



## TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS

# 2019





"I loved taking part in this residential. The weekend was though provoking , emotional, enlightening, educational, but also fun ,full of activities and I hope we can do this again in the future."

Intercultural intergenerational  
residential attendee

"I have gained more  
trust for other  
religions especially  
Islamic and Muslim"

"I've come to accept that  
you should respect every  
opinion including religion  
even if it is not your own  
or you don't agree"

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ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Name	North West Migrants Forum	
Charity Number	103178	
Principal Address	10 Fountain Street Derry BT48 6QX	
Auditor	Laurie Duffy FCA L Duffy & Co Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors 12 Queen Street Derry BT48 7EG	
Bankers	Danske Bank	
Trustees	Cristina Ichimescu Keaveney Resty Bautista Jamal Simpson Irina Chernichenko Anne McIlvar Marija Stuke Charlie Dillon	Chair Vice Chair Secretary Treasurer

CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

In the last 12th months we have seen growth, both in terms of our membership and within our core activities, which have engaged more members than ever before. In April 2018, we launched our first ever ambitious programme to cover all aspect of community life in Derry-Londonderry. It was a great reminder that we can be more effective together than we can apart.

2018-19 has also been a busy and productive year for our members who remain as resourceful and inspiring as ever, reflected in the rise in racial tensions once again. One particular change to highlight has been the continued growth in working with post primary schools and members of the two major communities representing a 60% rise in the last two years). To support such growth, we launched the organisations first ever Youth Intervention Programme that focused primarily on engaging with post primary schools across the district council area. I'd like to thank NWMF staff and cultural ambassadors for their work on this.

Another change has been the number of EU migrant workers seeking employment and immigration support, which has increased again significantly since last year. Towards this end, in addition to supporting staff members to develop more capacity and meet more need, we have been working closely with partner agencies to develop an advocacy strategy that recognises NWMF unique place in the sector to call for adequate support for EU citizens in the region. We look forward to implementing this in the year ahead with the support and input from our members.

Fundraising has been a significant focus over the last year and I am thrilled to report that this has been successful, enabling us to increase staff working hours to full time (from 30 hours to 37 hours a week) and we have raised the money to recruit a dedicated welfare advice officer to deal with specific concerns raised by our EU service



users as well as support them in the EU settlement application process. This will release the Director of Programmes to focus on capacity building, advocacy work and increasingly supporting our Members and service users.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all of our trustees and volunteers, who have provided invaluable support to the Board during this period of transition to becoming a more strategic and influential organisation.

Cristina Ichimescu  
Chairperson





## DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMES REPORT

This year has been a busy and exciting year for NWMF. We continued to facilitate and deliver participative programmes that engaged with various sections of communities across the district council area.

Our staff and volunteers did an amazing job working with limited and stretched resources yet their optimism about what development and positive change could be achieved was nothing short of inspirational. The Communities United Promoting Inclusion and Diversity Project continues to be a major milestone achievement for NWMF. Funded by the National Lottery Community Fund-Peoples and Communities, the project brings some stability and security which allows staff the luxury of not having to worry about their jobs or funding for activities, which in turn creates the opportunity for staff to better connect with service users and run projects.

### Some of the highlights of the year are:

- Delivered year 2 of the 5-year funded project from the National Lottery Community Fund "peoples and Communities Fund".
- Successfully organised and delivered a Communities United intercultural family fun day which attracted over 137 people (40 families) across the district council area. It was one of our greatest achievement this year, to see people from all walks of life coming together to celebrate diversity in different forms. From sampling delicious recipes from our very own members and enjoying different type of intercultural activities including African drums, jewellery making, dances and various sports
- Our Staff continues to successfully respond to issues presented by members and service users through our advice and orientation support service which is open 5 days a week. Through this service we continue to ensure that advocacy and signposting was available to meet client's needs. This service also continues to enhance our engagement with other services such as the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, Social Security Agency, GP Surgery's, Social Services and local primary and post primary schools.
- Successfully delivered our Discover An Intercultural Northern Ireland Project- The project worked with 8 post primary schools across DCSDC to strengthen social cohesion and inclusion by improving attitudes between Young People from ethnic minority (BME) communities and the two-major communities, Protestant (PUL) and Catholic (CNR) living in the North West areas of NI.

