

## Appendix A

### GRANT APPLICATION 2014/15 – ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

<b>Priority Corporate Outcomes</b>	To promote a healthy, active, independent and informed over-55 population To increase resilience amongst older people and help them to age well	
<b>Organisation</b>	<b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION</b>	<b>ref</b> 83/C/CTY
<b>Address</b>	11 Summerfield Avenue, N12	

#### Corporate policy, aims and objectives

The council is committed to helping people to be independent and live active lives, recognizing that some people need more support than others to achieve this. The transformation of adult health and social care set out in the Care Act 2014 and Department of Health publications 'Our Health, Our Care, Our Say' and 'A Vision for Social Care, Capable Communities and Active Citizens' places growing emphasis on preventative services; delivering targeted information and advice; ensuring people have the right support at the right time; and enabling people to plan for later life.

The Older Adults Strategy, 'Living Longer, Living Better', and the Older People's Commissioning Strategy, 2008-17, 'Independence, Choice and Control', focus on developing preventative services; tackling inequalities; and the wider well-being agenda. Barnet's Health and Well-Being Strategy and Integrated Care Model seek to encourage residents to take responsibility for their own health and well-being and to ensure that, when support is needed, health and social care services work together to facilitate timely and effective solutions. The provision of culturally specific services to support older people from minority ethnic communities is a key element of each strategy to overcome the problems of social exclusion.

#### Activities / proposal

The Community Health and Development Foundation (CHDF) is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee formed in January 2014 by members of another, now defunct, voluntary group, the Equatorial Women's Association, primarily aimed at improving the health and well-being of the African community in Barnet. Its published charitable objectives are broader and include addressing the needs of older people in the community generally and the issues of unemployment amongst black and minority ethnic young people and the number of such in the criminal justice system.

CHDF states that it has spent much of the last year networking in the community and identifying isolated and potentially vulnerable older people in need of support. Volunteers, mainly drawn from the congregations of local churches, have befriended a dozen or so elderly members of the African community living in and around North Finchley, many of whom are Sudanese. CHDF is also been active in the London Borough of Camden, where there is a large Sudanese community.

This application relates to proposals to develop a health improvement programme for the African community in North Finchley, mainly targeting older people, through the provision of workshops promoting healthy eating and healthier lifestyles, focusing particularly on the incidence of diabetes, prostate cancer, strokes, HIV/AIDS and mental health problems. CHDF states that a variety of factors including immigration status, poor housing, unemployment and cultural beliefs linked to diet, alcohol, smoking and exercise disproportionately impact on the health of the African community, compounded by the impediments of illiteracy and language

barriers to accessing health and social care services.

On a more strategic level, the project seeks to be a health advocate for the African community at large and to create a mechanism through which vulnerable older African people are linked to health and social care providers. It expects to work with up to 150 people over the next twelve months. Other aspirations include the creation of a lunch and social club for the elderly.

Adults & Communities acknowledge the potential benefits of targeting work at ethnic communities more at risk of developing certain health conditions, supplementing existing initiatives such as stroke awareness amongst minority communities and other work with community groups through the Barnet Neighbourhood Group (BNG), the voluntary and community sector consortium commissioned to provide activities and services to older people.

However, CHDF has had no contact with the council prior to the submission of this application and it has not been possible to determine its skills and capability to deliver its proposals. A risk also exists of duplication with the work of other groups including the Barnet Afro-Caribbean Association, a member of BNG, and the African Cultural Association. A grant is not therefore recommended.

Consideration will be given to a new application if CHDF establishes a dialogue with these groups and/or the BNG and can demonstrate its credentials and evidence of unmet needs.

#### **Cost and financial need**

The request is for a grant of £10,000 to establish the health improvement programme, of which £5,800 is to employ a part-time health development worker; rent an office, yet to be found; and buy office equipment. Total expenditure for 2015 is shown as £22,200 on the basis of obtaining a grant of £10,000 from the Big Lottery Awards for All Scheme (in support of volunteer befriending), yet to be determined, and other charitable funding.

CHDF states that it intends to apply for a ('Reaching Communities') grant from the Big Lottery Fund to sustain the health improvement programme.

Meanwhile, it continues to rely entirely on the support of volunteers to deliver its befriending work, both in Barnet and Camden. At present it has no income and has yet to produce accounts for 2014.

#### **Grant recommendation, type and conditions**

**NIL**

**Date:** February 2015