

## **FMU DOMESTIC PROGRAMME FUND PROJECTS 2013-2014**

### **Ashiana Sheffield – Bridge the Gap**

This project brings together members of the community, organisations, young people, and Peer Mentors in order to challenge negative opinions on forced marriage and change ideas within the community. A play will also be developed in partnership with Sheffield Health, Social Care Community Development Team and students from a chosen school. The play will depict what could happen to a young person who may be forced into marriage and the range of feelings that individual could experience. The play will be produced and used as an interactive tool on school websites and other online services such as NSPCC, Sheffield Futures and Get Connected.

### **AVA in association with Animage Films – Our Girl**

AVA and Animage Films are collaborating on the creation of a short animated film addressing forced marriage. The film aims to raise awareness among potential victims, perpetrators and the general public. It will provide a useful educational tool that can be utilised by specialist organisations in their work with young people, schools, as well as statutory and voluntary sector organisations. It is anticipated that these films will stimulate community and public discussion in the UK and beyond, especially engaging people who may be unclear about the key differences between a forced and an arranged marriage. The film will fully reflect the impending changes that the introduction of new legislation will bring.

### **Karma Nirvana – Practitioner Roadshows**

This project aims to further build and consolidate on the success of previous annual roadshows, by developing bespoke events on the practicalities of the criminalisation of forced marriage. With the Government's firm commitment to criminalise forced marriage, it is imperative that the law is widely promoted to enable victims and potential victims to be equipped in effectively using the new legislation. The project also looks to increase professional confidence and awareness of the legislation, by ensuring that all practitioners who may potentially work on forced marriage cases are appropriately trained to support victims. Raising awareness of the new law amongst professionals is just as crucial as other groups, so this work fully complements the wider role of the FMU in delivering outreach.

### **Respond – Am I Being Forced to Marry?**

The project will help with the provision of information on forced marriage to those people with learning disabilities, by ensuring equal access to information. There will also be an increased level of information and advice for professionals and community members, including awareness of the new legislation and particular implications it will have on family members of people with learning disabilities. An updated version of the easy-to-read booklet 'Am I Being forced to Marry?' will be published, alongside which the project website [www.forcedtomarry.com](http://www.forcedtomarry.com), will also be updated to include advice and signposting for professionals supporting people with LD at risk of forced marriage. Five films will also be created for the website, containing interviews with a range of experts in the field of learning disability and forced marriage.

### **Rights of Women – Empowering Survivors, developing providers: a workshop project**

This project will work directly with women survivors or those who at risk of forced marriage, as well as individuals who interact with support services and organisations set up to assist them. The project will provide a better understanding of the law, legal rights and remedies and how to effectively use them. It will also provide a further opportunity to raise awareness of the recent and forthcoming changes to the availability of legal aid for family law and immigration law cases, by providing local service providers with the knowledge and skills to support survivors to rebuild their lives.

### **Southall Black Sisters – Consolidating support for repatriated victims of forced marriage**

The project will help to consolidate the work that has been carried out over the last year to help with the re-settlement of repatriated victims of forced marriage. The work will include providing information, advice and advocacy to the victim, once they have been collected from the airport and placed in safe temporary accommodation. The support work involves assistance in making applications for permanent housing, reporting crimes, forced marriage protection orders, divorce or annulment, counselling, benefits, friendship networks, educational and work opportunities. Crucially, SBS will also provide advice and assistance to other organisations across the country on how to help and support repatriated victims in their local area.

### **Stockport Without Abuse – Free2Choose**

This project aims to educate individuals about having a voice in their own futures pertaining to marriage and relationships. This approach will inspire them to use their knowledge, not only in their personal lives, but to become ambassadors and discuss and debate the subject with their families and peers. The project will create a safe, creative and innovative environment where young people can acquire knowledge about consent in marriage, and the difference between an arranged marriage and a forced marriage. It will also address both the historical and cultural ideologies of forced marriage and discuss the tensions that this may bring when considering the human rights of all individuals.

### **Tees Valley Inclusion – “Time 4 Change” campaign**

The overarching aim of this project is to not only raise awareness, but also campaign against forced marriage across five large Unitary Authority areas across the Tees Valley region. This will be delivered through educating and informing community based partners/networks about these issues, whilst building route ways for support through a formal partnership network that will be created and shared by the project. The “Time 4 Change” campaign and programme will engage role models and visible dignitaries (Mayor, MPs, Football players etc) who have demonstrated their commitment to speak out against forced marriage. The campaign will also look to engage community and faith networks in tandem, ahead of new legislation and develop sustainable community networks for victims which links into the on-going support available from the HALO project.

### **The Sharan project – Harnessing Change**

This project will develop and implement a highly effective network of Ambassadors, aimed at helping to challenge existing attitudes to forced marriage in pre identified target communities - a variety of online resources on relevant key topics will also be developed. A comprehensive Ambassadorship Programme will initially be created at a local level, with the view of creating a much wider programme of work across the UK. A select number of established public figures and distinguished leaders from across media, business, and the public and third sectors will be recruited, which will support a number of debates on forced marriages and further strengthen key messages against this harmful practice. It is envisaged this work will ultimately extend to an international level and go a long way towards drawing attention to the instrumental work of the UK government in tackling forced marriage.

