



asian resource centre
croydon

Annual Report *2016/17*



Contents

Chair's Preface	4
Vision, Mission & Aims	6
Director of Operations Report	8
Project Updates	10 - 18
Achievement & Performance	20
Secretary's Report	22
Treasurer's Report	24
Financial Statements	25
Board of Directors/Staff	26

Chair's Preface

This reporting year has been an exciting and challenging one for all at ARCC.

2016/17 represented another year of significant progress for ARCC. The year has provided ARCC with an opportunity of working with local partners across the Borough, to which our staff have risen to those challenges exceeding expectations.

In these tough times for voluntary organisations, for any successful organisation, it is vital to have a clear vision and strong leadership and governance, which has been provided by our Management Team and Board of Trustees.

We continue to build upon these robust foundations and expand our areas of work to meet the challenging and changing needs of the groups, organisations and volunteers who work for us and the community we serve through our common values and shared goals.

We continue to actively engage with our ongoing programs such as our dance classes, coffees mornings and yoga class which have benefited a large section of the community.

Our first annual dinner and fundraising event held last year was a great success bringing together our partners, community members, Croydon Councillors and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Croydon Council.

I also had the good fortune of attending this year's International Older People Day and now our very successful International Women's Day which goes from strength to strength.

My thank goes to all the staff who over the past year worked hard to make this possible

and to all the volunteers who throughout the year have come forward to help during our functions/events.

In the coming years, we will continue to work hard to maintain the high standards we have set ourselves. Over the last seven years, we have seen cuts in grants to the voluntary sector and I do not foresee any change in this pattern.

At ARCC we will continue to work to the high standards we have set ourselves and ensure that our partner's aspirations are met at all times.

I would also like to thank all the board of trustees who have given up their time to make this organisation what it is today and to all our partners who have put their trust and have chosen to work with us.

Ashtaq Arain
Chair



Ashtaq Arain
Chair

Vision, Mission & Aims

Vision

- Our vision is to be a hub for information, advice and support on the key issues affecting the Asian communities in the area and be widely recognised and valued as an asset to Croydon.

Mission

- We will work to inspire enterprise, employment and civic engagement within the Asian communities in Croydon. We will help Asian businesses, community organisations and individuals play a positive role in creating a prosperous and harmonious Borough.

Aims

- Highlight and address the needs of the Asian communities in Croydon regardless of religious, linguistic or cultural difference.
- Work closely with strategic bodies and service providers to ensure the needs of the Asian Communities (in particular of South Asian origin Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) are known and met.
- Assist our members in the process of building their knowledge, skill and capacity and thereby become more beneficial to, and effective in, the communities they live, work and serve.



Welcome to the Active Communities funding surgery

November 2016

CITIZENS UK

people's
health
trust

WSA
Community
Consultants



Director of Operations Report

2016/17 has been one of the most interesting years for ARCC. After securing a substantial grant from Croydon Council, our programme is bigger and more impactful than ever.

As an organisation we are changing. How? Along our traditional programme of building a stronger, more resilient and more visible Asian voluntary and community sector, we have launched our biggest outcomes based programme to date.

Some of our achievements this year include growth in our membership/database contacts, we have recruited the biggest staff team in our history and we have secured more finances this year than in the last 10 years combined. We are working in partnership with over 24 different organisations to deliver a range of outcomes around Legal, Financial & Digital Inclusion, Health & Wellbeing, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence (DASV) as well as Young People & Positive Parenting.

There is more....what else did we do in 2016/17 to make change happen?

We made major commitments and started implementing them straight away; we funded 14 grass roots organisation, not as delivery agencies but as partner organisations encouraging collaboration and giving them the best chance to succeed in delivering outcomes collectively.

We have funded groups to deliver financial inclusion sessions, arts and crafts, sewing classes for women, luncheon club, weekly social gatherings to reduce social isolation, to support the integration of refugee and asylum seeking youth into volunteering opportunities, weekly DASV support service drop in, Leadership programme for young people to train them to become community

champions, legal advice sessions, creation of an asset map, positive parenting classes, Maths & English tutoring sessions for parents and children and a gardening project.

