

# EOW-CHARITY



“TOGETHER WE CAN BE THE CHANGE OF TOMORROW”

NEWSLETTER 2016

Our charity brings together a wide range of projects and activities for those living within our local community here in Leicester. Recently, we held an International Women’s Day event in Highfields, Leicester on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in collaboration with Innocent Not for Sale (iNFS) and Z Fitness. This event was inspiring and diverse, bringing together different nationalities and backgrounds to share experiences as well as promoting womanhood.

## International Women’s Day - 13 March 2016

International Women's Day (March 8) is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. This year’s campaign theme was pledge for parity, whereby everyone who attended the event wrote Pledges for Parity. These pledges were generated to take steps to achieve gender parity, whether that to help women back into employment, help young girls into education, develop inclusion or simple root out workplace bias. Gender parity is important because it is linked to economic prosperity, which means with greater gender equality there is a better chance of prosperity and performance.

## Up-coming Youth Events

### #Brighter Future Youth Event Day - 28 May 2016

This youth event is targeted at adolescents living in St. Matthews Leicester – enriched with inspiration for their prospective future. There will be a career fair, which means different universities, colleges and agents will be invited to inspire young individuals to take part in education, apprenticeship, internship and job recruitment. There will be youth achievement awards - a chance for young people to receive awards such as business, citizenship, sports, etc. These awards will be given to those living in particular St. Matthews, and particularly young persons who have become involved with society and made a difference to achieve change. In addition, there is free food and entrance, along with entertainment associated with drama, debates, marketing, sports, social experiments and social media. Guest speakers will be invited for the inspiration of young adults and the event will to promote independence and a brighter future for those living in St. Matthews.

### OUR AIMS

To identify the important issues faced by women, their families and young people, which is part of EOW’s engagement and empowerment projects.

To advance awareness of women’s values, rights and well-being in society. This is done by promoting the idea of progress within education – hence women have the right to education and it is important for communities to view education as a Key to success and building for the future and not necessarily a threat .

We want to continue the development of EOW’s local and overseas projects.

These key projects will be discussed on the next pages.

### In this Issue

- Cycling to Somalia
- #Brighter Future Youth Project
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Empowerment Project
- Building Up Somalia, One Person, One Brick at a Time

EVA ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN (EOW-CHARITY)





## Headlines

We are pleased to announce that different organizations have been fundraising for EOW-Charity. Senior Probation Officer Sue Jordan - managed to raise money for EOW-Charity by cycling from head office to Somalia. We would like to thank Sue for this achievement and are looking forward to working with Sue and her team again.

EOW-Charity would also like to thank Big Local and Local Trust for working with us and supporting the charity with funding for our #Brighter Future Youth Project. Also a big thanks goes to our collaborator, Charnwood Learning Centre, for working with us to deliver #Brighter Future Youth Project.

## Up-coming Workshops

### Women in Democracy

There will be five workshops which will involve individuals discovering parliament, examining national decisions and how laws are made, getting voices to be heard, campaigning, understanding the history, and independent research.

### Enrolment for Empowerment Programme

This project is all about inspiring people to change their future. We will be running workshops and offering platforms to discuss any issues relating to democracy, and inspiring people to make a change. You will get a chance to build on confidence and personal presentation, practice CV and interview skill building, develop your entrepreneurial spirit and learn how to become your own boss.

### Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

We are in the process of delivering national training for the NSPCC, which is an upcoming workshop. We also offer workshops and training about FGM, generally, so do get in touch via email: [info@eow-](mailto:info@eow-)



## Get involved!

If you want to participate in these workshops or know someone who may benefit from these, please get in touch with us by emailing: [info@eow-charity.org](mailto:info@eow-charity.org)

# CYCLING TO SOMALIA — FUNDRAISING

EOW-Charity would like to thank Sue Jordan (Senior Probation Officer - National Probation Service) for developing fundraising event to support the charity. We also had an opportunity to interview Sue Jordan herself, regarding the fundraising and her experience of working in partnership with EOW-Charity.

