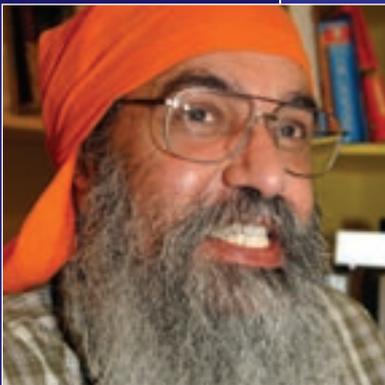




The Black and Minority Ethnic Voluntary and Community Sector



A Literature Review



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Maggie Reid
Department of Urban Studies
University of Glasgow
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INTRODUCTION

The Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) voluntary and community sector plays an important role in delivering much-needed social, educational and welfare services on behalf of diverse communities in the UK. Moreover, as an inextricable part of its comprehensive services, the BME sector also fulfils an important advocacy function. However, despite the comprehensive range of services and support functions that the sector provides, it has historically faced and continues to face a number of major challenges and obstacles. These challenges, which impede the sector's effective growth, development, and long-term sustainability, revolve principally around access to capital both financial and social, as well as access to other resources. Whilst there do exist a number of studies about the BME sector which elucidate these challenges and which identify policy prescriptions, these important data sources remain disparate and are sometimes subsumed within broader studies that focus on the voluntary sector in general, rather than having a specific focus on the BME sector.

As part of its development of a comprehensive data source on the BME sector, the Ethnic Minority Foundation (EMF) commissioned the Department of Urban Studies at the University of Glasgow to undertake a detailed literature review. The scope of the literature review encompassed the following four distinct yet interrelated strands:

1. To identify research that has been carried out on the nature and development of the BME voluntary and community sector in the UK.
2. To inform EMF's mission which is anchored in building a secure and sustainable base for the BME voluntary and community sector.
3. To establish a baseline of information and benchmarks to inform future evaluations of the sector.
4. To identify gaps in the existing literature to inform EMF's future research strategy.

THE LITERATURE SEARCH

The literature search sought to identify publications on the BME sector in the UK, using bibliographic databases in the Social Sciences and the Internet. In addition to this, a range of organizations that are active in the promotion of the BME sector were contacted, and requests for information were made to the Association for Research in the Voluntary and Community Sector and the Voluntary Sector Studies Network. The term 'black and minority ethnic' here is inclusive of visible (non-white) minority groups as well as Irish communities, refugees and asylum seekers¹. The publications cited have been selected on the basis of their relevance to BME voluntary action, and incorporate two strands of inquiry:

1. BME-led voluntary and community sector organizations.
2. The participation of BME communities in the wider voluntary sector, or the informal voluntary activity of BME communities.

The publications identified through the literature search are grouped according to the major theme of the reported research. These have been identified as: mapping; relationships with the state; education and welfare services; housing associations; community participation and volunteering; funding, and refugees and asylum seekers. Keywords are used to indicate secondary research themes. A number of research projects that are still ongoing are listed separately. In addition, a selection of government reports and publications aimed at providing information and guidance on the management of BME-led organisations are provided at the end of the report.

KEY THEMES IN THE RESEARCH LITERATURE

Mapping

Definitional issues are commonplace in the voluntary sector literature, and in relation to BME-led organisations there is some debate about the extent to which BME organizations can be categorised as a distinct sector. Based on their national mapping survey, McLeod *et al.* (2001) assert that organisational origins and the focus on issues of social exclusion that have racial implications do provide a basis for separate consideration of an identifiable BME sector.

Mapping studies provide evidence on the size and role of the BME sector. Again, McLeod *et al.*'s (2001) study was the first attempt to capture the nature and extent of the BME voluntary sector in England and Wales, estimating the number of BME-led voluntary and community groups at around 5,500. Further research carried out by EMF at its inception in 1999, which is annually updated, has identified 10,500 BME-led organizations to date, and is an important contribution to the evidence of the human and financial resources of the BME sector. Moreover, this important data source has been further informed by EMF's research into the funding patterns of Trusts and Foundations. The research points to the paucity of financial resources going to the BME sector, indicating that approximately 2% of all funding provided by Trusts and Foundations goes in support of the work of BME-led organisations.

¹ Terminology in this report reflects usage in the cited publications as that used by different authors is varied.

Relationships with The State

Two main issues emerge from the research, which examines the relationship between the BME sector and statutory agencies. First of all, the lack of coherence in policy-making with regard to BME-led organisations is a major issue. For instance, there is no unified policy across local authorities in relation to funding of BME organisations (Butt and Mirza, 1997). Further research findings indicate barriers to meaningful participation by BME-led groups in agenda-setting and policy-making (Craig *et al.*, 2002), and a study of governance in Wales had positive findings in relation to the engagement of minorities including BME voluntary groups, although barriers to participation were found.

Education and Welfare Services

The section on education and welfare services covers a wide ground. The context of several of the studies is service provision for BME communities, including both statutory and voluntary sector provision. Studies can be categorised into those examining the needs of different user groups, and those, which evaluate the services that are available.

Studies examining the needs of members of BME communities found that, whilst there were similarities with the needs of the wider population, additional issues stemming from exclusion and experience of racism required attention. For instance, Ahmad *et al.* (1998) found that members of BME communities who are hearing impaired may feel marginalised from their own ethnic communities, as well as from mainstream services for deaf people.

In relation to the available services, a recurring theme is the low uptake of both statutory and voluntary sector services by BME communities in comparison with the wider population (Bowes *et al.*, 2000; Lai, 2000). Explanations put forward by researchers fall into two broad groups. Firstly, knowledge of statutory and voluntary sector providers was poor (Bowes *et al.*, 2000). This was exacerbated in some cases by lack of outreach to BME communities from organisations that serve the community as a whole (Netto *et al.*, 2001). Lack of knowledge was also associated with poor social networks (Bowes *et al.*, 2000). Secondly, users may be put off by inadequacies in existing provision for BME communities. Statutory services were frequently viewed as unsuited to BME needs (Keating, 2002; Bowes *et al.*, 2000; Ahmad *et al.*, 1998).

Analysis of services offered by the voluntary sector, based on research with those who do make use of existing services, found these to be more sensitive to cultural issues than statutory provision (Keating, 2002; Netto *et al.*, 2001; Ahmad *et al.*, 1998; Mohapatra, 2000). These studies suggest that BME-led organisations have emerged in response to the failure of statutory services to embrace the broad spectrum of diversity issues that impact upon BME service users. Indeed, one of the cardinal concerns of the emerging *Futurebuilders* initiative that emerged from the Treasury's *Cross Cutting Review* of the voluntary and community sector is augmenting the sector to ensure that BME organizations are part of the architecture for responding to diverse service delivery requirements, across, between, and within communities. Moreover, BME organizations are more likely to employ minority ethnic staff who have knowledge or directly experienced many of the issues faced by their constituents. They are also equipped to respond in a more flexible and intuitive way than statutory providers, for instance, working with a range of agencies. There is, however some evidence that whilst user preferences are for people of the same ethnic group, this is not always the case (Netto *et al.*, 2001). This therefore strengthens the argument in support of a flexible model of service delivery that is based on consultation with user groups, and which fully incorporates the BME sector as service providers.

Community Participation and Volunteering

Community participation, which might involve activity within informal networks is included here alongside the more extensive literature on formal volunteering, that is, volunteering that takes place in an organisational setting.

BME communities are under-represented as formal volunteers in the voluntary sector as a whole (NCBV, 2000; Foster, 1997). Barriers to participation include bureaucratic structures and the persistence of racism within mainstream voluntary organisations (Niyazi, 1997). Nonetheless, there is some evidence to suggest that most members of BME communities who do volunteer are active in mainstream organisations (Foster, 1997).

It is commonly believed that BME communities are more involved in informal activities, but the evidence is not conclusive. Findings from the 2000 British Crime Survey (Krishnamurthy *et al.*, 2001) and the 2001 Home Office Citizenship Survey (Prime *et al.*, 2002) suggest that black people are no more likely to participate at an informal level than white people. It is important to note that variations in cultural understanding of the term 'volunteering' (Lukka and Ellis, 2001) have implications for research. A number of studies have highlighted the difficulties of measuring volunteering amongst BME communities (Leigh, 2000; Foster, 1997). In some cases, what might be considered volunteering is perceived by those involved as informal 'helping' (Iffla, 2002), and therefore may not be counted in surveys of volunteering.

A number of studies have concentrated on strategies for the recruitment and retention of BME volunteers. Word of mouth is a major strategy for recruitment (Iffla, 2002). Motivation for volunteering include a sense of belonging, working to improve community conditions and meeting specific needs of black communities (Britton, 1999; Iffla, 2002), and organisations demonstrating that equal opportunities are in place are more successful in attracting BME volunteers (Niyazi, 1997). An evaluation of the Black and Minority Ethnic Twinning Initiative (Gaskin, 2003) highlights good practice in management of BME volunteers.

