

Local charity secures National Lottery funding to help change people's lives

The Partnership Council, a local charity based in Hyson Green, has just heard it's been awarded £197,160 worth of funding from the National Lottery to fund its Base Camp project for the next five years. The Partnership Council works to improve the lives of people living in some of the most disadvantaged areas of the city and its Base Camp project was set up to help both individuals and groups from the Asian community to get ideas for community projects off the ground. In addition, Base Camp also provides support to existing community projects, helping them to improve the service they provide, or increase their range of activities.

Base Camp has been running for three years in total and for the last six months has been led by the Partnership Council's Rukhsana Aziz. Rukhsana has already helped to set up over 18 projects including; football coaching for girls, a women's counseling group, cookery classes for boys and homework clubs. In addition, Base Camp also helps individuals, including helping to find funding for women with health problems like arthritis to attend yoga classes to improve their wellbeing and quality of life.

Base Camp works by helping individuals and groups to raise money themselves, by putting them in touch with funding organisations, or by helping them to fill in funding application forms. The project also gives new and existing groups and community projects all the help they need to set themselves up; from how to find resources such as a meeting place, computers or marketing materials, to how to look after finances and any legal necessities. Base Camp also offers training to individuals or groups, including basic skills such as First Aid, Food Handling or Budgeting and help with writing or speaking English.

Rukhsana explains, "Base Camp has already helped many people to transform their lives, so it's fantastic to know, that thanks to the National Lottery, we'll be able to continue our work for at least the next five years. It's often very difficult for people who face language or cultural barriers to join new groups or begin a new hobby or activity and Base Camp gives them the support they need to do that. Often, learning a new skill or meeting new people enables people to turn their lives around and best of all, they are doing it for themselves, which is of course very empowering."

partnershipcouncil | press

If you are an individual or a group with an idea for a community project, or you'd simply like to find out more about what's happening in your community, or how Base Camp could help you please contact:

**Rukhsana at the Partnership Council on 0115 970 8200
or email rhuksana@partnershipcouncil.co.uk**

Notes for editors:

The Partnership Council is a charity based in Hyson Green set up to improve community life in some of the most deprived areas of the city.

<http://www.partnershipcouncil.co.uk/>

Base Camp is currently funded by Lloyds TSB Bank with support from the Local Network Fund, the Single Renewal Fund, the Community Champions Fund, the Nottingham Black Partnership and Learn.

Partnership Council • 47 Gregory Boulevard • Hyson Green • Nottingham • NG7 5JA
Telephone 0115 970 8200 • Fax: 0115 970 8200 • Email mail@partnershipcouncil.co.uk