

The Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives



FUNDING APPLICATION

Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commission is “Committed to putting victims first and making Northamptonshire the safest place in England.”

This Commission has set an ambitious Police and Crime Plan containing six outcomes as follows:

- There will be a reduction of at least 40% in violent crime
- There will be a focus on eradicating drugs and reducing acquisitive crime
- Anti-social behaviour will be robustly and intelligently tackled
- Northamptonshire will have a more visible police force
- Northamptonshire will be a secure place
- Northamptonshire will have the safest roads

We must build a model of crime prevention and policing that meets the needs of the county and uses resources to deliver real value and outcomes. In this respect I have created the Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives that will enhance the capacity of faith-based and community organisations and groups to design and implement successful initiatives and programmes of work to increase community safety.

I am committed to achieving sustainable improvements to crime prevention and community safety and I believe that by investing in faith-based and community initiatives we will see an increase in local community participation, an increase in creative and innovative activities on the ground and I believe that faith-based and community initiatives can and will make a significant contribution to the aforementioned outcomes and wider agenda.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Adam Simmonds", with a horizontal line underneath it.

Adam Simmonds B.A. Hons M.Sc. DMS FIFC
Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner

FUNDING APPLICATION FORM

The information on this form will help us to properly appraise your application so please do refer to the eligibility criteria and feel free to contact me (Helen Boardman) if there is anything that you don't understand - my mobile number is 07557 775998.

Q1. Contact Details

Name of organisation: Pearls of Peace

Organisation address:

The Doddridge Centre, 109 St James Road, Northampton, NN5 5LD,
Northamptonshire

The first contact person should be someone from your organisation who can discuss the application. The second person is somebody who is in support of your application and can vouch for your ability to deliver what you have proposed. This could be an existing or previous funder, a trustee or someone else in a professional office.

About your organisation

Q2. What type of organisation are you?

Constituted community group

Other (please state):

Unregistered community group/club/society

Registered charity

Registered charity number:

Q3. How long has your organisation been operating?

Please give date:
SINCE September 2009

ABOUT YOUR PROPOSED INITIATIVE

The initiative's name is:
Community on Patrol (COP)

Q4. What police and crime plan outcome(s) will your initiative contribute towards?

Northamptonshire will be a more secure place

There will be a reduction in violent crime

There will be less drugs and less acquisitive crime

There will be less anti-social behaviour

Roads will be safer

Q5. How will your initiative help to achieve the above outcome(s) and will it be innovative in any way?

Pearls of Peace has been working with a very mixed demographic of ladies over the last six years, and for the last two years we've been supporting and helping women with advocacy, sign posting and redirection. This work has proved very successful and valuable to the community, unfortunately it has also been an eye opening experience to some of the difficulties that many ladies encounter and especially in the BME community that remain unreported and not realised. Lots of these women as result are suffering in silence, whether the problem is related to violence in the home, or abuse on the streets, this is happening and a lot of women feel they have no avenue to express their pain. A key reason for the BME community not accessing conventional assistance to support them through their difficulty is generally a question of trust. BME communities are much more used to dealing with such issues as domestic violence internally within their communities or homes. It has taken a significant effort on our part and through working with the communities to break down this lack of trust and for them to come to us for support, assistance and help.

What we are aiming to achieve, is for us to set up a partnership with Voices Against Abuse to help women to report violent crimes, verbal abuse and any other aggressive crime against them and for us as Pearls of Peace, to provide qualified counselling sessions in a safe and trusted environment to support the victims through the difficult situation.

The innovative element of our initiative is threefold:

Firstly it allows victims to report the crime in a safe environment that doesn't have the same negative stigma to it as calling for a police officer to come to your home. We will also be working with a local organisation called Voices Against Abuse who are able to offer victims advice on what options they have after an incident.

Secondly, we will aim to support the victims through the event, whether they chose to report or not. This second part is key as its helping to stop the cycle of abuse for the future. This support will take place through offering a series of sessions with a highly qualified councillor.

Thirdly, we aim to offer victims the opportunity to come to some peaceful resolution between the victims and the offender if possible, through restorative mediation. We would be happy to undergo training in restorative mediation in order to help break the cycle of crime, as we feel best placed to achieve through our position of trust in the community.

Q6. Who will this initiative support and how many? (Beneficiaries)

This initiative will be open to any women and families from Northampton, however we hope that it's going to appeal in particular to the residents of St James, Spencer, Upton and Dallington and their nearby local communities. The demographic of the local area is very diverse and has a level of deprivation that would lend itself to needing some free services in this area. When researching the need for counselling in the BME community, we have found it is very typical of them not to access public services such as the police, mainstream counselling services and in particular mental health services.

