

# Working together and learning together – a partnership approach with Northumberland Syrian Families

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# **Big Lottery**

- BAME population within Northumberland
  1.56% significantly lower than the England average
- Community consultation to provide an evidence base for funding
- Public prejudice highlighted
- Funding secured for role models programme £9,500 (divided by two programmes)



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**LOTTERY FUNDED** 





### **Role Models**



Worked with members of the local Black Asian Minority Ethnic Community and local design company to create a logo that they felt represented them.

- Listening to the concerns of the refugee community
- 15 role models recruited
- Production of DVD clip for new families arriving
- External evaluation completed
- Community Culture Northumberland Conference Syrian Workshop
- Film clip

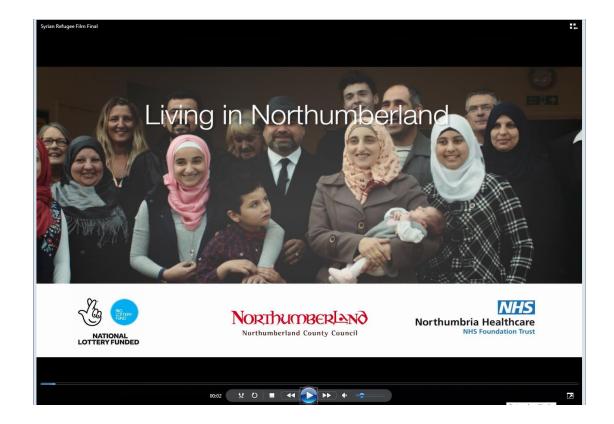






### Helping people to feel safe









### **Hate Crime**



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- National Hate Campaign
- Fear within the Northumberland refugee community
- Coordinated response to reduce fear and increase support



### **Sharing our experiences**









# **Getting Active**

#### Satellite Funding – Northumberland Sport

- Families were inactive and unaware of local facilities.
- Interest from males in football
- Language created a barrier
- Cultural considerations

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• Importance of physical activity







### Northumberland Integrated Wellbeing Service



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#### **Health Trainer Service**

- Help facilitate healthy lifestyle change
- 1-1, Group or Programme
- Weight Management
- Healthy Eating (Nutrition)
- Smoking Cessation
- Alcohol Awareness







- 15 well established community role models
- · Local football club that is thriving
- Families looking to start their own businesses and go back into employment
- Communities more integrated and children excelling at school.





### "Teach us what life has been like for you"













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- 1. Everyone's time is precious, including the public. What's the offer? Incentives are a great way to show appreciation for peoples time.
- 2. The right venue is crucial. Pick a space that is accessible, familiar & where people feel safe.
- 3. Language is so important. Go back to basics and have a conversation that everyone can understand. Tailor your approach to meet the groups' needs.
- 4. Don't underestimate the power of lived experience.
- 5. Its okay to rip it up and start again. We don't have to be right all the time.





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- 6. Find a shared ally or community leader who can help to establish trust and rapport, particularly with groups that don't often engage.
- 7. Be aware of our own assumptions or limited cultural understanding. Its okay not to know, but we must be humble and transparent in our lack of understanding
- 8. Keep building reciprocity, and know that this takes time
- 9. Make it clear how this will influence your work and what will change as part of that.
- 10. Establish the best way to feed back changes to those who have been part of the process.



### Shine a spotlight on interactions.



"At times in medicine you feel you are inside a colossal and impossibly complex machine whose gears will turn according to their own arbitrary rhythm. The notion that human caring, the effort to do better for people, might make a difference can seem hopelessly naive.

But it isn't..."









# **Thank You**





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