

Faith and BME organisations on the agenda

The Government has an agenda to engage Faith and BME organisations. But do Faith and BME organisations have agendas to engage with government?

What are the links between Government Policy Priorities and the work of Faith and BME organisations?

When and where

Date: **Thursday 15th January 2008**

Time: **10:00am - 04:00pm**

Venue: **Lancaster House, 33 Islington High Street
London N1 9LH**

For some time The Government has been identifying roles for BME and Faith organisations within communities. This event is an opportunity for Faith and BME organisations to set the agenda for how they want to engage with Government

How to book

To attend this event please contact Victor Nkwo

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Faith and BME organisations on the agenda

Date: 15th of January 2009
Time: 10.00 – 4.00

AGENDA:

Session One: All about the work

- Welcome and Introduction
- Interactive session exploring key questions
 - What are you doing now?
 - What do you want to do in future?
 - What help do you need to get there?

Tea Break

Session Two: BME and Faith opportunities and challenges

- Key Government Agendas
- Open Discussion mapping out the implications for faith and BME organisations
- What are your next priorities and solutions

Lunch Break

Session Three: EHCR Grants Scheme Consultation 2008

- The Role of Funding – General comments
- Focus and length of funding – Comments on project and strategic grants, one and three years
- Outcome – based approach – Is this approach appropriate?

Summary and conclusion

Rationale

Faith and BME organisations have been identified as key potential partners with government across a wide range of initiatives. In their work with young people they have led the way in developing innovative work. Yet the reality for many organisations that working with government organisations both nationally and locally is a struggle. Accessing resources is also difficult and yet the need for Faith and BME organisations to work effectively with young people is more apparent than ever.

At NCVYS we recognise that Faith and BME organisations are not the same looking to engage effectively with our membership and the wider constituency. We are developing amongst many, two community of interests, one for organisations **who work with young people from Black and minority ethnic backgrounds** and the other for organisations who are interested in **faith based youth work**. These communities of interests create opportunities for organisations to develop common agendas; allowing them to help shape NCVYS development work to inform and to participate in our representative forums.

These communities of interest also enable organisations to learn from each other and establish good working relationships. However, whilst faith and BME organisations are not the same they often have many issues in common, for instance many of the most cohesive and prevalent types of organisations serving BME communities and young people would be faith organisations. This day is an opportunity for you to explore with NCVYS the overlapping agendas and both the differences and similarities that these two constituencies have.

This will enable us at NCVYS identify how we can better support you and shape the agendas for the development of the communities of interest. They also will help participants to clarify how they can respond to government priorities whilst staying true to their own purpose. (This is very important when applying for grants or tendering for work)

We hope that as we develop these communities of interests that members and non members will begin to value their contribution to the sector, this is an opportunity to influence that development.