### **West of Scotland Regional Equality Council – Campaign to engage Imams and Mosques**

### **in the fight against Forced Marriage**

This project will work with Imams across Scotland to discuss the issue of forced marriage. The main aim of the work will be to encourage further debate on this issue, highlighting the fact that the Muslim community of Scotland also have a responsibility to the community in preventing this from happening in the future. The project will create a shared statement with the Imams on how best to address forced marriage – it will also be launched in English, Urdu, Arabic and Bengali and delivered during Jummah (Friday) sermons across Scotland. Ultimately, it is hoped that this will demonstrate to the community that Imams do take forced marriage seriously and that they are approachable on this issue.

## **FMU DOMESTIC PROGRAMME FUND PROJECTS 2012-2013**

### **Ann Craft Trust – Forced Marriage and Learning Disabilities Guidance**

This project is an in-depth survey of local Safeguarding Children's Boards in addition to Safeguarding Adult Boards in England and Wales to identify how many have specific protocols on dealing with forced marriage of people with learning disabilities embedded in safeguarding policies and/or training. Outcomes will support the facilitation of an enhanced role and understanding in education, health care, social care and other agencies working with children and vulnerable adults. This programme of work will also enable the mapping of services that are provided both locally and regionally.

### **Eaves Housing for Women – Empowering young people to prevent forced marriage**

The project aims to tackle forced marriage by challenging the practice head on, through working with victims and communities to overcome the culture of acceptance or of denial. It will provide an environment for young - 16 to 25 year old - BAME people to express their views on forced marriage, support each other and ultimately become drivers for change. The project addresses two main themes of prevention and provision in that it seeks to prevent forced marriage and develop better responses when the potential risk arises. It will not only provide young people with a voice but also gives them the confidence to use that voice in preventing forced marriages.

### **JAN Trust – Mujboor Project (Urdu – Forced against my will)**

This project will look to adopt a grass roots led approach to combating forced marriages, utilising dialogue with communities, education and training of those relevant service providers as part of the way to improving the enforcement of legislation. By working collaboratively with faith groups and religious leaders in North and West London, the project will raise awareness of forced marriage and challenge a number of the perceived misconceptions and behaviours that currently tolerate forced marriage. This model has already demonstrated it is an effective approach in other regions and will continue to target perpetrators, victims and potential victims.

### **Centre for Family Law and Practice – the College and University responses to forced marriage**

Following the recently published pilot study examining university responses to forced marriage and violence against women in March 2012, this project aims to widen the evidence base and now include colleges and other universities. The long-term aim will be to develop the capacity of these institutions to offer appropriate support and referrals to students who may have been threatened by, or have experienced, forced marriage either themselves, or know of others in that position. The project also seeks to identify any emerging and promising practice in terms of on-campus support, partnership working between the third sector and statutory agencies, gaps in responses and areas for improvement. By expanding knowledge of campus responses to

forced marriage, the proposed research will contribute to better for students and a firmer societal response to forced marriage.

### **New Vic Theatre – ‘All Our Daughters?’**

The proposal has been put together in response to numerous requests from NGOs and local authorities for the ‘All Our Daughters?’ play and workshops. The project aims to build on the success of the initial play and tour of the ‘All Our Daughters?’ by delivering regional training conferences for professionals, voluntary sector and community members. Both the play and accompanying workshops will form part of a tour in schools and colleges, and communities across four regions following each conference. The DVD and work-pack for agencies will be made available to be posted online via a range of partner websites - extending the life of the project. All of this work will contribute towards forming a national network of partners to keep forced marriage and honour based violence on local agenda's, and create further opportunities for communication and debate.

### **St Phillips Centre, Leicester - Love, honour and Obey”-a forced marriage role play**

The project will explore forced marriages with women from Leicester, through a fictitious role play about a girl and her lead up to the forced marriage. Participants will play roles and their decisions will then go on to determine outcomes. The project will encourage discussion and debate in a safe environment on a number of related issues and consider barriers created by cultural and religious sensitivities. The learning will lead to the development of storyboards to raise awareness – to be launched at an event in April 2013, for free use by schools, community centres and faith & voluntary organisations to use as a tool to raise awareness. The St Philip's Centre has access to the key communities where this is an issue and can access the key locations and individuals where changes need to be made.

### **West of Scotland Regional Equality Council – Not in our Name**

This project will develop the ability of young men from South Asian backgrounds who are living in Glasgow and beyond, to understand and address forced marriage in their communities. We will support the dissemination of relevant information in a male context both as being at risk or supporting a family member who is at risk. We will involve and enable young men to spread this information across their communities and beyond by building their knowledge and confidence through training and the production of support materials.