The influence of ethnicity on getting involved in community-based activities is examined in the literature. Findings indicate that participation in informal networks contributes to community identity (Hylton, 1999) and enhanced local democracy (Ocloo, 1999). These studies also link into debates about the influence of ethnic background on the formation of social capital. In assessing the influence of ethnicity on involvement in community networks Campbell and McLean (2002) argue that low levels of community participation compound existing inequalities in access to services and resources.

Funding

The mapping study by McLeod *et al.* (2001) cited earlier, revealed that the smallest organisations were most vulnerable due to their reliance on short-term grant income and income from member contributions. Organisations with an income of between £50,000 - £250,000 were less vulnerable but still relied on contract income, whereas the largest organizations, which included housing associations, received most of their income from commercial activities, which offered more security. The authors concluded that although BME-led organisations tend not to generate large reserves, they are nevertheless operating at a financially sustainable level. This picture though was skewed by the inclusion of BME Housing Associations. However, according to official sources, the total current income of General Charities in 2001 was estimated as being in the region of £15.6 billion, with approximately a third of that income concentrated in the 200 or so largest voluntary organisations with an annual income of over £10 million. The smaller voluntary sector organisations, which

include the majority of BME organisations constitute 90% of the sector, account for only slightly over 10% of the £15.6 billion in resources that goes to the sector, rendering them extremely vulnerable. Other studies have also emphasised the lack of financial security among BME organisations. Based on a small sample of women's organisations in London, Soteri (2002) found that around three in four had experienced a funding crisis in the last five years. A study of Scottish organisations reported that six in ten lacked security of income (SCVO, 2000).

The inconsistent and competitive nature of statutory funding streams has been identified as a particular problem for the BME sector. Short-term funding programmes impact on the sustainability of BME-led organisations (Bowes *et al.*, 2000). This is combined with increased pressure under the contract culture. BME organisations are less likely to be successful in obtaining community care contracts (Yee and Mussenden, 2000; Subhra and Chauhan, 1999). Barriers to accessing funds include communication problems, a lack of specialist skills, and restricted access to information (Taylor and Hoyle, 2003). In relation to grant-making trusts, BME organisations receive relatively small grants in comparison with the remainder of the sector. Pharoah (2000) found that Trusts with monitoring procedures were more likely to make awards to BME-led groups.

Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Much of the literature on refugee and asylum seekers deals with the role of refugee community associations in supporting resettlement. Arguments are levelled against the assumption frequently made by policy-makers that the needs of refugees are similar to those of other ethnic groups. The importance of housing in resettlement is reflected in the literature (Zetter and Pearl, 2000), as are employment and training issues (Development Trusts Association, 2002; Tomlinson and Egan, 2002). Other studies have focused on the extent to which coherent refugee communities exist, and the relationship between 'community' and refugee organizations (Kelly, 2003).

FURTHER RESEARCH

More regional and local mapping studies will increasingly inform policy-makers, funders and communities of the role and potential contribution of the BME voluntary and community sector. Mapping studies might also examine geographical variations in patterns of activity and resources. One possible area for further work is an examination of the extent to which the characteristics and infrastructure needs of the BME sector in London are typical of the rest of the UK.

In recent years, government has encouraged the transfer of public services to the voluntary sector, a policy focus that is now being underpinned by the *Futurebuilders* initiative arising from the Treasury's *Cross Cutting Review* of the voluntary and community sector. It remains to be seen, however, whether the *Futurebuilders* initiative will have the intended effect. There is relatively little research on the effectiveness of models of service provision in the BME sector, and the circumstances in which adoption of mainstream services is more effective than services that are tailored to the needs of BME communities. Also, the impact of this trend toward service provision on BME-led voluntary organisations should be monitored, especially in relation to advocacy and campaigning roles.

The literature search did not identify comparative studies looking at how far organisational capacity issues faced by BME-led groups apply also to smaller organisations in the voluntary and community sector generally. However, this issue was addressed in the Treasury's *Cross Cutting Review* of the voluntary and community sector, which identified that capacity related issues were more pronounced among BME groups. There is also a lack of diversity and representation across the sector generally at decision-making levels. An important area for further research is therefore the level of recruitment of trustees from BME communities onto the Boards of organizations across the entire voluntary and community sector, as well as the role of BME trustees in representing BME communities and their interests within the wider voluntary sector.

A further important area for future qualitative research concerns an examination of the cultural meanings that are attached to volunteering and community participation, taking into account variations between BME communities and changes over time. Further research in this area might result in greater understanding of the relationship between ethnicity, ethnic identity, and patterns of voluntary activity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations for future research and action flow from the above:

- a) EMF to develop a reference library and knowledge base of research material in relation to the BME voluntary and community sector.
- b) EMF to undertake research into the level of BME participation at Board level across the voluntary and community sector, and to assess the impact of participation.
- c) EMF to commission regional and local mapping studies to inform policy-makers, funders and communities about the role and potential contribution of the BME voluntary and community sector in service delivery.
- d) EMF to commission research that looks at cultural meanings, understanding and interpretations of volunteering and its implications for research, in particular, the development of social capital.
- e) EMF to convene a forum with relevant stakeholders to take forward the above and to identify further areas for action and research.

Title	Mapping the Black and Minority Ethnic Voluntary and Community Organisations in the East Midlands
Author	VOICE East Midlands
Year of publication	2003
Publication details	VOICE East Midlands, Nottingham
Summary	<p>A summary is available to download from http://www.voice-em.org.uk</p> <p>This project aimed to establish baseline information on the nature and extent of the BME sector in the East Midlands. The number of BME groups in the region was estimated at between 7,000 and 8,000. These employed up to 3,000 staff, and had around 70,000 volunteers. Compared to the rest of the voluntary sector in the region, BME organisations relied more on volunteer effort. BME groups were also more likely to be reliant on donations or to be self-funding, than to access funding programmes. Awareness of available funding was poor, as was knowledge of and participation in regional, sub-regional and local strategic initiatives.</p>
Keywords	<i>Resources; Activities; Policy</i>
Title	Black and Minority Ethnic Voluntary and Community Organisations: Their Role and Future Development in England and Wales
Author	Mike McLeod, David Owen and Chris Khamis
Year of publication	2001
Publication details	Policy Studies Institute, London ISBN 0 85374 778 4
Summary	<p>This report presents findings from the first large-scale study of BME-led voluntary and community organisations in England and Wales. This was conducted by the Centre for Research in Ethnic Relations at Warwick University and CSR Partnership. Survey data estimated the size of the sector at around 5,500 organisations. These were involved in a range of fields, and their principal users were people with significant social and economic needs, predominantly (though not exclusively) from minority ethnic communities. While many organisations struggled to secure funding, the report challenges the perception that all BME organisations are small, lacking in formality with few resources. Case-studies revealed that there was low awareness of the work of minority-led organisations at community level. Interviews with mainstream agencies indicated that the policies of mainstream funders varied considerably, and long-term, co-ordinated support for the sector is recommended. The report concludes that the BME voluntary and community sector can be distinguished by organisational origins, and its focus on social exclusion with a racial dimension.</p>
Keywords	<i>Resources; Activities; Policy; Origins</i>

EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

Supporting Access to ICT for BME Groups in Deprived Areas: Approaches to Good Practice

CLES Consulting, MCCR and CEMVO

2003

Department for Education and Skills, London
ISBN 1 84185 875 7

Research commissioned by the Department for Education and Skills funded three projects. This reports on the second project which examines access to ICT for BME groups in deprived areas. Community researchers carried out case study research on 11 community-based ICT projects. They identified core factors that, in combination, maximise access and encourage service uptake. These are associated with service delivery functions, core support functions, management functions, and the role of project champions.

IT; Uptake of services; Social exclusion

Black-Led Initiatives in Mental Health: An Overview

Frank Keating

2002

Research Policy and Planning, Volume 20, Number 2,
pp. 9-20

The research reported here addresses the failure of mainstream mental health services to serve BME communities adequately. This study is the first to pay particular attention to black-led voluntary sector initiatives in mental health which, the author suggests, go the furthest to address this imbalance. Characteristics of black-led initiatives are considered, and some of the barriers that they face are described. Models of service provision which emphasise different user requirements are outlined: ethno-specific; multi-cultural; multi-agency. The author recommends partnerships between voluntary initiatives and mainstream services to help reduce inequalities in provision and promote sharing of skills and experience.