- The 8 schools included St Marys College, Foyle College, Lisneal College, St Josephs, Oakgrove Integrated College, Oakgrove Primary School and St Columb's College and St Cecilia's College. Funding for this project was provided by The Executive Office -Central Good relations Fund and Community Relations Council Small Grants

- Successfully delivered 2 nights Intercultural Residential with participants coming from different cultural and religious backgrounds. This was an eye-opening event for majority of the participants who expressed their delight to be among a very diverse group of people and having the opportunity to interact for the first time since they migrated to Northern Ireland with a very diverse group and share their personal views on migration and perception of others in a safe and interactive environment.

- Received funding support from one department at The Executive Office and successfully completed all planned activities for the year 2018-2019. Also secured additional funding from John Moores Foundation to support the Delivery of our Communities United Promoting Diversity and Inclusion Project up to March 2019

- Successfully delivered our Intercultural Youth Intervention activities comprising of an After-School Club, Summer trips to Water World, Bowling, Movie Night and visit to Belfast Zoo.

- Employment and Skills Development Training which was changed to Staff, Committee and Volunteers Training Residential on good governance, fundraising, and Intercultural Competence Training was also delivered successfully

- We also successfully delivered a Capacity building, skills development and self-confidence training; Informal English language Lessons, Single Identity facilitation Training and Confidence in Public Speaking

- People participation and inclusive decision making was a consistent theme throughout the project. We ensured that people view's and voices were heard at the planning, delivery and evaluating stages of each project and this is reflected through projects planned for year 2019-2020.

- At each project activity, evaluation/feedback forms were completed by each participant. Comments and suggestions were incorporated in the delivery plan. This is an ongoing exercise for us as we continue to believe that ownership is key to successful delivery of each project



• In July 2018, a junior Leaders Advisory Committee consisting of 7 members and an Intercultural Steering group consisting of 15 adults was set up. Both junior leaders' advisory group and Intercultural Steering Group joined members of the previously established Diversity Club. The steering groups held quarterly meetings with project staff and worked collaboratively to adopt or amend activities within the projects

• Informal communication between staff and project participants also allowed us to capture opinions and receive feedback on project delivery plans.

In a very tough environment for second tier organisations, we continue to work hard to advance an intercultural Northern Ireland and provide members with opportunities to engage with communities and play their part in community development. We are hugely grateful to the existing and new funders who have shown confidence in our work. Their support is vital to ensure that we continue to sustain programmes and develop new projects that impact on members lives. Generous gifts from donors not only provide the financial and moral support needed to continue with our mission but it also demonstrate a deep commitment to the promotion of racial equality, protection of minority ethnic communities rights and supporting integration based on equitable diversity and respect for difference.

We work in a sector that is forward thinking, has a vision and passionate about equality, diversity and respect for all.

### Lesson learnt;

Through out our work in the community, we have learnt that;

- Things take time and that patience is important.
- That it is not the absence of problems that proves your worth, but how you respond to them
- That inspiring people is the easy bit – getting them to deliver is much more challenging
- That what people say they need and what they need are often not the same
- That North West Migrants Forum has grown, as an organisation we are more strategic, powerful and knowledgeable than what other people within the sector think we are
- We have all the tools, information, skills and human resources we need to deliver against our own organisational objectives and we just need someone to believe in us and give us a chance to contribute positively

Without our volunteer's commitment and hard work, we will not have achieved the much we have achieved so far . We have increased the number of volunteers with the burning desire to lend their skills and time in the furtherance of NWMF objectives and we are extremely grateful for their support. We continue to be optimistic about our ability to promote an intercultural Northern Ireland and we are excited about the year ahead.

## OVERVIEW OF NWMF

We are a network of individuals working together to reduce racial inequality & prejudice, protect minority ethnic rights and support integration based on equitable diversity and respect for difference. This aim closely reflects the strategic aims of all our funders including The Executive Office. Our 100 + members mostly living in various areas of the North West, work together to increase the strength of the Black and Minority Ethnic sector in securing these objectives and to increase the shared sense of belonging as equals within the N. Ireland society. The organisation is consciously structured to avoid becoming a gatekeeper of its members. The leadership, governance and strategic planning are shared among an elected committee of 6 individuals reflecting the BME population living in the NW area. The organisation drives discussion and action on themes relevant to the needs of people from minority ethnic background, raising awareness of rights, public institutions & services, building capacity to influence & challenge discrimination, inequality, racism and hate crime through a variety of activities; Health and wellbeing; Intercultural Communication, Creative Arts Workshops ; Intergenerational activities; Cultural Diversity workshops, Residential, Educational Trips and after school clubs for young people. We also facilitate BME participation in consultation processes and shared learning