We have also employed a team of experienced staff to deliver a range of services in house including; digital inclusion, DASV awareness raising project, legal advice, freedom programme and walk in the woods.

We are also working in partnership with some bigger organisation such as Croydon Voluntary Action, Crystal Palace Foundation, Imagine Mental Health, Age UK, Evolve Housing Support, Status Employment, Raising Great Aspirations and Revivify Community Solutions to deliver a health and employment programme.

We are proud that with our partners ARCC continue to achieve extraordinary outcomes for Croydon and whilst delivering on our key objectives of an inclusive vibrant and sustainable voluntary and community sector that enhances local quality of life.

We have done this in a collaborative and value for money way still being a listening, supportive and professional infrastructure organisation. In times where we have national challenges like Brexit and continuing austerity, rising issues like terrorism and hate crime, I hope that this report has demonstrated what can be achieved at a local level when communities get together to support one another and help people on the margins of society.

Looking ahead as an organisation leading change for Croydon, we believe we cannot sit still for long and are looking forward to new and sustainable ways to grow ARCC.

Whilst our move to the CVA Resource Centre has been excellent to give us wider exposure and accessibility, we have positively outgrown our office space and one of the biggest priorities for ARCC in the coming year will be to secure a new premises.

We will also look for sustainable and diverse sources of income to keep our core staff and much needed project delivery going.

Ima Miah
Director of Operations



Ima Miah
Director of Operations

Stronger Communities

ARCC has enjoyed delivering 18 years of capacity building with funding from Croydon Council in providing infrastructure support to Asian and BME groups in Croydon, and this year has seen a huge increase in the range of services we have supported the various groups and individuals.

We have delivered one to one and group sessions to organisations around; governance, fundraising, policies and procedures, monitoring and evaluation, IT, marketing, partnership working as well as commissioning support.

Community Fund

The Community Fund is the Croydon Council's new commissioning model. ARCC wrote a comprehensive bid partnering with 23 voluntary organisations. All shortlisted bids were reduced by 50% and ARCC submitted a bid that was covering four elements of Financial & Digital Inclusion, Health & Wellbeing, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence, and Young People/Positive Parenting all of which encompass an Asset Based Community Development methodology.

ARCC was fortunate to be funded to deliver a community fund programme with 15 partner organisations.

ARCC is responsible for co-ordinating the delivery of the overall partnership programme as well as the monitoring & evaluation.

ARCC has developed service level agreements with all the partners and has appointed a Project Monitoring & Finance Manager and a Strategic Partnership Manager to oversee the delivery of the programme.



Lingua House

Supporting young
asylum seekers
and refugees

Activities Include:

- English Language Classes
- Translation/Interpreting
- Counselling Support
- Mentoring/One-to-One
- Volunteering Opportunities

Tutoring Today

A classroom
away from class!

Services:

- Maths & English Classes
- Key Stage 2 (7-11 Year Olds)
- 11+ Entrance Exams
- SATs
- Parenting Support



Dance Movement Classes

With support from People's Health Trust (PHT) we delivered a range of activities as part of our project delivery to reduce social isolation amongst the participants. We targeted people of 50+ who attended weekly dance movement classes four times a week.

The project delivery has way exceeded our expectations on how successful/popular it has been with the client group. We have been very surprised at how fit and active people are ages 50+, which is not something that we anticipated at the beginning of the project.

Our delivery in the final stages reflected this with the introduction of different styles of dance movement sessions and workshops to facilitate for this. This diverse group has gone on to learn skills in floristry and have tried taster sessions in yoga and other related activities.

Commissioning/Funding Workshops

With the change in funding structure at the Council and with Commissioning opportunities fast approaching ARCC held a number of consultative meetings and workshops with our service users and groups to highlight the opportunities available to them.

Council officers and local Councillors were invited at the workshops to give an overview of the Council plans for the commissioning opportunities and go through the process.

We also held a funding workshop on behalf of the People's Health Trust with 18 participants in attendance, 6 of whom were successful in securing funding for their individual projects.





Croydon Health & Employment Project

ARCC joined with 8 other partners in a European Social Fund (ESF) & Big Lottery project to support Asian Women into employment.