Mental health; Partnership working; Models of service provision

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

- Title **Creating Spaces: Exploring The Role of Cultural Knowledge as a Source of Empowerment in Models of Social Welfare in Black Communities**
- Author Mekada Graham
- Year of publication 2002
- Publication details *British Journal of Social Work*, Volume 31, Number 1, pp. 335-49
- Summary Black communities are disproportionately represented across social welfare statistics, and mainstream services are often perceived as inappropriate. The author asserts that social work must learn from models of social welfare within black community-based organizations. This article reports on qualitative research on the role of cultural knowledge in service delivery. Cultural knowledge was seen as encouraging solidarity, participation in group activities, and as a source of empowerment, expressed at a practical level in self-help and community organisations.
- Keywords *Cultural meanings; Social work; Community development; Models of service provision*
- Title **The Emergence of Hybrid Organisational Forms: Combining Identity Based Service Provision and Political Action**
- Author Debra C. Minkoff
- Year of publication 2002
- Publication details *Non-profit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly*, Volume 31, Number 3, pp. 377-401
- Summary This article investigates the emergence of hybrid organisational forms since the 1960s, using data from a study of national women's organisations and BME organisations. This suggests that women and BME groups link political aims to forms of voluntary action, and have been actively promoting political campaigning and advocacy for civil and political rights. New forms of organisation have developed combining delivery of services for marginalised communities, alongside advocacy and campaigning activities. While these associations face distinctive organisational problems, they are playing an important role in sustaining identity-based organisations.
- Keywords *Advocacy; Women; Politics; Models of service provision*

EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

A Suitable Space: Improving Counselling Services for Asian People

Gina Netto, Sabine Gaag, Mridu Thanki, Liz Bondi and Moira Munro

2001

Policy Press, Bristol
ISBN 1 86134 317 5

The level of uptake of counselling services by black people is low. This study by the Scottish Ethnic Minorities Research Unit, in Edinburgh College of Art/Heriot Watt University, assesses voluntary sector counselling through focus group discussions and interviews with 38 Asian people, half of whom had been to see counsellors. Preferences as to the background of counsellors were varied: some preferred to speak to someone of the same ethnic group; others preferred someone of a different ethnic group in order to minimise the chances of contact outside the therapeutic setting within small ethnic communities. BME-led groups offered more culturally sensitive services, while organisations offering services to the general public were criticised for lack of publicity and outreach to BME communities.

Uptake of services; Counselling; Outreach

Double Invisibility: A Study into The Needs of Black Disabled People in Warwickshire

Martin Banton and Maureen M. Hirsch

2000

Council of Disabled People Warwickshire, Leamington Spa

The needs of disabled people from ethnic minorities in Warwickshire are assessed in this study, which incorporates interviews with disabled people and a survey of voluntary and statutory organisations. The report covers access to benefits and services, as well as experiences relating to culturally sensitive services. It also assesses awareness of the needs of BME communities within voluntary and statutory organisations, and whether services are tailored to these communities.

Disability; Mental health; Uptake of services

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

Title	Researching Social Care for Minority Ethnic Older People: Implications of some Scottish Research
Author	A. M. Bowes and N. S. Dar
Year of publication	2000
Publication details	<i>British Journal of Social Work</i> , Volume 30, Number 3, pp. 305-22
Summary	<p>The paper presents research on the use of social care services among older Pakistani people and their families. Interviews were conducted with minority ethnic older people, staff in statutory services and staff in minority-led community-based groups in Glasgow. The research found that there was a competition for control between statutory and voluntary sector providers. The value of tailored and generic services was also examined. Methodological implications of the work are discussed, including the potential for reproducing exclusion. It is argued that user perspectives are essential to developing appropriate services for BME groups.</p>
Keywords	<i>Uptake of services; Social work</i>
Title	Family Support and Community Care: A Study of South Asian Older People
Author	Alison Bowes, Naira Dar and Archana Srivastava
Year of publication	2000
Publication details	Scottish Executive: Central Research Unit, Edinburgh
Summary	<p>This study of the views of older South Asian people about their home support needs complements a study on the needs of people aged 75 and over in the population as a whole. As well as interviewing service users, existing provision was reviewed through interviews with statutory, voluntary and private sector providers. Voluntary sector providers were better able to cater for cultural preferences and were more able to respond flexibly, working with different agencies. However, short-term funding and unqualified staff limited the scope of these services. Implications are outlined for current service provision, access to mainstream services, recognition of need and developing support at home.</p>
Keywords	<i>Older people; Community care</i>

EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

Support for Majority and Minority Ethnic Groups at Home: Older People's Perspectives

Alison Bowes, Naira Dar and Archana Srivastava

2000

Scottish Executive: Central Research Unit, Edinburgh
Social Work Research Findings, No. 36

This report presents a comparative analysis of the views of older people from different ethnic groups in central Scotland, and is based on two separate studies. The first study, (MacDonald, 1999) was based on a sample drawn from the majority ethnic population, while the second was of South Asian older people (Bowes *et al.*, 2000). Although the support needs of both groups were similar, the uptake of services differed according to ethnic group. South Asian respondents were less likely to make use of home care services and more likely to make use of day care. Limited social networks were linked to lack of knowledge about sources of support in both studies, but this was a particular issue for the South Asian sample. Families were a source of informal support for most people in both samples. For the South Asian sample, those without family support found alternatives difficult to establish, although there was support available from religious communities. Overall, this sample had a greater reliance on the family and community groups.

Older people; Community care

Reaching out to Black Ethnic Minorities: A Voluntary Sector Perspective on Mental Health

C. Lai

2000

Practice, Volume 12, Number 1, pp. 17-28

This article discusses research conducted in Aberdeen with managers, staff and service users of mental health services in the voluntary sector. The study showed that few people from ethnic minorities made use of these services. Lack of knowledge and cultural barriers contributed to this. Examination of voluntary sector providers indicated that many were unaware of cultural differences and their implications for service users. It is important to recognise that even though BME users may have similar needs to the wider population, they may require additional support, and the author makes recommendations for addressing the issue of low level of usage, and consequently improving the sensitivity of providers to cultural needs.

Mental health; Uptake of services

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

Title	Spaces and Places of Black Educational Desire: Rethinking Black Supplementary Schools as a New Social Movement
Author	Heidi Safia Mirza and Diane Reay
Year of publication	2000
Publication details	<i>Sociology</i> , Volume 34, Number 3, pp. 521-44
Summary	Black communities engage in a range of activities aimed at maximising educational success, such as organising conferences and campaigning, self-help groups and setting up community based supplementary schools. This article reports on an exploratory study of four black supplementary schools, run by women. The work of the schools is low profile, but contributes to an alternative framework of meaning that challenges dominant ideologies, promoting collective black identity and a sense of community. The authors argue that black supplementary schools represent a new gendered social movement.
Keywords	<i>Education; Cultural identity; Women</i>
Title	Developing Black Services: Evaluation of The African, Caribbean and Asian Services funded under Alcohol Concern's Grants Programme
Author	Gersh Subhra and Vipin Chauhan
Year of publication	1999
Publication details	Alcohol Concern, London
Summary	In June 1998 Alcohol Concern commissioned an independent evaluation of its grants programme. This identified factors affecting the establishment and development of services within Black communities. The report looks at issues of sustainability, accessibility and sensitivity to cultural needs, and comments on good practice. The contract culture increases pressure on the BME voluntary sector, as smaller organisations must compete with larger, often more established agencies. The authors recommend a sustainable funding strategy, going beyond three-year funding cycles.
Keywords	<i>Evaluation; Sustainability; Funding</i>

EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

Deafness and Ethnicity: Services, Policy and Politics

Waqar Ahmad, Aliya Darr, Lesley Jones and Gohar Nisar

1998

Policy Press, Bristol
ISBN 1 86134 088 5

This study considers the experiences of minority ethnic deaf people, and the services that are offered nation-wide, by both the statutory and voluntary sectors. They felt marginalised within the ethnic community because of a lack of common language, and excluded from the white deaf community. Cultural and social groups led by minority ethnic deaf people have emerged as an expression of self-help. Statutory services suffered a lack of sign language services and community language interpreters, with initiatives being mostly led by professionals. Voluntary sector initiatives, by contrast, were more likely to be led by minority ethnic deaf people or parents, and employed more deaf people. Voluntary initiatives were particularly vulnerable to funding crises.

Deaf people; Self-help; Funding

Invisible Families: The Strengths and Needs of Black Families in which Young People have Caring Responsibilities

Adele Jones, Dharman Jeyasingham and Sita Rajasooriya

2002

Policy Press, Bristol
ISBN 1 86134 388 4

This publication reports on a study by Manchester Metropolitan University and the Bibini Centre for Young People. It looks at the experiences of young black people caring for family members. Terms such as 'caring' were viewed negatively as they placed high expectations and pressure on young carers. The report covers the response of social care agencies to the needs of the families in the study, and looked at how families felt that their ethnic and cultural identity affected their experiences.

