10/17	18/12/17	13	13
ESOL E3	Fieldway Com. Centre	33 hrs	12/9/17	28/11/17	16	10
IT FOR BEG.	DAYMER	33 hrs	3/11/17	22/12/17	11	6
ESOL Conv	Rumi mosque	30 hrs	31/11/17	6/12/17	19	15
ESOL conversation	MWH	30 hrs	27/11/17	14/05/18	23	17
IT basic	Seven Sisters	33 hrs	9/01/18	20/03/18	9	9
ESOL 2	Seven Sisters	33 hrs	11/01/18	29/03/18	14	14
ESOL Conv	Seven Sisters	30 hrs	24/01/18	02/05/18	6	5
ESOL E1	Rumi Mosque	33 hrs	9/01/18	20/02/18	16	16
Childcare/TA	FPM	33 hrs	10/01/18	28/02/18	13	13
Childcare/TA	Caxton House	33 hrs	11/01/18	29/03/18	12	12
ESOL E 2	NGPS	33 hrs	19/02/18	21/05/18	13	12
ESOL E2	Rumi Mosque	33 hrs	06/03/18	05/06/18	17	11
OUTINGS / WORKSHOPS						

Women Learning for Work Graduation-Graduation Event on 4th July 2017

On July 4th 2017, KMEWO held a graduation ceremony to celebrate the end of the Women Learning for Work project, funded by the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Fund. The aim of the event was to celebrate the learners' success and to recognise their commitment to personal development in the Learning for Living project.

During the ceremony, five women shared their stories and achievements; guests heard about the impact of KMEWO's support and how the courses have enabled women to make positive changes in their lives.

The Women Learning for Work project manager Gona Saed gave a presentation about KMEWO's support services for women and plans for the next few years of the project in light of its continuing success.

We were delighted to have Islington Councillors Michelline Safi Ngongo and Kaya Comer-Schwartz at the event. They gave speeches to the guests about the impact of KMEWO's services for women in Islington and then distributed the graduation certificates. During her speech, Councillor Michelline Safi Ngongo highlighted the long lasting and inter-generational benefit of KMEWO's grassroots work in the local community.

Guests enjoyed Middle Eastern food, music and dancing, and there were opportunities for graduating students to meet representatives from local further education colleges and services. Towards the end of the celebration Islington Mayor Una O'Halloran kindly joined us to chat with the students and to congratulate them on their achievements.

The graduation was attended by over 60 guests, and we received very positive feedback about the project from students after collecting feedback forms.

Employability and carrier advice for women –

Working with North London District, DWP is a new service started in January 2017. In this reporting period, the projects worked with 24 women providing them with career advice, CV enhancement, Mock interviews, and help with online job search and access to other services. As a result 7 women found employment with 5 who achieved sustainable work. A further 9 women became volunteers.

Volunteering – In this reporting period, a total of fifteen volunteers were recruited by KMEWO. The volunteers are engaged in a variety of roles, including assisting teachers in IT classes, helping peer participants who might have lower level of English or IT, 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.

Mentoring and peer support

As part of Thrivers Project, in this reporting period thirty women recruited and engaged in four days of mentoring training; through the support groups and individual mentor- mentee relationships, women are engaged in providing per support to each other, reducing isolation and widening their social and support network. All seven mentors are provided with professional support and supervision.



3. Awareness raising, Campaigning and Lobbying:

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) –

Nine FGM and DV training workshops were targeted at women from Kurdistan, the Middle East and North Africa. **Achievements:** 85 women attended 9 workshops delivered from 5 local venues. FGM was graphically described in order that the full impact of the trauma and suffering of victims can be fully appreciated. Most were shocked by the practice and fed back changes in their perception to FGM.

International Women's Day and KMEWO AGM:

On Thursday 8th of March, KMEWO's held its combined AGM and IWD celebrations, most of the trustees were present. The meeting started with a run through last year's achievements as well as an update of all the projects accomplished by KMEWO. The AGM process started at 10.30 and 9 people were elected, one of them being a new addition to the management committee.

