

ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14

EYST

WALES



Ethnic Youth Support Team
Tim Cymorth Ievenctid Ethnig



*Helping Young People
Achieve Their
Full Potential*



ABOUT EYST

Ethnic Youth Support Team is an award-winning and unique organisation which was set up in 2005 to support BME young people aged 11-25 living in Wales. It was set up by and for this beneficiary group, who are an increasing proportion of young people in Wales.

Our main aims are to support this group by providing a wide range of support through a targeted and culturally sensitive youth-work approach, including the provision of qualified youth workers, youth activities and a youth and community centre for the client group. We also aim to increase public understanding of BME young people and improve community cohesion and integration.

Since its establishment, EYST has been fortunate to have been granted funding from a wide range of organisations, and has been able to establish a state of the art youth and community centre, based in Swansea, and now employs 9 full-time and 6 part-time members of staff.

EYST is a company limited by guarantee (No. 6709767) and a registered Charity (No. 1152486)

CONTENTS

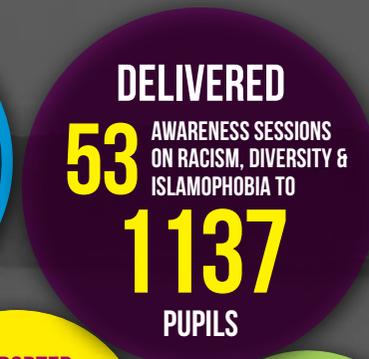
- 3 Chair & Director's Message
- 3 Key Achievements
- 4 Project: **My Space**
- 6 Project: **Think**
- 8 Project: **Family Link**
- 8 Project: **Bridging Cultures, Strengthening Families**
- 9 Project: **BME Voice**
- 9 Project: **Get Sporty**
- 10 Project: **Moving Up**
- 10 Project: **Play Scheme**
- 11 Awareness raising in schools
- 12 Testimonials
- 13 EYST on Social Media
- 14 Financial Summary
- 15 EYST Team
- 15 Funders & Supporters

WELCOME...



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

DURING 2013-14 WE:



We are very pleased to present EYST's latest Annual Report for the year 2013-14. This has been a very busy and also challenging year, during which we have continued to focus on helping BME young people and their families living in Wales, through various projects focusing on family support, educational support, sporting activities, health and employment support.

The EYST Offices and adjoining Urban Youth Centre in Swansea have continued to be a hub of activity, seemingly busier than ever, with increased IT and English Classes taking place in the EYST Centre, delivered in partnership with a range of organisations including Swansea University DACE and our increasing numbers of volunteers. The evaluation of the My Space project which has funded this centre for the last three years tells us that the centre is highly appreciated by its users as a truly accessible and welcoming space which

brings people of all ages, backgrounds and walks of life together. Even though we hope to be able to continue to offer this facility, supported by volunteers, financially this will be and has been a challenge.

Another key focus this year has been our Think Project, which has completed its second year of delivery. Highly topical, given the success of UKIP and growing far-right support across Europe, the project has attracted the attention of leading experts in the fields of community both from within the UK and across Europe. We have shared our emerging findings in events in Cardiff, London, Huddersfield and even Sweden, at which the project has been critically acclaimed as innovative and highly necessary.

At the same time, our workers have continued with the day to day challenges of supporting young people, with whatever issues they may present, as well as offering friendship and support to many.

Our family support projects have been in great demand, as young people and their families sometimes stumble over the challenges of reconciling conflicting cultural demands, combined with all the usual problems which growing up in any family involves.

As ever, we need to extend our gratitude to all our funders who have put their faith and trust in us. In these times of increasing financial austerity and increased competition for funds, our continued growth this year is even greater testimony to the hard work of all our staff and volunteers.

As we enter 2014-15 we look forward to new projects funded by Lloyds TSB to support Refugees and Asylum

Seekers, funding from Gwirvol and Volunteering in Wales to support new volunteering projects, as well as use of a new EYST minibus funded by Clothworkers Foundation. Our vision is to expand operationally across Wales over the coming year, in order to help even more young people and their families in need.

Thanks to all, for helping us to help others.

Momena Ali
Founder & Chair

Rocio Cifuentes
Director

PROJECT

MY SPACE

OFFERING COMMUNITY SPACE TO DIVERSE SECTIONS OF THE COMMUNITY



ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI
LOTTERY FUNDED



Over the last year, MySpace has continued to offer accessible space to different sections of the community, including young people, older people, dads' groups, mother and toddler groups and youth disability groups.