Young people; Carers

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

Title	Best Practice in Mental Health: Advocacy for African, Caribbean and South Asian Communities
Author	Asha Rai-Atkins, Anab Ali Jama, Norman Wright, Velma Scott, Chris Perring, Gary Craig and Savita Katbamna
Year of publication	2002
Publication details	Policy Press, Bristol ISBN 1 86134 394 9
Summary	This is a report on an action research project initiated by Shaan, a network around race and mental health issues in Yorkshire, East Midlands. This was supported by Trent and Yorkshire MIND and researchers from the Universities of Hull and Leicester. Interviews were carried out in 12 projects, seven of which were in the black voluntary sector. Users, carers and advocates were also consulted. The project identified gaps in advocacy provision, and found barriers to effective contacts with statutory services. Much advocacy in BME communities is informal and voluntary. Poor relationships existed between mainstream services and minority-led community advocacy projects. The authors make suggestions for the promotion of culturally sensitive advocacy.
Keywords	<i>Mental health; Advocacy; Inter agency collaboration</i>
Title	Irish Community Services: Responding to Change
Author	Ute Kowarzik
Year of publication	2000
Publication details	Action Group for Irish Youth and The Federation of Irish Societies
Summary	This report updates the 1997 report 'Meeting Diverse Needs', by giving an overview of the services offered by Irish agencies participating in the Standardised Information System (SIS) during 1998, and profiles service users. The report focuses on the impact of changes in welfare benefit system and the housing market on Irish agencies. Increased demand on advocacy services was noted. The SIS enables monitoring of service provision and identifies gaps, though improvements in data collection are required, for instance in relation to Irish travellers.
Keywords	<i>Travellers; Irish people</i>

EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

The South Asian Elderly of Leicester, England: A Study of their Service Needs and The Service Delivery Role of The South Asian Ethnic Organizations

Urmila Mohapatra

2000

Paper prepared for the Workshop on Problems and Opportunities in Later Life (Terre Haute, USA, May 7-13, 2000).

This study explores the service needs of older people in the South Asian population in Leicester, and services available to them. Needs were similar to those of the wider population but some specific needs were also identified. Voluntary organisations run by South Asian communities were found to be responsive to need. The author recommends ongoing assessment of needs within the community, and assessment of the effectiveness of the services offered by community groups.

Models of service provision

The Irish Dimension to Drug Use and HIV in Britain

Oonagh O'Brien and Luke Tierney

1998

Journal of Drug Issues, Volume 28, Number 1, pp. 167-84

This article is based on the research of a community-based voluntary organization in London, offering services for Irish people with human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS). The research indicated that drug use increased following migration, which suggested that Irish drug users are particularly vulnerable. They are also reluctant to make use of services. When they do approach services they prefer those which are known to work with Irish people, even when extensive travel within London is required.

Drug use; Irish people

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

- Title** Supportive Services, Effective Strategies: The Views of Black-led Organisations and Social Care Agencies on The Future of Social Care for Black Communities
- Author** Jabeer Butt and Leandra Box
- Year of publication** 1997
- Publication details** Race Equality Unit, London
ISBN 1 873912 55 2
- Summary** This report presents the findings of a survey of social care service providers which aimed to identify services that were on offer to BME communities, and explore areas where change was required. Mainstream, voluntary and private sector providers participated in the study, and findings presented in the report relate to the suitability of services in each sector, the extent of user involvement, allocation of resources and the impact of legislation.
- Keywords** *Social care; Policy; Resource allocation*
-
- Title** Irish Community Services: Meeting Diverse Needs
- Author** Ute Kowarzik
- Year of publication** 1997
- Publication details** Action Group for Irish youth and The Federation of Irish Societies
- Summary** The Standardized Information System was established by Irish service providers in 1994 to keep track of available services for Irish people. This report follows a previous report 'Developing Community Response', and provides an overview of the services offered by participating agencies during 1996, as well as a profile of service users. There were two main user groups: young Irish people newly arrived in Britain, older Irish migrants who have settled in the country, but experienced economic and social marginalization. Particular attention is given to issues relating to health, unemployment, housing and harassment, with 7% of users having experienced racial harassment. Recommendations are made for statutory agencies and the voluntary sector.
- Keywords** *Irish people; Harassment*

HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

Race Equality Initiatives in Housing Provision: Organisational Change and The Role of Gatekeepers

Richard Tomlins

1999

Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, Volume 25, Number 1, pp. 113-32

The chief aim of this article is to theorise change processes, with a secondary objective of contributing to knowledge of racial equality performance of housing associations. The paper describes race equality initiatives implemented in a large housing association, which it is suggested, led to increased applications from BME households. The initiatives involved change activists taking advantage of a gap in formal authority, which enabled them to introduce changes in their working practices. There was an increase in BME households take up of properties, although the quality of housing occupied was relatively poor, and little consideration of housing preference was evident. Staff turnover may result in the impact of change activists being temporary.

Model of service provision; Uptake of services

'Too White, Too Rough, and Too Many Problems': A Study of Pakistani Housing in Britain

Alison Bowes, Naira Dar and Duncan Sim

1998

Housing Policy and Practice Unit, University of Stirling
ISBN 1 85769 070 2

This study of housing preferences was conducted via qualitative interviews with 180 Pakistani households in Bradford, Glasgow and Luton. Cultural aspects that influence housing needs include extended family households, and changing household composition due to continuing links with families in Pakistan. The study looks at housing generally, including experiences of owner-occupation, council housing and private renting, as well as examining the role of housing associations. Beneficial aspects of housing associations include a tendency for locations to be close to Pakistani communities, faster application and placement process, and a consideration of community needs.

Housing tenure; Models of service provision

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

Title	Minority Ethnic Housing Associations and Local Housing Strategies: An Uncertain Future?
Author	M. Harrison
Year of publication	1998
Publication details	<i>Local Government Studies</i> , Volume 24, Number 91, pp. 74-89
Summary	This article explores the potential role of BME housing associations within local government housing strategies. It includes a review of Housing Corporation policy under the Conservative government. The Labour Party were positive about the role of housing associations in the run up to the 1997 election, and the author looks at the potential for involvement in regeneration strategies following the election of the Labour government.
Keywords	<i>Local government; Regeneration</i>
Title	Paving The Way: Supporting Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Associations
Author	Alex Marsh and Azra Sangster
Year of publication	1998
Publication details	Policy Press, Bristol ISBN 1 86134 079 6
Summary	The Housing Associations Charitable Trust (HACT) has provided over £2m in grants and loans to support BME housing organisations from 1986 to 1996. This report profiles HACT's work with the BME housing sector, and assesses the impact of funds awarded. Current policy issues associated with funding for BME housing associations are reviewed, noting the continuing need for support and appropriate funding strategies.
Keywords	<i>Policy; Funding</i>

HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

A Level Playing Field?: Rents, Viability and Value in BME Housing Associations

Dawn Marshall, Caroline Royce, Paul Saw, Christine Whitehead and Jane Woodrow

1998

Joseph Rowntree Foundation, York
ISBN 1 89998776 2

This research by the Property Research Unit at the University of Cambridge addresses the level of rents charged by BME associations, their financial sustainability and the types of properties and services offered. Research found that BME housing associations experienced a disproportionate level of financial insecurity. Small culturally oriented associations that provided additional services charged significantly higher rents. Around 60% of tenants of BME housing associations are from ethnic minority communities. There was an emphasis on provision of appropriate forms of housing, and in particular on provision for families, which resulted in a high level of provision of large properties. BME associations tended to have a higher density of occupation.

Sustainability; Models of service provision

Meeting The Need: Irish Housing Associations in Action

G. Randall and S. Brown

1997

Irish Free Housing Association, London

This report examines the housing needs of Irish people living in London, and surveys the involvement of Irish housing associations in addressing their particular needs. Common cultural understanding and use of language plays an important part in developing trust between tenants and the associations, and the support that is provided goes beyond housing related needs to address, for instance, employment and health issues.

Irish people

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

Title **Irish People and Housing: Factsheet Shelter**

Author Shelter

Year of publication

Publication details Shelter, London

Summary This factsheet draws together findings from a range of sources on the presence of Irish migrants in Britain, housing needs and homelessness amongst the Irish community. Irish-born people are more likely than white non-Irish people to live in private rented accommodation, council housing and housing association properties. Single Irish people are over-represented in homelessness figures. Irish housing associations offer culturally sensitive management, and maintain close associations with other service providers, so that a range of needs can be addressed. The lack of recognition of disadvantages experienced by the Irish community has meant that access to statutory funding for housing associations has been limited.

Keywords *Irish people; Homelessness; Housing tenure*

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERING

Joining Forces: The Black and Minority Ethnic Twinning Initiative: Evaluation and Good Practice, Home Office Research Study, No. 256

Katharine Gaskin

2003

Home Office Research Development and Statistics Directorate, London
ISBN 1 84082 938 9

Available to download from <<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/index.htm>>
The three-year Black and Minority Ethnic Twinning Initiative (BMETI) was launched by the Active Communities Unit in 1999, with the aim of encouraging opportunities for BME volunteers, and helping BME organisations to access funding. This report highlights the range of activities that BME groups are involved in, and the different meanings attached to the term 'volunteering'. The report suggests that volunteering opportunities are limited in small BME groups because of limited resources, while structures and procedures within mainstream organisations are also a barrier. Positive outcomes noted for participating organisations included enhanced capacity and access to resources, increased diversity of volunteers and attitude change. Wider benefits emerged in terms of awareness raising and dissemination of resources developed by BMETI partners. The report outlines good practice and factors that aided success, as well as those that hindered progress.