### OUR COMMITMENT;

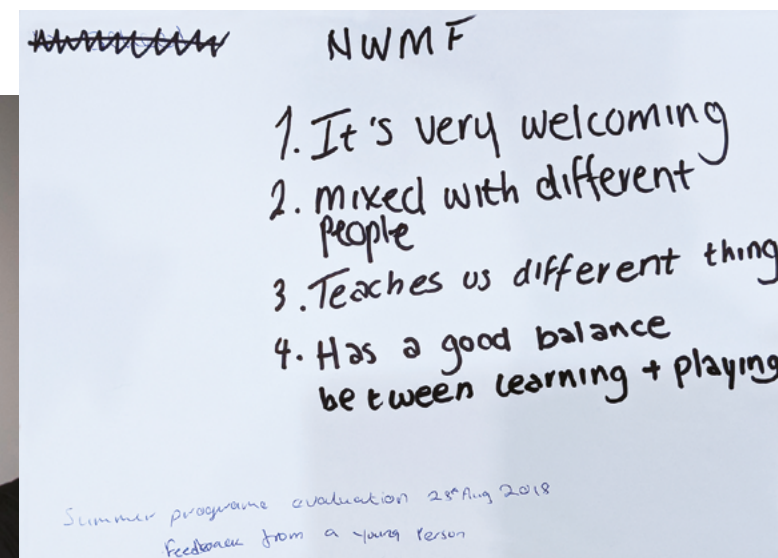
NWMF is committed to promoting equality, diversity and integration for people of minority ethnic background, refugees and migrant communities and to promote social justice, inclusion and social change that actively encourages growth in our modern society

### Our vision;

To ensure that the North West region of Northern Ireland is a place where migrant's, refugees and people from the two major populations can live, work and celebrate their differences in a welcoming and safe environment.

### What we do

1. **We organise:** we work with migrant's and refugees to act for change. We develop leaders to understand their power, their issues, and how to influence positive change.
2. **We mobilise;** we bring people of minority ethnic communities together, encourage and support them to take action on issues that affect them and encourage them to get involved in strategic actions and campaigns.
3. **We mentor:** we support and advise migrants and refugees, connect them with others who can provide support and advice on the journey to integration, and we also connect them with those who can share knowledge, experience or friendship.
4. **We train:** we develop people's skills, confidence, experience and capacity to act. We use workshops, training sessions, action and experience to help them develop.
5. **We celebrate;** We celebrate culture, encourage others to embrace diversity and promote positive race relations
6. **We participate** in local public, economic, social cultural events and consultation
7. **We raise awareness;** We share our own experiences with communities, advocate for intercultural communications and use the platform to raise awareness of minority rights.





How we work

North West Migrants Forum is working for change in the way minority ethnic communities are viewed across the swathe of public opinion and in the policies, which promote integration and inclusion of minority ethnic communities socially, economically and in public life. We advocate for a 'rights based' approach to integration. This requires us to promote public conversations that has at its heart the recognition of people of minority ethnic communities as a normal part of society and that policies and services towards their integration should therefore be positive and look towards the orderly inclusion of newcomers into the host society.

For this to happen we need to build on the principle that migrants have rights which must be made explicit in public policies. We also need to move away from a society that advocates for multiculturalism to one that recognises intercultural dialogue as a way to achieve a meaningful and just society. At the heart of NWMF we focus on the following rights:

- Rights to equal treatment under the law;
- Protection from exploitation, discrimination and intimidation
- Family and private life
- Celebration of cultural diversity
- Equal representation in public sector
- The main goal of projects and activities mentioned in this report is to promote and celebrate intercultural harmony and the integration of people from ethnic minority communities.