Our external evaluation by Dynamix found the following:

'MySpace has made a big difference. It is very accessible, has improved skills, opportunities and confidence and has supported people to

have a say, be involved, understand and value each other. It has helped people from different backgrounds and cultures understand each other and feel like part of the same community.

The young people who attend the MySpace project have gained a wide range of skills: Communication, working with others, co-operation, gaining independence, learning to do things for themselves more, First Aid, youth work and IT. All the groups said that the opportunity to meet people in a comfortable, safe space was a very important part of MySpace.

MySpace project has increased the confidence of most of the young people who attend the centre. The opportunity to socialise in a young person led environment where 'adults are not more important (than young people)'; the acceptance and celebration of diversity that is a core part of the ethos of the centre; the empowering approach of the staff and volunteers all help make this happen.

MySpace is extremely well connected and the staff and volunteers make the most of these connections to help the young people have opportunities to get

involved with lots of different things. For example, meeting the Mayor, feeding in to Funky Dragon and fund raising for the children's ward at the local hospital. At MySpace young people meet others who they would not normally meet as they attend different schools. Staff and volunteers help the young people feel that they are part of a community and get involved in the community.'

A SELECTION OF SERVICES USING **MY SPACE**



PLAY SCHEME



MOTHER & TODDLER GROUP



YOUTH DROP-IN CENTRE



VOLUNTEERING



MIXTUP



THE CLOTHWORKERS' FOUNDATION

MINI BUS SUCCESS!

We're pleased to report that owing to the success of our Pilot Minibus Project the Clothworkers Foundation agreed to grant us £13,000 to buy our own 12 seater EYST Minibus! 99 young people used this during the first month we had it! This will help to transport young people and their families to and from EYST activities, helping more people in need to access our support.

"HAVING A VOICE"

"DIFFERENT ETHNICITIES CAN MEET HERE AND BOND WITH EACH OTHER"

"ACTIVITIES, DEBATES AND TALKS, JUST DEALING WITH IT ALL"

"IT IS A MULTI-CULTURAL PLACE THAT BRINGS PEOPLE TOGETHER"

"HAVING THE CONFIDENCE TO DO THINGS BY MYSELF"

"WE ARE SEEN AS PART OF SOCIETY NOW"

"STAFF, VOLUNTEERS & YOUNG PEOPLE ARE REALLY WELCOMING"

"FINDING OUT WHO YOU ARE AS AN INDIVIDUAL AND EXPLORING SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES"



WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT MY SPACE PROJECT?
(DYNAMIX EVALUATION REPORT)

PROJECT **THINK**

CHALLENGING RACISM & FAR RIGHT EXTREMISM



ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI
LOTTERY FUNDED



The Think Project has had a highly successful and busy second year, working with 177 young people to teach them the facts about race, religion, asylum and extremism and help them to think for themselves....

The three day educational programme project was delivered to 17 groups of young people, in locations across South Wales including Swansea, Newport, Merthyr, Aberdare, Torfaen, Cardiff, Carmarthen and Llanelli. We have also worked successfully with individuals referred to us for potential far right views, and have continued to work in partnership with

Police, Youth Offending Service, Schools and Local Authorities to achieve our objectives.

Strategically, the project has increased its profile and has attracted wide positive publicity nationally and across Europe. The project has also benefited from the input of Professors Ted Cattle and Paul Thomas who wrote a scoping report on the project outlining its uniqueness and potential. This report was launched at an event in March 2014 at the House of Commons in London. The project has also been invited to present at conferences in Stockholm and Brussels. A highlight of the year was our Wales wide conference

on young people and far right extremism held in the Welsh Government Pierhead building in Cardiff which was attended by close to 100 delegates and was opened by the Welsh Government Minister for Communities and Tackling Poverty, Jeff Outhbert AM.



But the most important thing has been the change effected in young people themselves....

At the beginning of the year, **53%** of the young people we worked with believed that asylum seekers should be sent back home. By the end of

the programme, this percentage had gone down to **7%**, and **83%** disagreed with this view.



Out of 157 completers in Year 2, **116** participants (or **74%**) rated the project either **9 or 10 out of 10** in terms of Relevance, and **130** (or **83%**) rated the project either **9 or 10 out of 10** in terms of Usefulness. Nearly all the participants (**98%**) also felt the programme should be available to other young people in their area.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE BEST THING ABOUT THE COURSE HAS BEEN?