Volunteering; Capacity building; Partnerships; Evaluation

Ethnic Identities, Social Capital and Health Inequalities: Factors Shaping African-Caribbean Participation in Local Community Networks in the UK

C. Campbell and C. McLean

2002

Social Science and Medicine, Volume 55, Number 4, pp. 643-57

This research involved 25 semi-structured interviews with Afro-Caribbean residents of a deprived area of a town in the South of England. Drawing from debates on the links between social capital and health, the study examined the impact of ethnic identity on participation in community networks. Participation in voluntary organisations and community activist networks was found to be low. Respondents expressed concern that this lack of participation compounded existing inequalities in access to local community resources.

Community participation; Social capital; Ethnic identity; Social exclusion

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERING

Title	Representations of Ethnicity in People's Accounts of Local Community Participation in a Multi-Ethnic Community in England
Author	C. Campbell and C. McLean
Year of publication	2002
Publication details	<i>Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology</i> , Volume 12, Number 1, pp. 13-29
Summary	This research was based on semi-structured interviews with 75 residents of a deprived area in South England. Respondents self-described as African-Caribbean, Pakistani and White English. The paper examines ways in which the construction of ethnic identity can undermine community participation, and the extent to which this may perpetuate inequalities.
Keywords	<i>Community participation; Social capital; Ethnic identity; Social exclusion</i>
Title	Black and Minority Ethnic Volunteering
Author	Maxine Iffla
Year of publication	2002
Publication details	Volunteer Development Scotland
Summary	This study explores the extent of volunteering and information needs in three target areas: Stirling, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Volunteering activities were frequently perceived as 'helping', and motivation for getting involved included working for change in community conditions, being with people of a common background and experience, and to find a sense of belonging. Many services provided by BME volunteering were not available from statutory agencies. There was an emphasis on flexibility of participation and recruitment was mainly via word of mouth.
Keywords	<i>Volunteering; Motivation; Recruitment</i>

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERING

Active Communities: Initial Findings from The Home Office Citizenship Survey 2001

Duncan Prime, Meta Zimmeck and Andrew Zurawan

2002

Home Office: Research Development and Statistics Directorate, London
ISBN 1 84082839 0

Available to download from <<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds>>

This report presents initial findings on community participation, based on the Home Office Citizenship Survey 2001. The survey included a booster ethnic minority sample, and the report includes findings on participation by ethnic group. It revealed that Black and White people were more likely than those in the Asian/Chinese/Other categories to volunteer on an informal basis. Black people were also most likely to be formal volunteers. Black men were most likely to be involved in informal volunteering while Black women were more likely than other groups to be involved in formal volunteering.

Volunteering; Gender

After Oldham and September 11th: Capacity Building for Stronger Diverse Communities?

Balraj Sandhu

2002

Local Economy, Volume 17, Number 2, pp. 90-5

This article looks at the position of minority ethnic communities following rioting in Northern England in 2001, and the events of September 11th. Drawing from media representations of the riots, which suggested that ethnic communities lead separate existences, the author discusses how community development might improve relations. The author advocates capacity building strategies to enable opportunities and resources for community and leadership development and transformation, with BME community and voluntary sector organisations playing a central role.

Community participation; Capacity building; Community development

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERING

Title	Room for Growth: Patterns and Potential in Black and Minority Ethnic Volunteering
Author	Anita Kamat
Year of publication	2001
Publication details	Community Development Foundation and The Black Development Agency, London
Summary	<p>This research was commissioned by the Community Development Foundation in association with the Black Development Agency. Volunteering patterns of BME communities in the South West of England were studied. It was found that BME groups experience disadvantage in relation to housing and health issues. These disadvantages are compounded by racial discrimination and mainstream services which are inappropriate to their particular needs. The author looks at ways of increasing opportunities for BME volunteering.</p>
Keywords	<i>Volunteering; Social exclusion</i>
Title	Voluntary and Community Activities: Findings from The British Crime Survey 2000
Author	Anita Krishnamurthy, Duncan Prime and Meta Zimmeck
Year of publication	2001
Publication details	Home Office: Research Development and Statistics Directorate Available to download from < http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds >
Summary	<p>A section of the sample taking part in the British Crime Survey 2000 was also asked about participation in voluntary and community activities. This report provides summary statistics on involvement, broken down by sex, age, ethnic group, and area and length of residence. Findings challenge the perception that BME communities are more commonly involved in informal voluntary activity. Of respondents that participated once a month or more frequently, Black and Asian people were more likely to attend groups than White people, while White people were most likely to help individuals on an informal basis. The authors note that the findings of the Home Office Citizenship Survey which includes an ethnic minority booster sample of 5000 may be more definitive.</p>
Keywords	<i>Volunteering</i>

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERING

An Exclusive Construct? Exploring Different Cultural Concepts of Volunteering

Priya Lukka and Angela Ellis

2001

Voluntary Action, Volume 3, Number 3

Available online at <<http://www.ivr.org.uk/culturalconcepts.htm>>

This article looks at the meanings attached to the term 'volunteering'. The paper begins with the conventional Western construct of volunteering and then discusses its meaning for young people, disabled people and people from BME communities. In relation to the latter, the authors discuss the informal and non-organisational basis of volunteering, citing studies that demonstrate poor representation in charities of BME groups as volunteers, trustees, and staff. Studies at the grassroots level have found high levels of informal participation. The association of norms of helping others and mutual support with informal participation contrasts with the structured, bureaucratic aspects of formal volunteering. Informal volunteering was also associated with strengthening cultural identity. By implication, BME groups may have restricted access to resources. It is suggested that social exclusion can be tackled through voluntary activity within BME communities.

Volunteering; Social exclusion

Increasing the Involvement of Black Elders in Mainstream Volunteering: An Evaluation

Caroline Williamson

2001

CWA: Research, Education and Learning, Birmingham

This is an evaluative review of a project management framework and implications for project outcomes, based on experiences from a National Association of Volunteer Bureaux project. The nationwide project aimed to increase the involvement of black elders in the voluntary and community sector, and to develop, promote and disseminate models of good practice. Also included in the report is a brief literature overview of black peoples' experiences with white-led organisations and recommendations for improving work of this kind.

Volunteering; Older people; Evaluation

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERING

Title	Black Elders Project Report
Author	R. Leigh
Year of publication	2000
Publication details	Leicester Volunteer Centre
Summary	<p>This study is based on interviews with African-Caribbean elders, Sikh and Hindu groups. It highlights cases where places of worship are akin to community centres, and where volunteering, in the form of maintaining facilities and organising cultural and religious instruction, was taking place. Difficulties were noted, with the cultural concept of these activities which are not commonly identified as volunteering.</p>
Keywords	<i>Volunteering; Older people</i>
Title	Noticeable by Their Absence
Author	National Coalition for Black Volunteering
Year of publication	2000
Publication details	National Coalition for Volunteering, London
Summary	<p>A survey of 95 voluntary organisations found that black people are not equally represented as volunteers in comparison with other groups. Two in five charities surveyed involved no black volunteers, including organisations in areas with a large black population and 43% had no black trustees. Where black people were involved, they made up only 2% of the volunteers. Additionally, black people made up just 4% of all paid staff. The report calls for organisations to monitor the ethnic composition of volunteers, following the finding that half of organisations do not follow this practice, even in areas with a significant black population.</p>
Keywords	<i>Volunteering; Monitoring</i>

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERING

Recruiting and Retaining Black Volunteers: A Study of a Black Voluntary Organisation

N. J. Britton

1999

Voluntary Action, Volume 1, Number 3, pp. 9-23

This article presents findings based on a two-year qualitative study of The Black Justice Project which offers advice to black people on criminal justice issues. This organisation, with 60 volunteers, highlights aspects of good practice in the recruitment and retention of black volunteers. Word of mouth was crucial in recruitment terms and volunteers were motivated by meeting the specific needs of black communities. The scheme had a high rate of retention of volunteers, due in part to its ability to offer personal and professional benefits to participants. Policy implications are discussed for BME and mainstream voluntary organisations.

Volunteering; Recruitment

African-Caribbean Community Organisations: The Search for Individual and Group Identity

Carl Hylton

1999

Trentham Books, Stoke-on-Trent
ISBN 1 85856156 6

This book is based on a study of 93 African-Caribbean community groups based in Leeds, and other major organisations in Leeds and London. It revealed that African-Caribbean activists were excluded from voluntary and statutory organisations. Community activity, however, contributed to positive collective and individual identity.