Our connections and why it matters to us

The well-known advantages of greater social connectivity is the likelihood of delivering projects successfully in a timely matter. "For example, when you are more connected to your community, it is easier to get information on what's going on or what's new. People also provide one another with emotional and practical help." Developing and maintaining networks with partners and collaboration with others in the voluntary and community sector is integral in the delivery of projects and meeting the growing demand. We have made it our business to develop relationships with service providers, community groups, funders and volunteers to benefit members and service users. This year, we have continuously maintained our connections with the private, community and public sector within the DCSDC area. We have strengthened our connection and working relationships with Training and Skills Development organisations such as Peoples Plus, Child NI, Law Centre NI, NICVA and Mediate NI. In the community sector, we have maintained our connections with Foyle Women Information Network, Galliagh Women Group and REACH ACROSS. We also developed new relationships with the local council and community groups in Strabane areas. Through our Youth Intervention Programme, we expanded our networks by working with post primary schools in the city. These has seen expansion of NWMF activities within schools and development of other projects funded by other funders such as The Executive Office and the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland.

Volunteering at NWMF

When it comes to volunteering at NWMF, passion and positivity are the only requirements. While learning new skills can be beneficial to many, it's not a requirement for a fulfilling volunteer experience. Bear in mind that the most valuable skills volunteers can bring to any volunteer effort are compassion, an open mind, a willingness to do whatever is needed, and a positive attitude. Our work depends heavily on volunteers who plays a critical role in managing and supporting the delivery of all programmes. Last year, we supported 26 Volunteers through capacity building training to develop their competencies in working with young people, vulnerable adults and people from different cultural backgrounds. We are proud to work in partnership with North West Volunteer Centre to recruit volunteers and support them with vetting procedures through Access NI.

"I now understand more about minority ethnic communities"

Working with the Media:

We have continually established good and vital relationships with the local media. We have made tremendous strides in communicating the work of the organisation to the local public, raise awareness and campaign for change. Our external profile is increasing, and we are now asked to comment and give our own perspective on issues affecting the whole community on a range of matters. This is a significant step and a welcome impact of the work of the organisation. We are very much aware of the critical role the media plays in disseminating information to the public, influencing change in perceptions and galvanising communities to respond positively or negatively to community issues. Our staff and members have been in local radios speaking about their experiences and the work of the organisation and many of our events have been published on the local media prints and online newspapers. In June 2018, we successfully secured support from the BBC Community Life Programme to make a documentary for our work. Click the Link here to watch the documentary. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p070n1z9>



Building on people's strengths:

We build people strengths by providing opportunities for them to be actively involved in the planning and delivery of project activities. For example, we recruited 15 people as cultural ambassadors to help us plan and deliver all our cultural awareness activities and Youth Intervention programme. Cultural ambassadors also facilitated activities throughout the project. Additionally, our junior leaders helped in planning and delivering of youth activities after undergoing a youth leadership training. We also provided training for staff, volunteers and committee members to support their skills development and ensure that they are confident and competent in the planning and delivery of activities. Training provided included Safeguarding Vulnerable adults and Child Protection training, Governance training, fundraising training, Food Safety, Generalist Advise Training, Staff & Volunteers Recruitment Training and Designated Child Protection Training.







An amazing way to boost family bonds, health and well being and to forget the normal stresses of life at least for once...

"it has been a great educational experience for my daughter and myself thank you"

## REVIEW 2018/19 PROJECT ACTIVITIES

### 1.0 Information, and Guidance

Our Drop-in Service provides an opportunity for people of minority ethnic communities to have a conversation with one of our staff to assess how the service can best meet their needs. We continue to refer individuals to appropriate resources, activities or information, including immigration advice, social housing information, language support, community events and individual help for those in crisis. Throughout the year each inquiry and referral at the office is recorded. We also actively monitor our website and social media outlets to ensure that any service user or potential clients contacting us receive the support they need.

To effectively support our clients and to ensure that they access the help they may need from us, we provide different options on how clients can reach us. 70% of client make inquiries face to face and 30% would either phone in, email or contact us on Facebook messenger. We do our best to provide drop in Services 5 days a week, however this may not always be possible due to lack of a full time staff dedicated to this service. In 2018-2019 financial year, an average of 85 people accessed information and advice, most of them were signposted to relevant services and others supported instantly. As a result of this, 92% expressed their satisfaction with information provided and reported that they were better informed.

English language classes and befriending opportunities are paramount to the development of people's skills, confidence in English speaking and the ability to engage and connect with others.