(I WORKS EVALUATION REPORT)



“GETTING EDUCATED ABOUT DIFFERENT RELIGIONS”

“THE TEACHERS ARE VERY RESPECTFUL”



“LEARNING TO NOT JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER”



“LEARNING ABOUT DIFFERENT PEOPLE HOW THEY LIVE AND WHAT HAPPENS. I HAVE MORE UNDERSTANDING”



“LISTENING TO THE ASYLUM SEEKER AND MEETING NEW PEOPLE”



“LEARNING THE FACTS”

“LEARNING ABOUT THINGS I DIDN'T KNOW BEFORE”



“GETTING TAUGHT ABOUT RACISM etc AND REALISING MOST OF WHAT YOU HEAR ISN'T TRUE SO I'LL NEVER JUDGE SOMEONE”



PROJECT FAMILY LINK

SUPPORTING BME YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES

EYST Family Link Project provides support for young people from BME communities and their families.

The project aims to:

- Improve access to mainstream service provision, facilitate integration and provide culturally appropriate one to one and group work where needed.
- Build on direct support of young people and their families to improve family relationships, conflict resolution and support parents of young people to build resilience and improve coping skills.

In the last year, the project has supported families with a range of issues, and we have worked closely alongside key agencies including Social Services, Schools, Health and Housing to help the families overcome problems and support their children and young people.



One of our clients said "EYST family link project helped my child with a problem of racial discrimination in school and helped us as parents understand how to support my child. As we are new to the UK, we didn't know what our rights were, so it was very helpful to have someone to explain it all to us".

Another client said "This project supported me and my family in very difficult circumstances, and they acted as a link between us and all the different agencies involved – I think without this support I would have just crumbled, and my children would have suffered".



PROJECT BRIDGING CULTURES, STRENGTHENING FAMILIES



The Bridging Cultures Project has provided mentoring, advice, family mediation and support focused around cultural conflict for BME young people and their families. 22 families have been supported, and a total of 36 children, and their siblings.

This support has involved one-to-one work with children and young people and whole family work, as well as liaison with a range of external agencies including social services, schools, benefits agencies, immigration agencies, housing, legal support, employment agencies, and so on. The children and young people come from families experiencing some kind of cultural conflict situation. Others are asylum seekers or migrant families newly arrived in the UK.

Some of the children supported through this project said:

"Before, my dad never used to take part in family activities. Now he's a lot more involved and does more fun stuff. We are all happier"



PROJECT BME VOICE

ENGAGING BME GROUPS IN THE HEALTHY CITY AGENDA



The BME Voice project started in November 2013, and is part of wider consortium project run by Swansea Council for Voluntary Services (SCVS) – the Community Voice Project – which aims to engage diverse groups across Swansea in the Healthy City Agenda.

The BME Voice project is delivered in partnership with African Community Centre and Swansea Bay Regional Equality Council.

The aims of the project are to:

- Provide a platform for BME people to help them access and influence the delivery of health and social care services
- Train and equip members of the BME community with the skills, understanding and information to drive forward social care and health-related initiatives

- Equip health and social care service providers with up-to-date and relevant information from the BME community.
- Ensure that community members are fairly treated, feel included and their health and well-being is improved.

To date the project has supported 18 individuals, with a range of health-related issues. EYST's focus within the consortium is on Children and Young people and Substance Misuses issues.



PROJECT GET SPORTY

HELPING BME YOUNG PEOPLE GET MORE INTO SPORT

Get Sporty is a brand new EYST project funded by Comic Relief under its Sports Relief programme, which helps BME young people get more into Sport!

With the support of this funding, we have been able to offer:

Weekly Zumba

Average 18 attendees every week!

Weekly Football

Average 23 attendees every week!

Weekly exercise classes

Average 23 attendees every week!

10 Sessions of Basketball

58 people took part!

10 sessions of Boxing

47 young people took part!

Coming soon

Female only Swimming!





PROJECT MOVING UP

EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT FOR BME YOUNG PEOPLE, WOMEN & MEN

During 2013-14 the Moving Up Project, funded by WCVA via their Engagement Gateway (European Social Fund) Programme supported over 85 individuals to move closer to and into employment, training, volunteering and education.

Working in partnership with the African Community Centre, the project employed two workers to provide one-to-one culturally sensitive support to BME individuals including refugees. During this time, of the individuals supported:

- 51** Individuals gained a positive outcome including increased skills, confidence and knowledge
- 8** Gained a part qualification
- 8** Went into volunteering
- 15** Went into further learning
- 9** Individuals gained full-time employment

MovingUp



EYST PLAY SCHEME

The EYST Play Scheme Project was a pilot project funded by Swansea Council Play Fund during 2013-14, working with a younger age group (8 to 14 year olds) to our normal client group.