The overall aim of the project is to support residents to tackle barriers to employment as well as live healthier, happier lifestyle.

Project launch and a promotional event was held in Centrale to engage clients who are not working and need support to enter or return to employment. Advice and training is given to build the confidence and employment readiness of the participants.

We have two staff in post that are dedicated to supporting the participants through their journey to employment.

Partnership Work

Asian Resource Centre is increasingly working collaboratively with other organisations to make resources go further and more effectively advance their purposes. Our charity partnerships based on collaboration, mutual benefit and delivering change that will impact those who need it most.

Yoga Classes

With support from Cllr. Manju Shahul-Hameed's Councillor's Ward Fund we delivered yoga classes aimed at supporting the mental, physical and emotional well-being of at-risk groups within Croydon.

The Classes were free and taught by a qualified Yoga teacher. Due to the huge success of the sessions we will be holding further Yoga classes in the year ahead.





Coffee Mornings

Our Monthly Elders Coffee Morning has grown from strength to strength over the past year. We have over 150 residents from Croydon registered with us.

We were successful in our application to the People's Health Trust and have given some funding to support this project and the participants have taken ownership.

This monthly event allows residents from a diverse range of communities to come together to socialise, make friends and share experiences. The coffee morning has introduced activities such as Floristry demonstrations, how to grow food, Lantern making, Macmillan Cancer coffee morning, an indoor picnic, celebrating love for Valentine's Day, and held a Bazaar.

After extensive consultation with the participants we have re-branded it as "Friends Coffee Morning".

We also have a dedicated team of volunteers that assist us in the delivery of the Coffee Morning every month and would like to thank them all for their continued support.

International Older People's Day

ARCC is committed to celebrating International Older People's Day and the contribution they make to society.

Our organisation focuses on the pathways that support full and effective participation in old age, in accordance with old persons' basic rights, needs and preferences.

Our aim is to promote healthy life styles, give opportunities to combat loneliness, encourage volunteering and sharing skills with different generations.



**WE ARE
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**

No cash?
Text **CUPCAKE**
to 70550
to donate £5*

**EVERY
SLICE
FILLS
ME UP**



International Women's Day

ARCC is proud to support International Women's Day (IWD) and this year's theme was "Be Bold for Change".

The event was a great success with the Mayor and the Deputy Mayor of Croydon in attendance along with our inspirational project speakers, performers and stall holders.

We had over 150 people in attendance that enjoyed the great food and entertainment on offer.

We appreciated all the help from the Trustees that were able to make it as well as all our great volunteers and other support staff.

This is an annual event fixed in our calendar and we look forward to welcoming everyone for our next International Women's Day celebrations.

Annual Dinner & Fundraiser

This year ARCC held an Annual Dinner & Fundraiser as well as an auction at the prestigious venue CHAK89.

The event was very well attended and the Mayor of Croydon conducted the auction along with the Chair of ARCC. The event allowed us to raise vital unrestricted funds for different events and functions to be held during the course of the year that are not funded.

The feedback from participants was that 100% found the event to be a great success.

We look forward to holding this annual event in the years ahead and really appreciate all the support from the community.





Achievements & Performance: -

- Delivered a wide range of training opportunities for the Community.
- Staff and Directors attended a range of meetings, courses, workshops and presentations
- Delivered a range of 1to1 and group work with agencies in the Borough.
- Supported groups in bidding for funds including People's Health Trust and the Council.
- Increased the number of external meetings and events to promote the work of the organisation
- Delivered a wide range of workshops in Employment, Financial & Digital Inclusion.
- Achieved substantial funding from the local authority to deliver one of the largest collaboration in Croydon.
- Raised the profile of the ARCC as an infrastructure organisation that also delivers services.
- Held 10 large events during the past year that fostered community relations and community cohesion.
- Engaged with a number of businesses in Croydon to expand our business network and to further support our project delivery.





Secretary's Report

Last year was a challenging time for ARCC. We had to move offices and in April 2016 we settled into CVA Resource Centre. Bringing our offices in Central Croydon has made a difference to increasing our numbers and raising awareness about our projects much more.