Community participation; Cultural identity

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERING

Title	Policy Contradictions and Collaboration in Community Mental Health Services in Britain
Author	Frank Ledwith
Year of publication	1999
Publication details	<i>International Journal of Public Sector Management</i> , Volume 12, Number 3, pp. 236-48
Summary	<p>The focus of this research is on patterns of collaboration in community mental health services. The paper presents a case study of collaboration in community mental health services for minority ethnic communities in one city in England. Research incorporated interviews with management and care staff in health and social services, and the voluntary sector, a review of good practice, and a seminar involving key informants on relationships between the statutory and voluntary sectors. Initiatives for black people with mental health needs aimed at combating racism were located mainly in the voluntary sector. These demonstrate good practice in relation to meeting the needs of this group. The author recommends development of partnerships between statutory and voluntary sector providers, and the initiation of a more cohesive strategy at local and national levels.</p>
Keywords	<i>Mental health; Policy; Partnership working</i>
Title	The Importance of a Black Agenda in Revitalising Voluntary Action and Local Democracy
Author	Josephine Ocloo
Year of publication	1999
Publication details	A Paper Presented at the 5th NCVO Researching the Voluntary Sector Conference, London, September 1999
Summary	<p>This paper examines self-help as a tradition in BME communities, drawing from case study research. Failure of mainstream welfare provision and the wider voluntary sector to serve the needs of BME communities has resulted in the emergence of a distinct black voluntary sector. This sector provides alternative welfare services that act to combat social exclusion and racism, and to empower communities, enabling them to gain representation within power structures which have excluded them. In doing so, local democracy is strengthened.</p>
Keywords	<i>Community participation; Social exclusion</i>

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERING

Young People's Voluntary and Campaigning Activities as Sources of Political Education

Debi Roker, Katie Player and John Coleman

1999

Oxford Review of Education, Volume 25, Numbers 1- 2, pp. 185-97

The aim of this study is to examine political awareness and activities of young people. A section of the article covers research into young people's participation in volunteering and campaigning, and looks at the impact of both gender and ethnicity on community action. Most of the minority ethnic respondents were Asian. They were more likely to be involved in social issue and welfare groups, while white respondents were more likely to be members of environmental or animal welfare groups; Asian participants were also more likely to volunteer or take part in campaigning on a regular basis. Possible explanations for these ethnic differences included socio-economic status, concern about racism, parental influence and gender expectations.

Volunteering; Campaigning; Gender; Young people; Politics

My Time, My Community, Myself: Experiences of Volunteering within The Black Community

Seema Bhasin

1997

National Centre for Volunteering, London
ISBN 1 897708 92 0

This is a study of volunteering in BME organisations. The motivation of volunteers is covered and strategies for recruiting volunteers are examined. Recommendations are given for both black and mainstream organisations.

Volunteering; Recruitment

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERING

- Title **Volunteering by Members of Black and Minority Ethnic Communities in Britain**
- Author Jean Foster
- Year of publication 1997
- Publication details Charities Aid Foundation, *Dimensions of The Voluntary Sector*, 1997 edition, pp. 227-30
ISBN 1-85934-035-0
- Summary Based on the findings of the Fourth National Survey of Ethnic Minorities in Britain carried out in 1996, this article presents levels of voluntary activity by members of BME communities. A lower percentage was found to volunteer in organisational settings in comparison with the general population as a whole. This may be due to cultural differences in volunteering activity, or influenced by the definitions of volunteering used in these studies. Younger people and men within BME communities, in particular, were more likely to take part in formal volunteering. A fifth of those who did volunteer, were associated to religious organisations. Seven in ten of those who volunteered, did so in mainstream voluntary organisations.
- Keywords *Volunteering*
- Title **A Route to Opportunity: Younger People, Older People, Unemployed People, Black People and Disabled People**
- Author Filiz Niyazi
- Year of publication 1997
- Publication details National Centre for Volunteering, London
- Summary This study assessed the strategies of 25 voluntary organisations in England and Wales for recruiting and retaining volunteers from five groups disproportionately represented in formal volunteering. Findings relating to black volunteering included the links between cultural belonging and volunteering. Within mainstream organisations black volunteering was hindered by racism and lack of understanding of cultural differences as well as bureaucratic structures. Successful organisations were able to demonstrate to black volunteers that they were helping all sections of the community, and that the organisation was providing equal opportunities in employment and volunteering procedures.
- Keywords *Volunteering: Recruitment; Cultural meanings*

RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE STATE

Bridging The Communications Divide

Race on the Agenda

2003

Race on the Agenda, London

This report is the result of a series of events organised by the Government Office for London and Race on the Agenda aimed at improving communications between BME communities and those involved in Local Strategic Partnerships. Concerns were expressed about partnership working, including the complexity of regeneration initiatives and the lack of opportunity for setting common partnership objectives as well as involvement within the wider community.

Partnerships; Regeneration

Contract or Trust? The Role of Compacts in Local Governance

Gary Craig, Marilyn Taylor, Mick Wilkinson, Kate Bloor, Surya Monro and Alia Syed

2002

Policy Press, Bristol
ISBN 1 86134 379 5

A joint research team from the Universities of Brighton and Hull has been exploring and evaluating the development of compacts through a series of studies. This report presents findings related to perceptions of BME voluntary and community organisations towards the development of local compacts. The researchers found low awareness of both local compacts and the national code of conduct for Black and Minority Ethnic Voluntary and Community Organisations. Local authorities were perceived as using BME groups to deliver their own targets rather than engaging in strategic partnership. It was thought that capacity building for the BME sector was required to enable meaningful participation in local issues. There was a fear that the larger mainstream organisations would benefit most from compacts.

Local authorities; Compact

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE STATE

- Title **Why Do Black Women Organise? A Comparative Analysis of Black Women's Organisations in Britain and Their Relationship with The State**
- Author Sonia Davis and Veronica Cooke
- Year of publication 2002
- Publication details Policy Studies Institute, London
ISBN 0 85374 800
- Summary Black women's voluntary sector organisations cross over two marginalised groups, but are not perceived as a distinct section of the sector by local authorities. A cross-section of organisations from 13 local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales were studied to determine the needs of black women's organisations and their structures, as well as their relationship with the state. Groups shared principles of self-help and empowerment, black political identity and social inclusion, and originated to address inadequate mainstream provision and access to resources. Funding allocation to different ethnic groups was found to be disproportionate, and black women's groups spent a relatively high proportion of time in fundraising. Local authorities had no clear policy relating to these groups, with ethnicity and gender being arbitrarily separated. Examples of good practice in inter-agency collaboration are described.
- Keywords *Interagency collaboration; Women*
- Title **Inclusive Governance and 'Minority' Groups: The Role of The Third Sector in Wales**
- Author P. Chaney and R. Fevre
- Year of publication 2001
- Publication details *Voluntas*, Volume 12, Number 2, pp. 131-56
- Summary This paper presents the results of a research project that examines new structures of governance in Wales. Following the establishment of a national legislature in Wales in 1999, the third sector has entered into a pioneering cross-sectoral partnership with the Welsh government. The research concentrated on three marginalised groups: women, disabled people and BME communities. The experiences of voluntary groups representing such groupings within these structures are explored. While the early months of the Assembly saw active engagement of these minorities, challenges remain in terms of facilitating partnership working in the long-term.
- Keywords *Civil society; Policy; Governance*

Finding the Funds

Maggie Taylor and Ilene Hoyle

2003

Kelly Consultancy, Middlesex

This report is the result of a survey investigating the experiences of BME voluntary and community organisations in their search for funds. The Sustainability Project found that the majority of BME community and voluntary groups find accessing funds problematic and unfair, due to language and communication issues, poor skills and lack of access to information.

Sustainability

Funding in London Women's Organisations : A First Report

Andri Soteri

2002

Centre for Institutional Studies, University of East London, Working Paper Number 72

This report is based on a survey of women's organisations in London which formed part of a wider research programme. BME organisations constituted the largest sub-sector of the sample of women's organisations. Findings relating to BME women's organisations included a higher likelihood of closing or moving premises. While BME groups made up 24% of the organisations, they received 21% of the combined total annual income. In the last five years, 73% of BME organisations reported having a funding crisis. Their position is described as more transient and precarious than other groups in the sample.