**How did you learn about EOW-Charity?** - Ruqayyah Salim, Volunteer

“It happened by chance. One of my team members saw the EOW-Charity website online and we decided to contact Dr. Sadiyo and that’s where everything began! After we contacted Sadiyo, we arranged to meet, for her to explain current projects and what her charity involves.” - Sue Jordan

**How was your first meeting with Dr. Sadiyo Siad?** - Ruqayyah Salim, Volunteer

“My meeting with Sadiyo I would say was inspirational; she was enthusiastic, full of commitment and ideas of what she wants to do. Through talking to her I felt keen to work together in partnership in order to support people living in the Leicester community. I came back, spoke to the team, and set a date to invite her to talk more about the project. In particular, I was keen to help the Somali community, and this is where our fundraising idea came from.” - Sue Jordan

**What is your involvement with the charity?** - Ruqayyah Salim, Volunteer

“Previously, we have done some fundraising with Macmillan charity, which was pleasurable. However, we were not aware that EOW-Charity, a local charity which was next door, so we decided to help the charity by cycling to Somalia. We quickly sent an email to the diversity manager in East Midlands outlining the project and our involvement with the charity.” - Sue Jordan

**How did you organise the fundraising?** - Ruqayyah Salim, Volunteer

“We wanted to do something different, something fun-so we decided to use exercise bikes, as a way of ‘cycling to Somalia’. Around the office, we asked colleagues to join in and sent emails to those unaware. On the bikes, there was a notepad and everybody noted down the miles they did, and all the miles were calculated at the end. Motivational messaging enabled everyone to take part in turn, increasing team-building in the office.” - Sue Jordan

**How can you work with EOW-Charity to better the community?** - Ruqayyah Salim, Volunteer

“In the future, my part working with EOW-Charity will involve two projects, that is, Empowering Women and #BrighterFuture Youth Project. Based on my role as a probation officer, I work with ex offenders and some women I work with need confidence building. I find the empowerment program very useful, in particular working with women in our local community. The same goes for #BrighterFuture. I will work with EOW-Charity by sending ex youth offenders, who want to be a part of society, to work on building their future. This way we will be working hand-in-hand with on-going support, and helping the charity with available workshops.” - Sue Jordan





# #BrighterFUTURE YOUTH PROJECTS

## #Brighter Future

### 2013 - 2014

EOW-Charity hosted its first youth conference "Hashtag Brighter Future" (BFC) on 7 June 2014 at the University of Leicester (UK). This conference targeted students aged 16+ from diverse backgrounds to engage and have a say about their future prospects. The workshop sought to increase awareness of social determinants which may impact young people's lives. The aim of the conference was to encourage, support and inspire young individuals to become leaders of their own community. We would like to thank the University of Leicester and RR Donnelly for funding and sponsoring this project back in 2013-2014.

**This year (2016),** the project is brought into the community by delivering weekly workshops and an event day on 28 May, 2016. So, don't miss out - come along, have your say, enrich your prospective future and get inspire!



COME ALONG, HAVE YOUR SAY, ENRICH YOUR PROSPECTIVE FUTURE, GET INSPIRED!

**2013-2014** - The University of Leicester has been the backbone of EOW-Charity's development of #BrighterFuture, making this conference for young people of all backgrounds, circumstances and career paths, a great success. EOW would like to thank everyone who made this event possible. This includes guest speakers, those that helped run and prepare the event, the University of Leicester and everyone who attended.

**2015-2016** - This year, EOW-Charity has brought this project into the community by delivering weekly workshops. The workshops lasted for six sessions. Each session was for two hours at: 1st Floor Belgrave Gate, Leicester, LE1 3HU. We would like to thank all the people who are involved including Charnwood Learning Centre for working with us and Local Trust Big Local for funding us to run this project.



