

Newsletter for July, August, and September 2024

Whilst the weather may not be reflecting it, it is now Summer 2024! We hope you have all had an amazing year so far. For this edition of the newsletter, we want to dedicate it to our wonderful staff and highlight some of the amazing work they are doing. Our staff's dedication helps improve the health and wellbeing of service users which is amazing, and we are so grateful for their efforts, well done ladies!

Women's Employability and Basic Skills Project

The first project we want to put the spotlight on is Hasina and her valuable employability project. Within this work, Hasina strives to make volunteering opportunities accessible for ethnic minority women in Tameside. This helps women gain new skills, feel less isolated, grow their networks and improve their wellbeing. Service users have then used these voluntary opportunities to gain practical skills that lead to employment. Last year, all the women who engaged in the project reported a 100% increase in being access to opportunities along with the ability to connect with others, which is amazing!



Here's some of their feedback!

"I was nervous to ask for a ticket however the travel training helped as I now feel confident enough to do it again on my own".

"Staff supported me in joining this course and arranged childcare so I could attend the ESOL class. Thank you for understanding my situation and allow me to access all the training".



"It was the first time I volunteered and DMNW staff believed in me when I did. I really enjoy doing what I do".

"DM makes it accessible for me by giving one-to-one support in my language. They also showed me how to apply for other volunteering roles".

If you would like to take advantage of the project or want more information, ring Hasina on 07591 572 844 or email hasina@diversitymattersnw.org.uk.

Visit From Her Royal Highness Princess Ann

We are excited to announce that we were invited by the East Manchester Community Boat Project to attend their 30th Anniversary. They had also hit a milestone of ferrying 50000 people on their boats. This was a big event for them, and we were grateful to share in their success as our service users had scheduled boat trips with them and got a lot out of it. What made this an even more special occasion was Princess Ann came down to visit. Our service users were excited and honoured to meet her as it was a life changing experience for many of them. They got to her talk with her on a range of topics and were struck by her friendly professional manner. Service user S said, "it's a dream come true that I could not even believe". She added that she wanted "to thank Diversity Matters Northwest for giving her opportunity to able to go to meet a member of the Royal Family." We would like to express our gratitude to the East Manchester Community Boat Project and Sue Steventon for giving us the opportunity to attend the event. Activities like this help foster fellowship amongst the women so they feel happier and more integrated within the wider community. We also want to thank the project lead on this, Councillor Shibley Alam. Shibley's hard work improves wellbeing and enhances the women's sense of belonging in the community. Great work Ladies!



Did you know?

We always need Volunteers: We cannot run without our valuable volunteers; we are always looking for different skillsets to aid us in our projects so we'd love for you to get involved. We have three projects which we are recruiting people to get involved with. These are peer mentors, learning mentors and health and wellbeing volunteers. we are recruiting volunteers for. Peer mentors provide support to women in crisis, it is great

- Our volunteers not only do valuable work for us, but they gain new skills and experience, make new friends, and immerse themselves in the local community. So, if you live in Tameside and have a few hours to spare, <u>please get in</u> touch!
- We are now able to accept donations Website: Help us to continue to provide support to the local community across Tameside, by donating on our website donate function. Our supporters can create their campaigns to help fundraise and support our core work with vulnerable people from minority communities through Facebook. Create your campaign here.

Keep in touch!

We are available on the phone, via email and all staff members have mobile phones. Our centre is open as usual, 20 Great Norbury St, Hyde, SK14 1BR. All contact details are available on the contact page of our website.

Also, don't forget to follow Diversity Matters North West on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>. You can read all about the team, our trustees, our volunteers, what we do, and much more on our website <u>www.diversitymattersnw.org.uk</u>.

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