Our Connections with Mediate NI also enabled us to support 15 service users develop relevant skills and undertake essential training that enhanced their chances of getting employment. Thanks to the continued support and funding from the National Lottery Community Fund and the Executive Office, we were able to extend training programmes to include Facilitation Training, Food Hygiene, communication and public speaking training Confidence, Leadership & Public Speaking training. As briefly mentioned above, we also provided training to volunteers, Staff and trustees. Training provided benefited 115 people in 2018-2019 financial year. The following training opportunities were successfully delivered;

- English Language classes
- Food Safety training
- Single Identity Facilitation Training
- OCN NI Level 4 Certificate in Generalist Advice
- Confidence in Public Speaking Training
- Governance and Fundraising Training
- Youth Leadership Training
- Child Protection and Designated Child Protection

### 2.0 Capacity building, skills Development and self-confidence

We have long realised that some members struggle to get into employment due to skills deficits. Poor English language skills undermines the ability of people from minority ethnic backgrounds, those who's English is not their first language to actively engage in public and community life. Through our English learning projects, we have learned that the greatest barrier for people from abroad whose English is not their first language, to engage and actively participate in community life is the lack of confidence in the English language, even for those who speak it well, they feel shy and struggle with the different accents whilst communicating with people whose English is their first language.

Financial constraints also mean that people can't afford to pay for their skills training. Through training programmes, we provided various skills development training and weekly English classes delivered on our behalf by the North West Academy of English. We have consistently provided English classes for 60 people from 18 different countries enrolled and classes were streamlined to have 1 Absolute Beginners, 1 Elementary and 1 Pre-Intermediate. Feedback from project participants clearly illustrate that

### 3.0 Intercultural Youth Intervention programme

This year, our youth Intervention programme expanded thanks to funding secured through The Executive Office. The following projects were delivered in 2018-2019 financial year.

#### 3.1 Discover an Intercultural Northern Ireland Project

Discover an Intercultural NI project worked with 8 schools across DCSDC to strengthen social cohesion and inclusion by improving attitudes between YP from ethnic minority (BME) communities and the two-major communities, Protestant (PUL) and Catholic (CNR) living in the North West areas of NI. The 8 schools included St Marys College, Foyle College, Lisneal College, St Josephs, Oakgrove Integrated College, Oakgrove Primary School and St Columb's College and St Cecilia's College.

#### The programme included:

- 8 Intercultural Dialogue and Interactive Workshops
- 1 Engagement residential (2 days/2 nights)
- 2 days Intercultural Discovery treasure hunt.
- 3 Filmmaking development workshops
- 1 Debate Night
- 1 Cultural Celebration event



During the engagement with schools, migrants shared their life stories and explored perceptions towards people of minority communities with young people (YP) and teaching staff in schools. A residential was held in November to explore stories of self from migrants. Young people were supported by an experienced film maker to document their learning and the discovery they made throughout their exploration. Part of the project included a debate night and group discussions on themes relating to migration, integration, welcoming, community tension and hate crime. Debate night was attended by members from the community, political representatives, educational representatives and young people representing their respective schools. The project concluded in March with a celebration event attended by young people, their parents, members of the public, leaders within the community and funders of various programmes. It was a celebration of the success of the project and diversity in the North West. Overall this project successfully highlighted the many barriers to racial equality in Northern Ireland and provided opportunities for young people to advocate for newcomer communities in this region. In total over 1000 young people participated in various activities within the project with a core group of 43 young people being direct beneficiaries of the project.

### Summer programme and educational trips

Like many of our youth activities, the after-school summer programme aimed at enhancing quality interaction between young people from mixed ethnic and religious backgrounds and encourage them to establish new friendships and have fun with others outside their usual social groups. In 2018-2019 we delivered an After-School Club which supported young people, specifically those who were not able to access other youth activities within the community to to maintain and develop new friendship as well as keep busy during the day whilst their parents were in work. Our after-school club create favourable conditions for young people to share their experiences in a safe environment as well as build relationships of trust with youth workers and volunteers. The after-school club consistently attracted over 25 young people each time. Activities included; Fun games at NWMF centre, Planning and preparation meetings, discovery Treasure Hunt, Bowling and Movie Night

### Educational Trips

Going on an educational trip means more than simply leaving the usual community grounds or neighbourhood. Whilst our educational trips have a major educational element, the impact extend much further, giving our young people the chance to build closer bonds with their peers, experience new environments and enjoy a day away from the normal surroundings. Our trips included a visit to local Museums, Tourist information centres, visits to local business premises, trips to Water World, and visit to Belfast Zoo. Young people had the opportunity to observe many things that are not available at their surroundings, including exotic wildlife, rare plants and learn more about the Northern Irish history through the lens of emigration. 100% of participants reported enjoying a positive cultural experience, renewed focus on promoting respect and diversity, whilst 98% pledged to be more proactive in challenging prejudice, promoting diversity and taking part in intercultural programmes.