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Local Trust | Big Local



# #BrighterFUTURE YOUTH PROJECTS

Youth Interviewed 09/04/2016: #Brighter Future Workshop

## Experience of attending the workshops

### Why did you take part in #BrighterFuture Workshops?

"I was approached by a man called Chris Issa who has networks with the people that run this charity and he said to me—we are from the same industry - there is this workshop going on which will benefit you since you are a business person. There was a lady at that time called Dr Constantina Muston and he said to me that she helps those that are doing business and she owns her own company. For me the most important thing is to get your own mentor, someone that can always teach you to get more knowledge and he said to me this person could be one of those people that you face in life that can give you more knowledge. So I came down and she was absolutely perfect. She gave me a lot of knowledge and gave me in-depth information about the business world, because she has more experience than we do and from that moment I fell in love with this and came everyday." - Abdi, 19 years

### What has been your greatest achievement so far by attending this workshop?

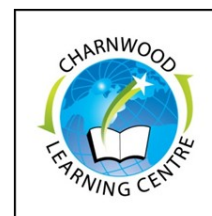
"Basically, the greatest achievement for me is that—I have met very good friends that can help with many things in life. There were many things I was thinking of doing f- or example bringing together youth in Leicester—which was my aim goal, but I was always thinking 'how can I do it? Where can I start?' I found that in order to do that you have to have people that are like-minded, who are also going to think in the same way, basically walking in the same line as you. It was quite difficult to find them, but when I came here I found quite a few that has been my greatest achievement. Thereby I was able to set and create a group of youth and bring other youth together and make them work together." - Jamil

### What are your goals for the future?

"I have a goal as a person which includes stuff I want to achieve, and inner-circle, friends and family and the biggest goal is giving back to the world. I think the hardest goal would be working on myself, which includes helping my country, my world, humans as people. This is because I believe you cannot make this world a perfect place but what you can do is make it a little bit more better place to live. I believe in change, I can't make it perfect but I believe I can bring somewhat of a change." - Abdi

### Did the workshop improve your skills and what skills did you develop?

"Working with different people, communication, understand them and changing yourself to become a better person. Now I'm able to control myself in many ways before I didn't know what to ask, and never realised I was at lost and now exactly what I'm going to do and I have learnt the routes to take in order to achieve my goals." - Jamil



# FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION (FGM) WORKSHOP

## Educate to Eradicate FGM

Female genital mutilation constitutes all procedures that involve partial or total removal of external female genitalia. It is a form of child abuse which leads to physical and mental devastation. Here at EOW-Charity we aim to raise awareness of the negative impact of this practice and the position of medical and psychological impact in this issue. For this purpose, we are advocating the elimination of FGM, through close collaboration with experts, bilingual community leaders and talented spokespersons, to raise awareness by holding a conference, offering training as well as workshops.

In 2015, Eva Organization for Women (EOW), hosted a conference on Friday 6 March 2015 at the University of Leicester, bringing together a diversity of people from community activists, lawyers, social workers, teachers, head-teachers, police officers midwives and doctors to discuss the illegal, yet widely undertaken tradition of FGM.

Former university PhD student, now chair of EOW, Dr Sadiyo Siad quotes: "The aim of the conference is to provide a unique opportunity to gain invaluable perspective, insight and best practice and understanding of the current framework of FGM.

As part of the conference, EOW-Charity developed and published educational material to support the eradication of FGM. We at EOW believe that education is the way forward to eradicate FGM. As part of the conference, EOW-Charity launched educational packages for both communities and professionals for better insight and understanding of FGM and the importance of prevention.

Kris Issa - Trustee/Treasurer of EOW-Charity who has been involved with EOW-Charity for almost 3 years was able to bring forward his views and opinions about our last FGM conference .

"The FGM project was brought to my attention from Dr. Sadiyo, I never heard of it before. I never knew FGM to be about women but Dr. Sadiyo increased my knowledge by sharing her thoughts and ideas." - Kris Issa

"The FGM conference was able to bring different backgrounds and shared experiences which were brought to the forum in a way that was never done before. For me, the FGM conference was very beneficial as it brought a different background to voice their options." - Kris Issa

This year, EOW-Charity delivered talks and worked with different organisations, schools and colleges including Leicester Grammar School and Gateway College. Currently, EOW-Charity is in the process of delivering national training for the NSPCC, England.



LEICESTER  
GRAMMAR  
SCHOOL

Gateway  
COLLEGE





# Empowerment Programmes

Our aim at EOW-Charity is to empower young people, women and their families within our community to take active decisions that affect them. Our programmes contain workshops, seminars, one-to-one support and conference/events, which are all aimed at empowering you to unleash your potential. We at EOW also help with CV writing and interview skill building for those living in the Leicester community. Our aim is to develop your entrepreneurial spirit and advise you how to become your own boss which includes ses- In 2015, the focus was on inspiring people to change their future. EOW-Charity gave an inspirational talk regarding the current state in Somalia for women and girls and the way forward to create opportunities in order to transform the lives of Somali women and enable them to gain independence.