It was targeted at children from BME and refugee and asylum seeker families with fewer resources, but was open to the whole community. The project was an overwhelming success, with over **190** children from a variety of backgrounds attending the two week long Summer Play Scheme and the week-long February Play scheme. We hope to run this as an ongoing project, subject to further funding.



“The Play Scheme was so much FUN! Much better than being bored at home! Just make it longer next time please”



AWARENESS RAISING IN SCHOOLS

IN THE LAST YEAR:

EYST WORKERS HAVE DELIVERED

53 DIVERSITY AWARENESS
SESSIONS TO A TOTAL OF

1137 PUPILS IN 9 SCHOOLS
AND COLLEGES

THE TOPICS HAVE INCLUDED:

ISLAMOPHOBIA; CULTURE & DIVERSITY IN WALES; AND 'QUESTION MY FAITH' – AN INTERFAITH Q & A SESSION.

OF THE **1137** YOUNG PEOPLE
TAKING PART:

96.8% LEARNT SOMETHING NEW
FROM THE SESSIONS

89% THINK THERE IS A NEED FOR
LESSONS LIKE THIS

51% RATED THE LESSONS 5 OUT OF 5
FOR QUALITY

39% RATED THE LESSONS 4 OUT OF 5
FOR QUALITY

THE YOUNG PEOPLE SAID:

"I ENJOYED THE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSIONS"

"I ENJOYED LEARNING ABOUT ISLAM"

"I HAVE LEARNT THAT JIHAD MEANS STRUGGLE FOR GOOD CAUSE"

"LEARNING MORE ABOUT ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS AND THEIR PRACTICES"

"VERY ENJOYABLE"

ONE OF THE TEACHERS SAID:

"My overall evaluation of the "Question My Faith" lessons delivered to year 10 in Olchfa is a very positive one!

My pupils unanimously feedback that they had enjoyed the hour long lesson, and in particular:

- Hearing personal stories / examples of how their faith impacts their daily lives
- Hearing the differences of belief / interpretation of scripture.

The only criticism was the shortage of time!

EYST is certainly a service I will use again when looking at these potentially sensitive issues."

For more info please contact: manager@eyst.org.uk

TESTIMONIALS...



Volunteering with EYST has given me a lot of **knowledge** and the **ability to help** people from **BME backgrounds** with different issues. I have learnt how to **motivate** them, and I have gained a lot of knowledge about employment, education and housing. I have really **enjoyed** working with EYST.

Thank you.”

Sliva Kiki, EYST volunteer



I recently joined the Ethnic Youth Support Team as a volunteer, firstly volunteering with the Think Project. I volunteer through sharing my personal story in the Think Project's sessions with young people **raising awareness** of refugees and asylum seeker in Britain.

I was motivated to do this to **make a difference** to the lives of young people.

I am happy that my personal experience might have a **positive impact** on their life. Additionally, I volunteer in the EYST office helping refugees and asylum seekers with various practical problems they face, and this is something that gives me **great satisfaction**.”

Issayas Debru, EYST Volunteer



I came here not knowing much about who or what EYST actually did, but that quickly changed as the EYST team not just told me, but showed me who they were and why they are such a **successful, award winning youth organisation today**.

EYST was originally set up in **2005** by a small group of ethnic minority youth who recognised BME young people, specifically boys, were struggling to go onto further education and being stuck in dead end jobs - this had to change. The volunteers successfully applied for financial support for a pilot project from Swansea CVS, this ran in Dynever School for two years, the pilot project went tremendously well bringing in boys from all over Swansea.

EYST was then given funding for their first real space in Walters roads, this was also very successful. The project was bringing in so many people, now including girls, aided EYST to win the Big Lottery Fund's People's Millions Competition to win £49,000 to refurbish and create a new Youth Drop-in Centre.

To this day EYST is still **growing** and becoming **more popular** all the time, with a staff of 15 and an increasing number of volunteers, constantly developing projects to do with all aspects, such as; the **'My space project'**, this aims to launch the EYST youth drop in centre in Swansea as an accessible, multi-functional community space offering a range of facilities to ethnic minority young people also linking

them to the wider community including diverse groups. **'Think project'**, this project challenges racism and negative views on things like asylum seekers, and immigration. **'Bridging cultures'**, this includes family counselling, mentoring and support; these and much more are currently being worked on.

Honestly I have extremely enjoyed my time at EYST, continuously learning and becoming more aware of different community aspects and am carrying on working as a volunteer.”