Women; Sustainability

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title	Funding Black and Minority Groups: Trusts Must Take a Lead
Author	Cathy Pharoah
Year of publication	2000
Publication details	<i>NGO Finance</i> , Volume 10, Issue 5
Summary	The research reported in this article addresses the potential of grant-making trusts for assisting the BME voluntary sector. BME beneficiaries were given mention by 3% of grants made by independent trusts. Trusts with policies for monitoring grant-making to BME groups were more likely to make awards to groups with ethnically mixed governing boards. The author calls for trusts to set standards for addressing the needs of BME groups.
Keywords	<i>Grant-making trusts; Resource allocation</i>
Title	Ground for Growth
Author	Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations
Year of publication	2000
Publication details	Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations, Edinburgh
Summary	This study revealed that of the 558 black organisations in total in Scotland, almost half had an income of less than £25,000. Interviews with 30 ethnic minority organisations and five focus groups in different regions of Scotland found that although black organisations made up 1.25% of the voluntary sector in Scotland, their total income of £12 million represented only 0.6% of the total voluntary sector income. More than 60% had no secure income and almost one third relied entirely on members' fees. The report concludes that black groups have been poorly served by 'English-based UK infrastructures' and were not perceived to be of sufficient strategic importance by either local authorities or government.
Keywords	<i>Infrastructure</i>

FUNDING

Best Value for Black Communities

Lydia Yee and Barry Mussenden

2000

Race on the Agenda, London

This report is based on existing literature and interviews with policy-makers, purchasers and BME voluntary organisations, addressing the under-representation of BME voluntary organisations in obtaining community care contracts with statutory agencies. Barriers to contracting for BME organisations include the potential effects on the advocacy role, increased bureaucracy and workload for small groups, cash flow difficulties and high competition. Benefits include opportunities for delivery of culturally appropriate services, development of the organisations and provision of work opportunities within the BME communities.

Contracting; Policy; Community care

Exploring The Income of Black-led Voluntary Organisations

Jabeer Butt and Kurshida Mirza

1997

Charities Aid Foundation, *Dimensions of The Voluntary Sector*, 1997 edition, pp. 197-205

This review of research on the funding of BME groups was carried out by the Race Equality Unit and the Charities Aid Foundation. The aim was to identify and quantify major income streams, and to gather evidence relating to effective use of resources. The authors conclude that local government is a significant funder of BME organisations in London. The average grant awarded was smaller than that for other voluntary organisations. Variation in allocation across local authorities was disproportionate according to the size of the BME population within the authority, suggesting differing policy approaches.

Local government; Resource allocation

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Title	Bosnian Refugees in Britain: Questioning Community
Author	Lynnette Kelly
Year of publication	2003
Publication details	<i>Sociology</i> , Volume 37, Number 1, pp. 35-49
Summary	<p>It is suggested that current policy is based on a model of migrant incorporation into society, by which groups of migrants are thought to constitute a community whose needs are voiced through community leaders. PhD research on the settlement of Bosnian refugees suggests that despite the formation of community associations, there is no community of Bosnians. Associations are dependent on the efforts of a few individuals, and have evolved from the expectations of British society. The concept of 'contingent communities' is used to describe a group of people who conform to these expectations in order to gain the advantages of a formal community association.</p>
Keywords	<i>Community; Formation of associations</i>
Title	Refugee Settlement: Can Communities Cope?
Author	Maknun Gameledin-Ashami, Libby Cooper and Barry Knight
Year of publication	2002
Publication details	Charities Evaluation Services ISBN 1 897963 18 1
Summary	<p>This report looks at the involvement of refugee community organizations in the resettlement of refugees. Interviews were carried out in organizations in London, Margate, Newcastle and Liverpool. The findings suggest that community organizations play a valuable role in providing cultural and emotional support and practical assistance, in addition to raising awareness and informing policy development. However, organisations' lack of resources and knowledge of the British system affect their ability to cope. Differences in the character of refugee community organizations in London and elsewhere include the level of membership and volunteering, which was higher in the London organizations.</p>
Keywords	<i>Resettlement; Meeting need</i>

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

'It Takes Two to Tango': A Survey of Community Enterprise Involvement in Public Service Delivery

Development Trusts Association in partnership with the Local Government Association and the New Economics Foundation

2002

LGA Publications, London
ISBN 1 84049 286 4

This publication presents an analysis of the actual experience of community enterprise organisations in public service delivery roles. The report looks at a range of ways in which community enterprises work with local communities, and includes a section on an organization based in Mersyside offering skills training for asylum seekers. The development of the organisation, which aims to develop a range of regeneration strategies to improve social and economic base of the area, is described including its role as citywide reception point for asylum seekers.

Training; Resettlement

From Marginalization to (Dis)empowerment: Organizing Training and Employment Services For Refugees

Frances Tomlinson and Sue Egan

2002

Human Relations, Volume 55, Number 8, pp. 1019-43

Drawing from research on organizations providing employment-related services for refugees, this article addresses the issues of refugee identity and high unemployment among refugees, despite the fact that many refugees have professional qualifications. The notion of 'empowerment' is reflected in service providers' accounts. However, the association of 'community' with exclusion might serve to highlight an outsider status. Thus, it may not be advantageous for refugee organizations to accept a separate identity.

Ethnic identity; Employment; Community

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Title	The Minority within The Minority: Refugee Community-based Organizations in The UK and The Impact of Restrictionism on Asylum Seekers
Author	Roger Zetter and Martyn Pearl
Year of publication	2000
Publication details	<i>Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies</i> , Volume 26, Number 4, pp. 675-97
Summary	<p>This article considers how refugee community organizations have responded to changes in legislation and government policy, which have increased social exclusion among refugees. The authors place refugee community organizations within the context of the wider voluntary sector, describing the role they play. The article focuses mainly on housing provision, drawing from research commissioned by the Housing Corporation, which examined housing provision for refugees and asylum seekers in Manchester, Birmingham and London. While refugee organizations can offer much-needed specialist support, they lack institutional capacity and are marginalized from mainstream support services.</p>
Keywords	<i>Housing; Policy</i>
Title	Refugees' Reception and Settlement in Britain
Author	Lynette Kelly and Daniele Joly
Year of publication	1999
Publication details	Joseph Rowntree Foundation, York
Summary	<p>Drawing from existing literature, this report identifies different categories of refugee, examines policy and service delivery, and discusses specific issues relating to employment, health, housing, language and education. The authors assess the role of government, NGOs and refugee community groups in assisting new arrivals and providing a link with the rest of British society. It is estimated that there are around 300 refugee community and support groups in London. Lack of co-ordination and amateurism are potential problems for these organizations, alongside a lack of a secure funding base. The needs of specific groups, such as refugee women, young people and older people are considered.</p>
Keywords	<i>Housing; Health; Education; Resettlement</i>

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

Community Work and Exile Politics: Kurdish Refugee Associations in London

O. Wahlbeck

1998

Journal of Refugee Studies, Volume 11, Number 3, pp. 215-23

This article reports on an ethnographic study of Kurdish refugee associations based in London. The impact of politicalization of the Kurdish community on the formation of refugee support organizations, which are vital in resettlement, is assessed. Although there are political divisions among Kurdish refugees, it is argued that they have been able to establish organizations of a limited nature. The authors conclude that the political activism of the Kurdish refugees has not been an obstacle in the creation of such organisations.

Formation of associations

Meeting Refugees' Needs in Britain: The Role of Refugee-specific Initiatives

Jenny Carey-Wood

1997

The Home Office
ISBN: 1 85893 995 X

This report is based on research carried out by Salford University. It covers refugees' settlement needs at the local level. The authors explore two main approaches to facilitating resettlement in England and Wales: encouragement of self-help through community development and improving service provision for all refugees. They use case-studies of a number of projects providing resettlement services for health, housing, education/training and community development. The case-studies illustrate the strengths and weaknesses of specialist services in the different areas of work, and assess the challenges faced by refugee-specific initiatives.

Resettlement; Self-help; Health; Housing; Employment

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

ONGOING RESEARCH

Title	Exploring the Role of Ethnic Minority Voluntary Sector on Social Inclusion, Regeneration and Quality of Life: A Case Study of The London Borough of Enfield
Researchers	R. Papadopoulos, S. Lees and V. Meeto
Completion Date	
Summary	<p>This research is being conducted by the Research Centre for Transcultural Studies in Health at Middlesex University, in collaboration with Enfield Voluntary Action and Enfield Racial Equality Council. The aims are: firstly, to explore the activities of BME voluntary and community organisations in Enfield and how these may improve the lives of their users and the wider community; secondly, to explore the views of users on the activities of BME voluntary and community organisations in Enfield; and thirdly, to explore the role of the voluntary and community sector in improving quality of life and its links to health.</p>
Title	Evaluation Study of CEMVO's Black and Minority Ethnic Voluntary Sector Capacity Building Programme
Researcher	Jean Ellis
Completion Date	2006
Summary	<p>This five-year capacity building programme aims to assist 600 BME voluntary organisations. 15 Capacity Building Officers have been recruited to complete a specially devised MBA programme. Objectives include improving governance and management capacity, increasing resources and promoting participation at local level. The programme is to be evaluated over three years by Charities Evaluation Services, with reporting expected in 2005. The evaluation will assess medium-term outcomes and examine barriers and aids to capacity building, looking at different approaches to change, with the intention of informing future capacity building efforts.</p>

ONGOING RESEARCH

Black Voluntary Sector and Community Sectors in Leicester and London: Funding Civic Engagement and Capacity Building

Karen Chouhan, 1990 Trust

2003

Using content analysis of documents available from civic bodies, questionnaires and interviews with voluntary and public sector agencies, this research examines two issues: firstly, funding streams for BME organisations in London and Leicester; and secondly, the contribution of BME organisations to capacity building, social inclusion and civic engagement.