Our advocacy service has accessed and supported 42 women from 10 different cultures and two different faiths so far. Some of the ladies have had one-off issues and some have had repetitive and ongoing issues. The ranges of cultures have consisted of Somali, Bangladeshi, Pakistani, English, Italian, Libyan, Romanian, Eritrean, Nigerian and Kenyan. The 2 faiths are Islam and Christianity.

The reasons for the visits to our office have ranged from:

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| - Homelessness | -Domestic Abuse Issues | -CAFF reports |
| - Housing disrepair | -Crime | -Insurance claims |
| - Depts | -Mandatory Reconsiderations | -Benefit Advice |
| - Care orders | -Council Tax Reductions | -Employment Advice |
| - Benefit appeals | -Disability Issues | -FGM |
| - Consumer issues | -Neighbour related | |

We've supported ladies from the Somali community who have undergone violent crime and Bangladeshi ladies who have faced incidents of Islamophobia and anti-Muslim attack assaults, some of which have led to prosecutions.

Although the main client group will be women, we would be happy to support men that may come and ask for help. We have already had two men come to us for help and advocacy work.

Q7. For what duration and how frequently will the initiative be operational?

The counselling: Six months

We have discussed the needs of victims with our fully trained councillor and Voices against Abuse and we have decided that from a victim support point of view, it's essential that we are able to provide between 8 and 10 sessions counselling session for ladies who require support after an event. These sessions will be available on a two weekly basis which will allow approximately six months' worth of support.

These sessions need to be two weekly sessions, for a minimum of 8 and typically a maximum of 10, this will ensure we are able to help support a victim adequately in order to increase the chances of resolution and closure.

Supporting and crime reporting: 12 month ongoing project

By giving a start and end point to the project we are able to analyse and keep track of the beneficiaries, the outcomes and the results.

At the point of reporting or wanting information regarding options after an incident, we would like to be able to facilitate this on a weekly basis within the Wednesday coffee mornings that we hold.

This will allow ladies to come to a relaxed environment to make contact in an informal manner with Voices Against Abuse or ourselves.

If the client then requires a more confidential meeting, we have our office as a private and secure location to access for this purpose.

Q8. Where will the initiative's beneficiaries reside?

Town/city/village:
Northampton

District/Borough:
St James, Dallington, Spencer, Upton, Kings Heath, but open to all areas.

Q9. What crime(s) do you foresee the initiative will help to prevent?

We aim to use the method as described above of managing violent crimes, Islamophobia, anti-Muslim attacks, domestic violence and FGM, to change and stop a cycle of crime through the current and next generations.

By focusing on support, and dealing with the event and developing our capacity for restorative mediation, we can aim to help women and particular BME women to feel empowered and encouraged to report crime and not suffer in silence. It's often the fear of not being taken seriously and not being supported that stops women from approaching services to report the crime.

We feel that domestic violence, FGM, Islamophobia, anti-Muslim attacks and other violent crimes will all be part of the crimes we feel this initiative will cover.

Q10. How will your initiative help to increase community safety?

We aim to provide a holistic approach to crime reporting and prevention by encompassing all participants in the crime, so for example utilising restorative mediation to help the victim and the offender to change their behaviour and future behaviour towards the victim. We understand that this approach may not always be suitable to the situation, however we will consider the victim's wishes before we go forward with this approach.

By helping women to feel empowered enough to report any crime, and hence make her local community a safer environment for all the people who live there.

We are especially interested in breaking the cycle of crime across the whole community and within the home and stopping crime from becoming a learnt behaviour, we think this will protect future generations, by changing the thought process of the next generation and keeping them out of crime.

We have also dealt with cases of FGM and the psychological aftermath of such an event, helping women in this situation and supporting them through the psychological effects of such an event are going to help these women to make a different decision for their daughters. It's clear that preventing such behaviour is going to keep young children safer and give their mothers the strength to make an informed choice to keep their daughters away from FGM and hence not repeating this illegal practice.

Q11. How many people will be involved in your initiative in delivering your initiative?

Management Committee members:
Zahira Case, Aysha Warrak, Rasheeda
Onafeko, Ramat Saleko

Full-time staff:
None

Part-time staff:
None

Volunteers (not including
Management Committee): Zainab Rekia,
Rizwana Shabir, Amina Ahmed, Iram Gilani.

Q12. How will you actively involve beneficiaries in design, delivery and evaluation of your initiative?

We are giving beneficiaries design options throughout the process, we would like them to be able to access all aspects of the service interchangeably.

Reporting:

This will be available at any time between ourselves and the victim - they may choose to access this at the beginning, middle or the end after counselling.