Fateha Ali, young EYST volunteer aged 15



FACEBOOK LIKES

EYST ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



TWITTER FOLLOWERS



Facebook.com/ethnicyouthsupportteam



Twitter.com/eystswansea

We've been pretty active this year, getting into the swing of Social Media, with our **Facebook 'likers'** going up to **278** and our **Twitter Followers** going up to **390**.

We started the **#WetooareWelsh (Welsh Pride not White Pride)** campaign in response to a planned so called 'White Pride' march organised by some racist

groups in Swansea. We got loads of people from diverse backgrounds to tweet pictures of themselves with the #WetooareWelsh hashtag to show that Welsh was a feeling in your heart not a colour on your skin. We got loads of support far and wide, including from Welsh Rugby Legend Shane Williams ... Cheers Shane!



WE TOO ARE WELSH WELSH PRIDE NOT WHITE PRIDE



Fundraising for the Homeless By the young people

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

EYST COMPANY ACCOUNTS - YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

INCOMING RESOURCES VOLUNTARY INCOME

Cymorth Grant	
Big Lottery Grant	236,885
Swansea Development Fund	14,604
WCVA	25,224
City & County of Swansea	45,125
Tudor	30,000
PSP Funding	56
Home Office	
Urban Fund	
Deprived Area Fund	327
Safer Community Fund	
Russums	221
Gwirvol V Project	
Community Cohesion Fund	375
DWP - Flexible Support Fund	
SCVS - Mix It Up	
BBC Children In Need	26,174
Comic Relief - Get Sporty	9,994
Lloyds Foundation	15,000
SCVS capital grant release	2,000
Children & Young Peoples Fund	1,500
BME Voice Project	3,350
	410,835

INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Training Income	1,700
Other Income	11,655
	13,355

TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES

424,190

COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME

Staff costs - Wages & Salaries	293,083
Operating leases - Plant & machinery	2,302
Establishment - Rent	33,721
Establishment - Rates & Water	1,293
Establishment - Light & heat	4,770
Establishment - Repairs & maintenance	1,146
Establishment - Insurance	1,054
Establishment - Other	3,141
Motor and travel costs - Other	10,741
Legal & professional - Other	13,594
Office expenses - Telephone	8,477
Office expenses - Other	3,881
Depreciation	4,376
External staff costs	29,499
Computer Costs	
Sundry expenses	1,763
Donations and sponsorship	900
Training expenses and tuition fees	9,446
Advertising	
Visits and events	15,212
Refreshments	2,345
	440,744

GOVERNANCE COSTS

Premises costs	1
Accountancy fees	3,564
Other financial costs	152
	3,717

TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED 444,461

**NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING
RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR** (20,271)

FIXED ASSETS
Tangible assets 6,091

CURRENT ASSETS
Debtors 6,000
Cash at bank and in hand 112,443
118,443

**CREDITORS: Amounts falling
due within one year** (26,180)

NET CURRENT ASSETS 92,263

**TOTAL ASSETS LESS
CURRENT LIABILITIES** 98,354

GOVERNMENT GRANTS (4,022)

NET ASSETS 94,332

FUNDS
Restricted income funds 45,473
Unrestricted income funds 48,859

TOTAL FUNDS 94,332



MOMENA ALI
Founder & Chair



ROCIO CIFUENTES
Director



SHEHLA KHAN
Manager



HELAL UDDIN
Family project development worker



NICKY NIJER
Think project worker



SHAHAB MIAH
My Space project development worker



ZAFFER AZAD
Graphic Design & Administrator



MATTHEW HOPKINS
My Space Advice & Outreach worker



CHRIS MORT
Think project worker



MOHAMMED ALIM
Family Link worker



ALIYA KHALIL
Family Link worker



JILL DUARTE
Employment support project worker



SOFINA KHATUN
Young females youth worker



HELEN TRINH
Young females youth worker



LLOYD WILLIAMS
Volunteer Co-ordinator



ALEX ATKINS
Young females youth worker

FUNDERS & SUPPORTERS

Grateful acknowledgement of our funders & supporters

During 2013-14, EYST has been grateful to receive funding from the following organisations, without whom we would not have been able to operate:



ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI
LOTTERY FUNDED



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government



Ewrop & Cymru: Buddsoddi yn eich Dyfodol
Cronfa Cymdeithasol Ewrop
Europe & Wales Investing in your Future
European Social Fund





Ethnic Youth Support Team
Tim Cymorth Ievenctid Ethnig

ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14

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ETHNIC YOUTH SUPPORT TEAM

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Registered Charity No: 1152486

Helping young people achieve their full potential