We are delivering projects that will make a real difference to people's lives in Croydon. This includes; DASV, leadership, coffee mornings and dance classes. We are also happy to be celebrating cultural events such as Eid, Ramadhan, Diwali, Easter and Christmas. We have continued to show our commitment to International Women's Day and International Older People's Day. Our main Funding supporter has been the London Borough of Croydon.

In October 2016 we had some exciting news as our Community Fund bid from the London Borough of Croydon was successful and we were going to work delivering 19 different projects along with our partner organisation's this year some new and some old. Our Community Fund Programme promises to enhance our workings with the local voluntary groups within our communities.

One of our greatest successes has been our monthly Friend's Coffee Mornings for elderly people. The group enjoy the talks from various Professionals such as Police, NHS, and community workers etc.

The grant received from Peoples Health Trust is used for our Dance Movement Classes targeting residents that are 50+. These are very popular always well attended.

One of the highlights of the year was our first ever Annual Dinner & Fundraiser at Chak89 and it was a great success. We hope

to continue to do this every year to raise essential funds for our organisation.

We have tried our best to live up to the expectations of our community, our members, our funders and other stakeholders and through our hard work with our local groups ARCC's profile has been raised and more visible in Croydon than ever before.

My sincere thanks go to our hardworking Staff who worked tirelessly behind the scene without breaks at times. I would also like to thank our Funders, Trustees, and local Councilors' who have supported us over the years in bringing ARCC to this stage.

Dilly Surelia
Secretary



resource centre
croydon

One
Voic

One
Voice

Dilly Surelia
Secretary



Treasurer's Report

During the past financial year we have managed to more than double our income stream, all this thanks to the hard work, dedication and commitment from the staff team with direction from the ARCC board.

With our existing agreement for our core funding from the Council coming to an end back in September 2016 we faced a lot of uncertainty about the future direction of the organisation, however in knowing this we decided to be bold and innovative, really focusing on the core needs of the Asian communities in coming up with a bid proposal to the Council and being successful with a new contract over the next three years to the value of £470,000.

We supplemented this income with additional funding from People's Health Trust and ESF/ Big Lottery CHEP Project.

It is important to note that none of our project delivery year correlates with the financial year hence you will note the underspend for the current financial year, which is being carried over to the next financial year.

Overall we have had a very successful year in terms of funding and project delivery and aim to build on this for the next financial year as the organisation grows and develops.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our funders and supporters over the past year, especially Croydon Council in showing faith in the organisation.

Rumel Jahur
Treasurer



Rumel Jahur
Treasurer

Income

£108,000	LBC
£20,295	ESF/BLF
£14,804	PHT
£2,105	Fundraising
£1,423	Misc
£547	Donations
£147,174	TOTAL

Expenditure

£92,421	Management/Admin
£11,007	Charitable Activities
£5,318	General Admin Exp
£2,000	Governance Costs
£1,941	Other Support Costs
£112,687	TOTAL

ARCC Board of Directors & Staff

Ashtaq Arain
Chandra Babu
Dilly Surelia
Rumel Jahur

Chair
Vice-Chair
Secretary
Treasurer

Somasundaram Kanagasundaram
Ghazala Mirza
Raghu Shetty
Bushra Ahmed
Jay Patel
Sandeep Sokhi
Usha Patel

Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director

Kaushalya Kakad
Anita Bhardwaj

Co-opted Member
Co-opted Member

Ima Miah
Aisha Bryant-Abdullah
Mamun Khan
Debahuti Chakraborty
Janet Clarke
Jennine Bailey
Saera Haque
Rabia Iqbal

Director of Operations
Strategic Partnership Manager
Project Monitoring & Finance Manager
ETE Project Manager
CHEP Project Administrator
Community Building Trainer
Family Guide
Office Administrator





Jay Patel (Director), Ima Miah (Director of Operations) & Bushra Ahmed (Director)



Asian Resource Centre of Croydon Ltd
CVA Resource Centre
82 London Road
Croydon
CR0 2TB

020 8684 3784
info@arccltd.com
www.arccltd.com

Registered Charity No: 1120376
Registered Company No: 6250781