The Chair and the director thanks every one for their continue support to KMEWO

And the AGM followed by the celebration of International Women's day at Caxton KMEWO with IMECE and LAWA 's partnership together in SAMIRA project brought together women from a wide range of BAME communities in London (Kurdish , Turkish, Iranian , Middle eastern , Latin American and North African and ... more) enjoying inspirational speeches about the history of women's suffragette , Yoga , Zomba and of course Kurdish Halparke ; setting aside all differences , all it mattered was the sisterhood and support in the International Women's Day ...



Another IWD celebration, a cooperation between KMEWO and the International Federation of Iraqi Refugees (IFIR), was held on the 10th of March at 6 pm at the Community Center in Finchley Road and was attended by around 75 people. Everybody enjoyed themselves immensely.



2. BAMER Network Annual Conference on 13th June 2017

2nd BAMER Women's Conference: *Challenging inequalities, bridging gaps and ensuring fairness (2)* at Assembly Hall, Islington Town Hall, on 13 June 2017.

The conference was highlighted the aspects of BAMER Women's Organisations' specialism and why specialist services are important in order to establish much fairer society (see attached conference background information).

Islington BAMER Women's Network was initiated by Samira Partnership (partnership of IMECE Women's Centre, Latin American Women's Aid and Kurdish Middle Eastern Women's Organisation) consists of women, community, public and statutory sector representatives who came together to create and enhance a stronger voice of women from black, minority ethnic and refugee communities with an aim of securing and maintaining specialist services which address specific needs and experiences faced by these women.

Get Together Event 18th June 2017

KMEWO's Great Get Together party on the 18th of June, in memory of Jo Cox MP, was a great success celebrating diversity and friendships.

Leader for the labor party and Islington MP, Jeremy Corbyn, attended the festivities. The get together was a good representation of Islington's diversity, with all people coming together in traditional clothes and typical food, music and dancing

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, LAWR'S, Islington and Southwark VAW&G, Right of Women, Women Resource Centre, International Federation for Iraqi Refugees, FGM forum, Islington Voluntary Action, Evelyn Oldfield Centre, and Islington Refugee Forum. KMEWO's Director and Development Manager regularly attend and speak at various meetings about the activities of KMEWO, helping to raise our profile significantly.

We would particularly like to highlight our special relationship with the Muslim Welfare House Mosque, Caxton House Community Centre, Finsbury Park Mosque, Newton Green Primary School, all of which provided us with valuable support in the delivery of our ESOL classes.

Islington BAMER Women's Network: was initiated by Samira Partnership (partnership of IMECE Women's Centre, Latin American Women's Aid and Kurdish Middle Eastern Women's Organisation) and consists of women, community, public and statutory sector representatives who came together to create and enhance a stronger voice of women from black, minority ethnic and refugee communities with an aim of securing and maintaining specialist services which address specific needs and experiences faced by these women.



Islington BME Advice Alliance-IBAA: The Islington BAMER Advice Alliance (IBAA) is a partnership among 5 community based Advice specialist organisations (IMECE Women's Centre, Islington Bangladesh Association, Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation, Eritrean Community in the UK, and Islington Somali Community) and a lead by a local based BAMER specialist 2nd tier organisation (Evelyn Old Field Unit). The alliance was set up to voice the needs of BAMER communities in need of specialist advice services in the borough.



KMEWO's holistic approach to providing services to KMENA women

User's story 1:

AUGUST 2017

Nora Bekkai came to Kmewo looking to improve her weak English Skills. She took 2 English courses and an IT Course which resulted in her getting a volunteering position in The Marie Curie charity shop that raises money for cancer research. Improving her English and IT skills helped Nora get a job which in turn increased her self-confidence and self-esteem considerably. Finally her work gives her a sense of accomplishment and fulfilment as she feels that she is contributing positively to society

User story 2:

DECEMBER 2017

BH first came to KMEWO to improve her English skills by joining our E2 course. She then went on to take 2 IT for work courses, and KMEWO's Childcare course. She also sought advice from our Advice Worker, Avan, and attended many Reehan sessions organized by our Transitional Support Coordinator, Nawal.

