

INTEGRATED IN BRENT



IIB is a project run by Inquilab and Innisfree Housing Associations and sponsored by the Tenant Services Authority. The intention is to work with and forge better links with refugee communities in the London Borough of Brent particularly in relation to Housing.



WORKING WITH



Here is the latest news from the project



Conference

IIB held the 'Housing and Refugee Community Conference' in June. This was well attended by both voluntary and statutory organisations and was an opportunity to find out about services in Brent that Refugee Community Organisations (RCOs) and their clients can access. Brent Council also consulted on their draft Refugee Strategy and have pledged to take on board the comments made when redrafting the strategy. Participants highlighted the gaps in housing and other services for refugees.

The Conference Report has been published and is available on the following websites:

- www.innisfree.org.uk
- www.inquilabha.org
- www.brentrefugeeforum.org.uk

Training

IIB have recently held a series of training workshops on housing and housing advice for refugee community organisations and their workers and volunteers. These were promoted through the Brent Refugees and Migrants Forum (BRMF). Whilst attendance varied depending on the topic, all participants found the training really useful. This included a session on training others on what they had learned.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact: Gino Fox - Project Coordinator on 07872343865

Work Placements

Through IIB, we are arranging work placements at a number of housing associations. These provide an opportunity to gain work experience in a housing environment. All the placements are tailored to the needs of the individual.

If interested then please contact: Clare Winstanley at: Innisfree Housing Association, 190 Iverson Road, London NW6 2HL

We will also be holding a briefing session on the work placements. To book a place or to find out more about work placements then please contact: Clare Winstanley at Clare@innisfree.org.uk

Good Practice Guide

The IIB project has been a 'pathfinder' in exploring how housing associations and RCOs can work together within a London Borough to increase access and knowledge of the housing system for RCOs and their clients. Some things have worked really well but there have also been others which, if starting over again, we would do differently. The Good Practice Guide will give pointers on what works and doesn't when undertaking this kind of project. We hope that the Guide will encourage other local authorities, Refugee Umbrella Groups and Housing Associations to begin working more closely together in

finding solutions and improving communication regarding housing issues faced by refugees.

Please watch out on the BRMF, Innisfree and Inquilab websites for more information on the publication and launch of the Good Practice Guide.

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For more information contact any member of the steering group which includes:

Afghan Association Paiwand

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African Women's Care

Contact: Jane Lanyero/Maria Aden
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Brent Refugees & Migrants Forum

Contact: Nagini Rajendra
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Help Somali Foundation

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Innisfree Housing Association

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The African Child

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West London Refugee Women's Forum

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Women of the Horn

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