Counselling Services:

This is also available at any stage, however they may also want to come back to this after some time, if they feel able or it's more appropriate to their situation.

We are at present working with a very highly qualified councillor who has gained the trust of the local women within a group workshop at our coffee morning. She has various extra qualifications, in particular a course called The Recovery Tool Kit, which is specific to dealing with women who have experienced violent crime and abuse. She has worked for many years for Mind in Milton Keynes and is now very keen to work with us as an independent councillor.

We can tailor our counselling sessions into private one to one sessions or we can also provide group therapy which may be more appropriate to specific crime support, like Islamophobic abuse. These group sessions can include:

- Assertiveness Part 1 and Part 2
- Self Confidence building.
- Mindfulness
- How the brain works.
- Food and Mood
- Self Image

Evaluation:

We will also give them the opportunity to give us feedback at each stage and we will tailor our process to optimise our service to the victims. We will also utilise the counselling evaluation methods which are described further down in the application.

Q13. Will your initiative be inclusive of (and/or) collaborate with other faith groups and non-faith groups?

Yes we will aim to work with Voices Against Abuse and we will open out our initiative to any women who is suffering and needs our help and support, as this is also a great way to improve community cohesion. We also have good working relationships with NBA (Northampton Bangladeshi Association), the Sikh community centre and NIFF (Northampton Interfaith Forum), who we'll communicate our services to. All our coffee mornings are open to any lady from any background, race or religion, we have proof of attendance if required.

Q14. Will your initiative add any social, economic and environmental value to your community?

Social Value:

-We aim for our work to break down barriers between mainstream agencies, community groups such as ourselves and Voices Against Abuse and the wider BME community, this will help to add value by building cohesion and community relations, it will also help to build trust and a feeling of belonging and loyalty to the local and wider community

Economic Value:

We anticipate that this project is going to have a positive effect and reduce the economic pressure on local services. We have a Welfare Rights officer who is currently volunteering for us and has mentioned how positively the local agencies respond to the help with case studies. It is definitely reducing the burden on mainstream services, which we feel is of an economic value.

Environmental Value:

-This project will aim to provide a better environment for the women to live in by helping them to address issues such as domestic violence and abuse. It will also help their children to live in a better and safer environment by aiding women and empowering them to address these critical family issues and hence giving the children a safer place to live.

Tackling Islamophobia in our public spaces is going to provide a better environment for the whole of the society as it's important for all members of society to be able to express their religious identity in public without being subjected to anti-social behaviour. Helping women to report these issues is going to improve the statistical data that recognises the extent of this behaviour throughout the UK and hence highlights the need for further measures being taken to reduce these crimes. We see this being of great value to the overall social environment of Northamptonshire and beyond.

Q15. How will your initiative be sustained beyond the OFBCI funding award?

Short Term Sustainability:

As we will be using our coffee morning and our office in the Doddridge Centre to run our initiative, we currently prioritise both these areas as our key fundraising needs. We fund raise for both of these through a small charge at our coffee mornings - between £1- £2.50 per person, and we also hold quarterly children's fun days to raise money to ensure we can sustain most of our coffee morning costs and some of our office costs. We also apply for other funding bids to ensure we can sustain our position and work in the community.

Long Term Sustainability:

Part of our initiative is to try and sustain the availability of a councillor, someone who can grow and develop with the community as well as with us as an organisation. Hence we would like to fund part of a level 4 counselling course for a lady that has already completed up to level 3 counselling, this will allow her to practice as a qualified councillor. We have discussed a service level agreement that we will agree to between Pearls of Peace and the lady who is interested in becoming a level 4 qualified councillor, this agreement will state that the training councillor will volunteer for Pearls of Peace for 7 hours per week for a maximum of 2 years. The lady who we would like to help with course funding is going to fund a large portion of the course herself. More details of this will be highlighted in the costs areas. We aim for this to be a way of securing the long term availability of counselling and support for the women of Northampton. The course will take two years, so we aim to have a sustainable service within two years from Oct 2015.

We will maintain a positive relationship with our current councillor and our other agencies that we work with on the project. We also anticipate that by developing further skills in restorative mediation, we will secure further potential funding as this is a unique skill currently not widely available.

Q16. Will this project be part of a wider partnership? (*Please describe the nature/level of partnership and who are your partners?*)

This initiative will be the starting point of a partnership between ourselves and Voices Against Abuse, this partnership has formed through our initial work with local community engagement officer. This relationship has built up trust between the local communities the police and now this new organisation that is working to protect and help women who are faced with violence. We aim for this partnership to build and develop as long as the need may continue.