BH went on to volunteer as a childminder at Seven Sisters Primary School. She is now taking advanced English courses at Woodgreen Library. BH is a full time carer for her disabled husband and yet has been able to dedicate enough time and energy to improve her language and computer skills and learn about childminding. She says her various interactions with KMEWO have given her self-confidence and strength and determination. She is no longer scared of the language barriers and is able to go out alone.

ACHIEVEMENTS for beneficiaries:

The following are some of the outcomes we have achieved from our various activities

- 1067 women have directly benefited from access to a range of support services interventions.
- In which, 400 Women were supported by the Samira, Pathway to Recovery and Thrivers Projects, each receiving a combination of advice, advocacy, counselling and other interventions by KMEWO as described earlier.
- 340 participated in education and training supported by the Woman Learning for Work Project
- 85 women attended Eight FGM/DV awareness training gaining access to available support for survivors
- 15 volunteers were recruited to support our work
- 30 women recruited and trained as mentors
- 24 women supported for employment
- 85 women benefitted from confident building's workshops and support groups
- 150 Women were supported to attend appointments with other agencies such as services to police, housing, health assessment and solicitors' appointments

80% women are now living in a safer environment away from the threat of domestic abuse and other forms of VAW&G

Majority of our users are women with children in which most positive outcomes directly impacting on their children's wellbeing.

SERVICE USERS FEEDBACK Feedback from participants

"I decided to take this course so I can help my children, to speak and to go to college"

"The most interesting topic in this Child Care course was healthy eating, child development and how to manage children"

95% of all participants of Child Care and Teaching Assistant course reported back increased knowledge and confidence in understanding issues of: healthy eating, child development, child protection, female genital mutilation, domestic abuse and trafficking.

In a Library outing, 17 out of 18 participants said that they did not have a Library membership card prior to the visit; all 17 participants left the library with their membership cards.

From KMEWO's regular user satisfaction questionnaires:

" I am really happy with this organisation (KMEWO) ... I feel like home , thank you "

" I feel KMEWO understand my issues. They really and honestly care about me."

"Very good service. I feel that I make you tired from my demand. You have provided me with so many services. First of all the human relationships that makes all the difference..."

Bi-weekly support groups User's words:

"I feel I am with my family sharing ideas and having a good time. I feel free and welcomed to talk."

"I am progressing in steps forward, I am strong, I rely on myself"

"I would like to be strong but I live in fear"

"I feel relax as if I am with my family"

"This support group has impact on me and I feel part of the group ""

"I have met new friends and have developed skills in relationships."

"I am able to express myself and meet other women in the group .Many thanks"

"I feel not lonely and not alone."

"I feel more confident in to talk to other women. Many thanks

INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Over the financial year April 2017 to March 2018 the Organisation received income of £241,374 and incurred costs of £190,115.

(A detailed audited Account for the period is available)

KURDISH AND MIDDLE EASTERN WOMEN'S ORGANISATION LIMITED				
DETAILED INCOME				
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2018				
	Unrestricted	Restricted	2018	2017
INCOMING RESOURCES	Fund	Fund	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Grant, Donations and Legacies				
Big Lottery	0	92,985	92,985	107,203
Trust for London	0	24,000	24,000	24,000
Islington Council / VCS	0	15,000	15,000	17,025
City Bridge Trust	0	22,899	22,899	22,500
Lloyds Bank	0	23,769	23,769	23,347
Islington ACL	0	0	0	9,000
Islington IBAA	4,050	0	4,050	0
Islington - GTG	0	500	500	0
Samira Project-Islington	0	6,248	6,248	4,998
Leeds City Council	0	0	0	42
CCG Healthwatch Project	3,320	0	3,320	3,500
Mopac	0	37,800	37,800	11,351
Time Bank	1,440	0	1,440	1,300
FSGF	9,155	0	9,155	4,125
Islington ESOL	0	0	0	1,988
Bury MBC	0	0	0	42
Peabody	0	0	0	400
Donations/Other Income	181	0	181	281
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	18,146	223,202	241,347	231,102

