

# Steps to Recovery

Support for Community Champions

#Steps2Recovery

Funded by:



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

Support to help  
faith & civil society  
organisations from  
communities in high  
COVID-19 areas that  
are engaged in frontline  
social action projects



Photos kindly provided by Peterborough Asylum & Refugee Community Association, Amal Project Teeside & Ubuntu Multicultural Centre CIC in Middlesbrough

#CommunityChampions support programme delivered by:

@CivilSocietyCIC

[www.civilsocietyconsulting.co.uk](http://www.civilsocietyconsulting.co.uk)



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# What is Steps to Recovery?

## Support for Community Champions

Delivered by Civil Society Consulting CIC, **'Steps to Recovery'** offers free sustainability support to civil society and faith-based organisations and their social action leaders ('Community Champions') across England - primarily to those which are led by or serving ethnic minorities.

Steps to Recovery is an integrated support programme designed to help you and your communities emerge from the pandemic into a period of sustainability and recovery. We are providing a one-to-one advice and information session, combined with an agreed number of consultancy day's follow-up support that will be based on a check-list of actions. This check-list will be co-produced in the one-to-one consultation.

Through this programme, organisations are supported to be:

- Better able to support other vulnerable community members, for example: delivering on-going crisis and emergency support; offering public health, mental health, wellbeing and loneliness reduction interventions; providing money and debt advice services; and developing digital inclusion, community cohesion and other connecting activities.
- Better able to deal with the negative impact of the pandemic as an organisation, having re-configured and re-designed the support offered by their social action organisation, and by ensuring the needs of people with lived experiences are centre stage.
- Strengthened, resilient and more sustainable organisations in terms of income generation, with communication and partnership strategies and forward plans in place.

Steps to Recovery is part of the Government's *'Community Champions'* programme, managed by Strengthening Faith Institutions and Ostro Fayre Share Foundation, that supports and empowers grassroots organisations, community and faith leaders. The programme works to make them stronger so that they can better share public health information within their communities.

We [Civil Society Consulting CIC] have delivered sustainability support to more than **130 civil society and faith-based organisations**, so far during the pandemic. In partnership with *Strengthening Faith Institutions* and the *Ostro Fayre Share Foundation*, and with funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (**MHCLG**), we can now extend our programme of support to more organisations and community leaders. We are offering at no cost:

- A **one-to-one information and advice session** with up to **four days of follow up support**, based on a co-produced action check-list to help implement prioritized elements of the advice provided, as well as **webinars** and **workshops** on Income Generation, Governance and Communications.
- Support on **project and organizational planning**; income-generation and **fundraising**; reconfiguring **existing services**; strengthening **wellbeing and public health messaging**; and **planning for a post-COVID world** and **civil society recovery**.

Please do get in touch!



**Mark Ereira-Guyer,**  
Founder Director,  
Civil Society Consulting Community Interest Community

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## A few words from our partner–

Steps to Recovery is part of Strengthening Faith Institutions [SFI] and Ostro Fayre Share Foundation's 'Community Champions' programme. Here's SFI's perspective on the programme, in the words of Mustafa Field OBE, Programme Leader.

As a growing national multi-faith organisation we are keen to pro-actively advance leadership, capacity and resilience and **strengthen public health messages** in all communities – and this is needed more than ever as we emerge from the pandemic crisis.

Working with local faith leaders and their groups, and in partnership with Civil Society Consulting CIC, we now have a real opportunity to strengthen local networks of support and develop Community Champions by helping them

# develop, deliver and sustain



Mustafa Field OBE,  
Programme Leader,  
Strengthening Faith Institutions

their own vital projects - and therefore better engender understanding and engagement between different faith communities. //



# How will Steps to Recovery be delivered?

The Civil Society Consulting CIC team is made up of specialists with expertise in: fundraising; community engagement; organisational development and governance; social and community research; communications and social media; web-design; policy; and operations.

Civil Society Consulting CIC are delivering this development programme to 50 community leaders in 50 communities, with two advisors focusing on Northern England and the East Midlands, and two advisors responsible for Southern England and the West Midlands. Advisors are providing up to four days of support, which is hands-on and customized to the organisation. The four days will be spread over a period of six to eight weeks - and each advisor will be supported by the rest of the Civil Society Team. The team will also deliver a number of online workshops and one-to-one trainings on Income Generation and Communications. Participating organisations will also be invited to Civil Society Consulting CIC's Virtual Social Clubs, which promote connection, idea-sharing and wellbeing in the social sector.

The follow-up support will be based on a 5-point action checklist, designed to implement elements of the advice and guidance provided. This checklist will be co-produced during the one-to-one surgery. To get the most out each engagement, each leader and their group will complete a baseline survey before the surgery is held and commit to the principles of co-production and ensuring optimal outcomes.



## Who are we?

Civil Society Consulting (CSC) is an independent, not-for-profit social enterprise – a Community Interest Company (CIC), which started life over a decade ago. The CIC aims to build community cohesion, individual skills, and institutional capacities at a hyper local level, with a keen focus on the most socially deprived and diverse neighbourhoods in the country. The CIC is committed to supporting smaller 'grassroots' community-based organisations and multi-faith groups, especially those that are BAME-led - we enable them to flourish and tackle the problems that exist in their local communities. We also provide consultancy services to larger civil society organisations too, such as social research, policy development and Communications support.

# Civil Society Consulting Community Interest Company

## Meet the Team

The Civil Society Consulting CIC team is made up of specialists with expertise in: fundraising; community engagement; organisational development and governance; social and community research; communications and social media; web-design; policy; and operations.

The Steps to Recovery team comprise:

- Sadia Akram** Advisor
- James Baddeley** Fundraising Support
- Mark Ereira** Advisor
- Francesca Godfrey** Advisor
- Natasha Ereira-Guyer** Advisor and Communications Lead
- Yasmin Jiang** Communications and Project Support
- Simon Pickering** Webinar Leader
- Theo Shaw** Advisor



Simon



Sadia



Theo



Natasha



Francesca



Mark

In local partnerships with:

TOGETHER LIVERPOOL

GREATER TOGETHER MANCHESTER

SFI Strengthening Faith Institutions

TOGETHER MIDDLESBROUGH & CLEVELAND

TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

OSTRO FAYRE SHARE FOUNDATION

Ubuwetu MULTICULTURAL CENTRE CIC

BARKING & DAGENHAM SOMALI WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FAITHS FORUM FOR LONDON

BD COLLECTIVE

PARCA Improving lives, every day

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Network of Kindness

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*“Civil Society Consulting CIC is the type of organisation we really need right now. Offering support to help community groups to help themselves, giving them the skills they need to make a real difference to the people they serve – it’s a winning model.”*

**Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP**  
Secretary of State for Health & Social Care



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Consulting**



**Strengthening  
Faith Institutions**

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