We also currently have a partnership with the Northamptonshire Flower, which works to raise awareness of FGM, we hope that our initiative is going to help the victims FGM in Northampton. Some of our committee members have taken some training for FGM, and this is a significant implication of our long term commitment to working to help the victims of FGM.

We will also look to develop relationships with Women's Aid, VOICE, NRICC and Serenity, as the project develops.

Q17. How will you monitor and evaluate your performance and what evidence could you use to demonstrate that the project has been successful?

Uptake:

We will monitor the initiative by monitoring the uptake of the project and keep statistical evidence of the age, racial background, religion and the general reason for the uptake of the service. The uptake is also a proof of the initiatives success.

Crime Assessment:

We would take details of the nature of the crime, date and time, and some details on the background of the victim.

Counselling Feedback and Evaluation:

At this stage we will also utilise a method called the GASS SCALE, this gives a scale from 1-10, this scale is produced by the client filling in a basic questionnaire that will the councillor and ourselves to determine which end of the scale they fall into. Number 10 being not very depressed, number 1 being very depressed/contemplating suicide. We can then re-assess this scale during the middle and at the end of the counselling sessions, hence allowing us to assess the improvement of the client and statically note down the results.

Our councillor Shirley Stemp will also be assessing each client using the following scales:

PHQ 9-(This is a scale that monitors depression, by going through a series of questions relating to the level of depression the client is experiencing).

The second scale she will use is GAD 7-(This is a scale that will assess the level of anxiety)

Finally she will also use Core Ten Questions, these are a general wellbeing questionnaire.

These assessments will be used to give the client a score that can be used to assess how much progress has been made by client of the course of the counselling. This is a great way to assess the success of the project.

THROUGH PUT and OUTCOMES

We will also then monitor and record statistical data that records the through put of the project and the outcomes of each client, we will monitor outcomes such as:

- Redirection /resign posting
- Reporting outcome.
- Counselling uptake.

FEEDBACK

It will be our responsibility to take the feedback of all our clients at all stages of our initiative, from initial consultation, any reporting through our partners and finally any counselling that is taken up, to ensure a good service for the future.

Q18. How could your local policing partners support you to ensure your initiative is a success?

We feel we already have a good working relationship with our community engagement officer, DC Rachel Packman, however in appropriate cases we will seek support from local safer community teams.

Q19. When will your initiative take place?

From June 2015

Q20. Which of our Office of Police and Crime Commissioner overarching ambitions does your initiative most closely relate to?

- Support for victims
- Taking a generation out of crime
- Turning offender's lives around
- Becoming a restorative practice county

Money

Q21. How much money do you wish to apply for?

£ 3000.00

Q22. What aspects are you asking us to fund?

Item	Total Cost	Amount Requested
Ten Counselling Days-(7 Hours per week)	£ 1200.00	£ 1200.00
Office Rental	£ 500	£500
Community Centre Rental	£ 300	£300
Volunteers Costs		
Administrative Charges		
Counselling Course Costs	£ 1000	£1000.00
Grant totals:	£3000.00	£3000.00

Matched investment and/or in-kind contributions

Q23. Will you match fund with actual funding or in-kind contributions?

On average we collect £30/ week from our coffee mornings. Which we put back into the account to use on all projects. We are all volunteers and offer on average 35 hours per week.

Q24. How would you describe the people who will primarily benefit from this project?

Victims	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disabled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specific faith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Youths	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	General public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Prisoners	<input type="checkbox"/>
Men	<input type="checkbox"/>	Women	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ex-offenders	<input type="checkbox"/>
On licence	<input type="checkbox"/>	BME groups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Refugees	<input type="checkbox"/>
				Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q25. Please indicate the main ethnic background of the people who will benefit from your project.

Race relations (Amendment) Act 2000

* I would describe their ethnic origin as:		
Asian or Asian British <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indian <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pakistani <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any other Asian background	Mixed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> White & Asian <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> White & Black African <input type="checkbox"/> White & Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> Any other mixed background	Other Ethnic Group <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any other ethnic group <input type="checkbox"/> I do not wish to disclose this
Black or Black British <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> African <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caribbean <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any other Black background	White <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> British <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irish <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any other White background	

Equality Act 2006

* Please indicate the religion or belief of your initiative?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Atheism	<input type="checkbox"/> Jainism	<input type="checkbox"/> Hinduism
<input type="checkbox"/> Buddhism	<input type="checkbox"/> Sikhism	<input type="checkbox"/> Judaism
<input type="checkbox"/> Christianity	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> I do not wish to disclose this
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Islam		

Disability Discrimination Act 2005

* Will any of your beneficiaries have a disability?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> I do not wish to disclose this information
	<input type="checkbox"/> No	