KURDISH AND MIDDLE EASTERN WOMEN'S ORGANISATION LIMITED				
DETAILED EXPENDITURE				
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2018				
Out Going Resources	Unrestricted	Restricted	2018	2017
Charitable Expenditure	Fund	Fund	Total	Total
Salaries	0	114,112	114,112	99,009
Taxes and NI	0	27,056	27,056	17,763
Travel	0	1,581	1,581	1,039
Refreshment	0	2,501	2,501	1,440
Training	0	190	190	780
Counselling	0	6,014	6,014	4,972
Office Need	0	662	662	1,330
Telephone	0	1,485	1,485	1,565
Stationery	0	607	607	652
Teachers/Tutors	0	12,740	12,740	4,426
Rent/Rates	9648	0	9,648	7,520
Publicity/Photocopy/Photographs	0	852	852	1,090
Stamps/Postage	0	45	45	36
Volunteer Expenses	0	913	913	834
Payroll Services	0	694	694	581
Capacity B	0	5,914	5,914	0
IT Support	0	71	71	150
Creche	0	2,666	2,666	0
DBS	0	19	19	0
Recruitment	0	19	19	171
Evaluation	0	50	50	0
Depreciation	0	0	0	125
Sundry Expenses	0	-1,458	-1,458	706
Accountancy Fee	650	0	650	650
AGM Expenses	0	0	0	200
Bank Charges	0	25	25	0
Insurance	0	496	496	487
Companies House	0	13	13	13
Consultancy Fees	0	2,520	2,520	0
Membership Fees	0	30	30	0
Total Resources Expended				
	10,298	179,817	190,115	145,538

PUBLIC BENEFIT OF OUR WORK

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

- We provide advice and advocacy on domestic violence, honour based violence, forced marriage, health, education, housing, etc. to vulnerable and disadvantaged women
- All the benefits that we provide are consistent with our aims and objectives.
- None of our activities are considered to be harmful to others or to the environment
- All our benefits are appropriate to our aims and are directed towards a significant number of women in the community.
- Our services are available, nationwide, and are provided completely free of charge.

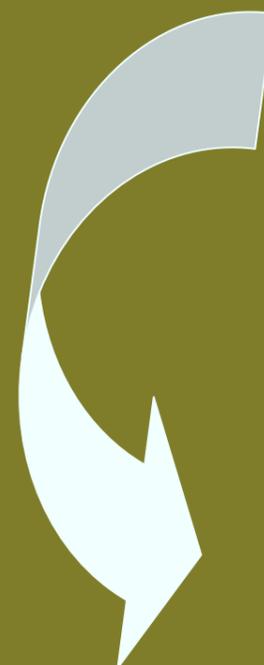
FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS

The Organisation would like to thank the following individuals, organisations and funders for their support and assistance over the last twelve months:

Funders

Big Lottery Reaching Community Fund	Islington Council - VCS
Trust for London	City Bridge Trust
MOPAC Fund	Islington -VAW&G
Lloyds Bank Foundation	Islington -CCG
FSGF-DWP	Great together Fund

Supporters - all our dedicated volunteers, Noel Hudson-Consultant, Caxton House staffs, David Johnson, IMECE Women's Centre, John Mors & Katrina French (Islington Council), Muslim Welfare House, Finsbury Park Mosque, LAWA, LAWRS, Newton green primary school, Cllr Kaya Comer Schwarz, Cllr Michelline Safi Ngongo, Cllr Marian Spall, Imkaan, WRC, Enrique Saenz (AdviceUK), Monika Schwartz and TimeBank.



Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation

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Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation

Violence against Women and Girls Should Stop!

Annual Report (April 2017 - March 2018)



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BY
WOMEN
FOR
WOMEN