2016 - We are boosting interview and CV-building workshops which will also lead to work experience opportunities where the individual will spend some time in the workplace with a designated company and if the company is pleased with their performance it may offer them a job.

The workshop will consist of two days in which individuals will build relationships and confidence as well as improve job search and interview skills.

1) The first day will be based on will be based on an average working shift, lateness without due reason will not be accepted. There will be breaks provided to give an idea of how long they will be expected to engage in an activity whilst at work. We will go through past searches for work and how long they have been unemployed for; exploring issues as to why they have not yet found employment and how they can overcome this.

2) The second day will focused on the job search and interview skills. It will be the same length of time as the first day and it will be more emotionally testing and challenging for each applicant. The aim is to make them realise that they are able to acquire a job and they do have the confidence to succeed. By doing mock interviews and learning how to search for a job, they should leave feeling more confident in their employment prospects.

From this two-day workshop, EOW-Charity hopes to contact some employers and arrange some work experience. This should help attract some exposure for the charity and help women be more confident in their skill set. We propose to start this in the New Year, i.e. January .



If you are interested in this project, please keep checking on our website where we will announce the CV-building and interview skills workshop.

Also you may wish to follow us on Twitter at @EOW\_Charity or Facebook Eva Organization For Women - EOW.

For further information please contact us on:

**EMAIL: [admin@eow-charity.org](mailto:admin@eow-charity.org)**

**TEL: + 44 (0) 7961618589**

**TEL: + 44 (0) 3001240256**

# Building up Somalia, One Person, One Brick at a Time

**Building up Somalia One Person, One Brick at a Time** is one of Eva Organization for Women's (EOW-Charity) projects. Established in 2011, **Building up Somalia One Person, One Brick at a Time** comprises two elements:

**Operation Read to Learn** – focused on building schools and libraries in Somalia

EOW-Charity plans to build schools with libraries alongside them, across Somalia. These schools and libraries will be built in areas where there have never been schools before. They will educate children from age seven until age 15, through mainstream education covering Maths, Science, Somali and English. The schools will be community-owned and will be designed to be centre for change, serving the community to develop young people for the better.

**Giving the Light of Life** – sponsoring Somali orphans and underprivileged children

We at EOW-Charity believe that education is the light of life. Our Giving the Light of Life project involves sponsoring orphans and underprivileged children by paying their school fees. This project will link individuals to a young person of their choice, as their only sponsor. Sponsors will see "their" child's life changing through the notes, letters and photographs they will receive from the sponsored young person.

**Building up Somalia, One Person, One Brick at a Time has not been launched as a campaign yet however, EOW-Charity plans to launch this campaign soon.**

If you are passionate about this project, you don't have to stop now! Get involved with this project by donating on our website or click on the link below which will direct you to the available page.

[\*\*DONATE\*\*](#)

*For more information about Building up Somalia, One Person, One Brick at a Time, and donations, please contact us via our email at: [info@eow-charity.org](mailto:info@eow-charity.org) or contact our local office at: + 44 (0) 300 124 0256 or + 44 (0) 7961618589*





# Get involved - Volunteer!

EOW-Charity is currently looking for volunteers, if you are interested in any of the projects/workshops don't hesitate to contact us!

We believe to empower, motivate and encourage people regardless of their background is to break down the barriers that are hindering their success and achievements.

Volunteering is also one of the things that looks very impressive on a CV. It shows that you can take initiative and that you are the kind of person willing to go the extra mile and give it your everything. Depending on your volunteering role (e.g. managing a team), it could even add to your skill set. After all, you can never have too many skills!

## Contact Us

Location: 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 257  
Belgrave Gate, Leicester  
LE1 3HU

TEL: + 44 (0)  
7961618589

TEL: + 44 (0)  
3001240256

EMAIL: [admin@eow-charity.org](mailto:admin@eow-charity.org)

WEBSITE: [www.eow-charity.org](http://www.eow-charity.org)

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