Title

Researcher

Completion Date

Summary

The Role of Voluntary Organisations in Providing Refugee Care in Scotland

Scottish Centre for Research on Social Justice, Department of Urban Studies, University of Glasgow

The aims of this project are: firstly, to explore the impacts of successive asylum and immigration policy changes during the 1990s, and to examine this impact in the context of international discourses relating to rights for non-citizens. Secondly, to examine the role of the voluntary sector in dispersal areas in Glasgow, and the range of functions it carries out. And, thirdly, to explore the development of new social networks among asylum seekers and refugees in dispersal areas, and the role they play in supporting individuals through the early stages of adaptation to a new society.

Title

Researchers

Completion Date

Summary

GUIDANCE FOR BME VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Title	Are We Listening Yet?: Working with Minority Ethnic Communities; Some Models of Practice
Author	Darshan Sachdev and Anne Van Meeuwen (eds.)
Year of publication	2002
Publication details	Barnardo's, Ilford
Summary	<p>A selection of models of practice for working with BME communities are described. These have been developed from work with the most disadvantaged and marginalised sections of minority ethnic communities, such as young carers, those excluded from schools, disabled children and children without families.</p>
Keywords	<i>Community development; Children; Social exclusion</i>
Title	Challenging Institutional Racism: A Toolkit for the Voluntary Sector
Author	Race on the Agenda, London Voluntary Service Council and Association of London Government
Year of publication	2002
Publication details	Race on the Agenda, London Available to download from the following: < http://www.actionlink.org.uk >, < http://www.rota.org.uk > and < http://www.alg.gov.uk >
Summary	<p>This toolkit for the voluntary sector seeks to assist organisations in redressing inequalities in access to services. The guide tackles issues such as governance, management, employment practices and service delivery in three areas: changing the culture of the organisation, consulting to develop services that address needs of the community, and identification and sharing of good practice as well as influencing policy at local and national level. Key questions are discussed within each area, considering how organisations might put ideas into practice. Appendices provide information on institutional racism, including relevant legislation, a selection of contacts and publications, definitions and terminology as well as equal opportunities legislation.</p>
Keywords	<i>Governance; Policy; Equal opportunities</i>

GUIDANCE FOR BME VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Recruiting and Supporting Black and Minority Ethnic Trustees

Tesse Akpeki

2001

NCVO, London
ISBN 0719915902

This guide follows on from the launch of the Black and Minority Ethnic Voluntary and Community Sector Code of Good Practice. It represents the responses of BME trustees, focus groups and governance advisers. Ways of attracting and retaining trustees from minority communities are discussed.

Trustees; Recruitment

Ethnicity, Disability and Scope: The Case for Embracing Black Disability Issues

Anne Pridmore

2001

SCOPE, London

This publication is a practical guide for Scope workers on how to address race and disability issues. Key matters for black disabled people are identified, and ways of locating black disabled people within communities are discussed. The second part of the report positions ethnic minority communities in the East Midlands, and includes a list of black voluntary organisations in these areas.

Disability; Mapping

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

GUIDANCE FOR BME VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Title	Better Practice, Better Quality: The Role of Black Voluntary Sector in Child Protection: A Best Practice Guide
Author	Ratna Dutt and Pat Joseph
Year of publication	2000
Publication details	Race Equality Unit, London

Summary This publication examines issues surrounding child protection with reference to the role of the black voluntary sector, and makes recommendations for good practice.

Keywords *Children; Cultural identity*

Title	One Year on and Counting
Author	London Borough Grants
Year of publication	2000
Publication details	London Borough Grants, Twickenham

Summary The aim of this report is to facilitate debate among voluntary organisations in London on the implications of the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry. Recommendations for voluntary organisations, agencies that work in partnership with them, and funding bodies.

Keywords *Funding*

GUIDANCE FOR BME VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Raising Voices: A Practical Guide to Promoting The Voice of Black Minority Ethnic Organisations and Service Users in Health and Community Care

Lydia Yee

2000

London Voluntary Service Council, London
ISBN 1872582 76 1

This set of guidelines were published following a conference organised by INVOLVE Southern Region and London Voluntary Service Council in 1999. Principles are outlined for getting across the voice of BME organisations and their users in health and community care, and in partnership working with statutory and other voluntary organisations.

Community care; Interagency collaboration; User involvement

Planning for Success: A Guide for Black Organisations Preparing a Business Plan

Black Training and Enterprise Group

1999

Black Training and Enterprise Group, London
ISBN 0 9521635 3 0

This is a workbook for small organisations on strategic development, covering operational and funding reviews, development of business plans and how to put them into practice.

Strategic planning

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

GUIDANCE FOR BME VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Title	Black on Board Revisited
Author	NCVO
Year of publication	1998
Publication details	NCVO, London ISBN 0 7199 1538 4
Summary	This report stems from a conference that took place in 1997 to review the recommendations made at an earlier conference on BME trustees. The aims of the report are to identify ways of increasing the involvement of people from BME communities on governing Boards as well as improving the contribution they make.
Keywords	<i>Trustees; Recruitment</i>
Title	Governance in Focus: A Race and Gender Perspective
Author	Tesse Akpeki
Year of publication	1997
Publication details	NCVO, London ISBN 071991518X
Summary	This publication concentrates on issues relating to the recruitment and supporting of ethnic minority women to voluntary sector Boards.
Keywords	<i>Trustees; Recruitment; Women</i>

GUIDANCE FOR BME VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Working with The Black Voluntary Sector: Good Practice Guide

Kamila Zahno

1997

Pan-London Community Regeneration Consortium, London

This publication is targeted at organisations that work with BME voluntary groups in regeneration, with the aim of promoting equal partnerships. The guide covers BME communities in London and a discussion of the sector's diversity, in addition to approaches to involving BME groups in partnerships.

Regeneration; Partnerships

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

Title	Review of Funding for Minority Ethnic Groups in The Voluntary Sector: The Scottish Executive Response
Author	Scottish Executive
Year of publication	2002
Publication details	Scottish Executive, Edinburgh ISBN 0 7559 0007 3
Summary	Available to download from < http://www.scotland.gov.uk > The Scottish Executive plans to support BME voluntary groups are outlined. These are based on the Executive's 2001 review of funding and the Race Equality Advisory Forum Voluntary Sector Issues Action Plan. Plans relating to funding strategy, capacity building, the Scottish Compact, training, provision of information and volunteering are set out.
Keywords	<i>Funding; Capacity building</i>
Title	Review of Funding for Black and Minority Ethnic Groups in The Voluntary Sector in Scotland : Final Report
Author	Scottish Executive
Year of publication	2001
Publication details	Scottish Executive, Edinburgh ISBN 0 7559 0007 3
Summary	Available to download from < http://www.scotland.gov.uk > The Scottish Executive commissioned this study of funding of BME voluntary organisations in Scotland as part of a wider strategic review of voluntary sector funding. Key findings refer to absence of a strategic approach to funding of the BME sector due to a lack of infrastructure and monitoring of allocation of funds to BME organisations, the complexity of current funding arrangements and poor dissemination of information to the BME sector.
Keywords	<i>Funding; Infrastructure</i>

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

Black and Minority Ethnic Voluntary and Community Organisations: A Code of Good Practice

The Home Office, Active Community Unit

2000

The Home Office, Active Community Unit, London
ISBN

Available to download from <<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk>>
Following a consultation exercise in 1999, the Government's Code of Practice for working with the BME voluntary sector is presented in this document. It covers aspects such as consultation, funding, capacity building and volunteering. Examples of good practice and action points are also included.

Policy; Compact

Strengthening The Black and Minority Ethnic Voluntary Sector Infrastructure: Report on a Consultation - March-May 1999 -

The Home Office, Active Community Unit

1999

The Home Office, Active Community Unit, London

This publication reports on a series of consultations on government support for the BME voluntary sector infrastructure; specifically on government funding for infrastructure organisations and the contents of a code of practice for relations between the government and BME voluntary organisations.

Policy; Infrastructure

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Title

Author

Year of publication

Publication details

Summary

Keywords

Ethnic Minority Foundation
Head Office
Boardman House
64 Broadway
Stratford
London E15 1NG

Tel: 0800 652 0390
Fax: 020 8432 0319
E-mail: enquiries@emf-cemvo.co.uk
Web: www.ethnicminorityfund.org.uk
Charity Number: 1077004