

Issue 4

May 2006



The Bright Project

Welcome to the Fourth Edition

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Bright Project Newsletter - a quarterly bulletin providing Black & Other Minority Ethnic (BME) community groups with information on funding, free training and other issues which may be of interest.

As you may know the Bright Project has now relocated and we are renting office space from Terrence Higgins Trust at **8-10 West Street, Old Market, Bristol, BS2 0BH**. Telephone us on **0117 9413297** or email us on **kates@ablcdemon.co.uk** or **luciag@ablcdemon.co.uk**

The move went well

and we are now well settled in our new offices.

Please feel free to arrange an appointment to see us or just drop in if you are passing.

We have run a number of well attended events since the last newsletter and continue to work closely with a variety of groups to help them to expand their advice services, obtain the Quality Mark and develop policies and procedures. Please contact us if we can assist your organisation in any way.



Forthcoming Training

Housing & Council Tax Benefit Training

Date: Tues 20th June 2006

Time: 9.30am-4.30pm

Venue: Leftbank Centre, 128 Cheltenham Rd, Montpelier, Bristol

Book your place now!

Debt and Money Advice Training

Date: Thurs 13th July 2006

Time: 9.30am-4.00pm

Venue: Leftbank Centre, 128 Cheltenham Rd, Montpelier, Bristol

Book your place now!

Training on Tax Credits and Tribunal Representation coming soon...watch this space....

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BRIGHT NEWS.....

- *Comprehensive training package coming soon...*
- *Accredited training for refugee organisations available*
- *Refugee Centre now open!*

Information Update

Somali Advice Project Update

There is to be an information event for the Somali Community on **Thursday 6th July from 11.00am-1.00pm at Barton Hill Settlement about this Project.** Come along!

The event will advise the community of the background and aims of the Project and ask members to consider joining the Steering Group.

The Co-ordinator Post is now being advertised. Please contact Ben Parker at St Pauls Advice Centre on 0117 9552981 or email him on benp@stpaulsadvise.org.uk for further information about the job.

Refugee Welcome Centre open!

The Centre is open every Wednesday from 10.00am-4.00pm at the Unitarian Church, Brunswick Square, St Pauls.

The centre provides befriending and a safe place to socialise for refugees and asylum seekers. A hot meal and drinks are available.

Volunteers with community language skills are needed at the centre—if you would like to volunteer please call Kate Deeble on 0117 3532048 or email her on kate.deeble@ndcbristol.co.uk to find out more.

Public Finance Accreditation Course

****Calling all refugee organisations****
CAP Research & Consulting Ltd are running a 'Public Finance Advanced Diploma Course' for workers of publicly funded refugee organisations. Any refugee organisation that receives grants from Government Departments or Charitable Trusts can apply for a place on this free course.

The course will help participants to manage finances effectively, produce budgets, cost up projects etc.

Please come along to an information session about the course on **31 May 2006 from 10.30-2 at Barton Hill Settlement.** Lunch will be provided. Call Lucia to reserve your place on 9413297 ASAP.

Information update continued..

Client Needs Survey Report

You will all have received your copies of the Report and we hope you find it interesting reading. Over the next few months we will be trying to tackle some of the issues raised in the Report. If you have any comments, or if you have not received your copy, please contact us on 9413297. Watch this space!!

Refugee Action 'Move on' Project

Please see the information enclosed with this newsletter. Briefly, volunteers will work with new refugees for 6-8 weeks enabling them to find their way through the UK system and supporting them to make the first steps to settlement. There is an Information Session on **24th May from 4-5.30** at Refugee Action.

Bright Project Bursaries

Do you give advice to your community? In conjunction with Voscur, Bright is offering 4 free places on the Skilled Advisor Course due to start in Sept 06. Only one place per organisation is available and priority will be given to organisations with limited funding. Please call Kate or Lucia ASAP on 9413297 for more infor-

Other News

Awards for All Success!

The Bright Project has secured some funding from Awards for All to run a more comprehensive training programme for the groups we work with. We are currently putting together a programme which will be advertised in the next couple of months. Please contact us if you have any ideas for courses.

BME Advice & Information

Workers Group

Come along to this new group and talk about common problems and issues with other advice and information workers. The first meeting is to be held on **Tues 4th July from 10.00-12.00 at St Pauls Learning Centre, 94 Grosvenor Rd, St Pauls.** Contact us for details.

OISC Level 1 Training

Bright is hoping to arrange a 2 day OISC Level 1 course in Bristol for all those interested in providing basic immigration advice to their clients.

Please contact us to let us know if you would be interested in attending such a course.