## INTERCULTURAL INTERGENERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Our Intercultural Intergenerational programme aims to increase quality interaction between people of minority ethnic communities and the two largest communities in Northern Ireland, targeted to those living in the Derry-Londonderry. The project also aims at increasing community knowledge around migration, diversity and Intercultural Communication. The programme's focus is on intercultural dialogue, discussions around racism and hate crime in Northern Ireland, perceptions, attitudes and inclusiveness. Activities under this programme included creative arts-Intercultural Pottery workshops, An Integrational intercultural Residential, Intercultural foods, Educational Trips, An Intercultural Family Fun day, music, fun activities facilitated by qualified sports instructors, football, basketball, tennis and many more. It was very encouraging to see families from all section of the community take part in this programme. Each activity attracted at least 30 people. With trips to the Greggans Country Park, family fun day and Intercultural Intergenerational summer residential attended by 50 families bringing to total participants to 266 people. Many of those who attended above sessions also attended various such as the tour of the walled city & Fountain area, pottery workshops, and an Irish heritage and culture workshop involving language and dancing.



"it was very inclusive... it challenges us to stand up for all in our shared society"





#### 4.0 Impact of NWMF Projects

##### Discover an Intercultural NI Project

The key learning theme of young people was evident throughout the programme. A change of perception and attitudes towards difference and diversity was also evident. The quality interaction that the project afforded young people made them feel more comfortable around others and favourable towards those of different cultures. It was also evident that project participants did not associate the "difference in skin colour" as a difference from "each other". There was a consensus between young people that "no matter where someone comes from or their beliefs, they can learn from them and become friends".

There has been a huge increase in young people's positive attitude towards people from other religious and ethnic backgrounds.

Young people learned that no matter where someone comes from or the beliefs they hold, they can learn from them and become friends.

Respect and diversity increased among participants so that by the end of the project they enjoyed learning about each other and being in each other's company.

Participants in the project stepped out of their comfort zones and embraced new attitudes and cultures.

The project met all of its projected outputs and outcomes.

The majority of project participants were from the CNR and Other community backgrounds.

The project plan was to engage with young people aged between 9yrs and 17 years with the background ratio of 45% PUL, 45% CNR, and 10% Other. At the end of the project we learned that young people from the PUL community tended to report their religious background as 'Other'. These young people reported that they did not see the importance of identifying themselves with their religious background. They reported that they were more comfortable affiliating themselves with 'other' as PUL did not define who they were as people.

The level of interest and commitment shown by the young people and by most of the participating schools was beyond our expectations and a joy to experience.

It was very encouraging to see the positive mindset, quality interactions and willingness to learn among the young people.

The high level of participation and commitment from parents was one that we never expected, and this was one of the best highlights of the project.

We have now accepted that we have tried to educate adults in order to educate young people, but we seem to be failing. Now, we must educate young people in order to educate adults.

"I wasn't totally happy about giving up my Saturday but I can totally say it was so enjoyable and I wouldn't have missed it"

##### Case study (female participant 12 years old)

One of the female project participants aged 12 years signed up after an intercultural workshop was delivered in her school. The young person had never been involved in any kind of cultural diversity programme. Initially she was hesitant in taking part in the project but decided to join her friends who signed up to take part in the programme. After the launch of the project she was interviewed and she described her expectations were to make new friends, learn more about different cultures and interact with people from minority ethnic backgrounds. The young person said she was not sure what to expect but willing to engage. This young person attended all activities and events within the project and at the end of the project she said she felt 'blessed for being given the opportunity to meet with different people from different cultures, found the project to be the most interesting thing ever, had a better understanding of how the world was, and understood that the world is not everything that she had imagined it to be. The impact of this project continues to shine throughout the young persons life as she becomes the first ever young cultural ambassador to become deputy head girl of her school at 12 years of age.

## IMPACT OF COMMUNITIES UNITED PROMOTING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PROJECT

### Community Level

The project impact has continuously been a positive one throughout the local community. We strongly believe that we are changing people's perceptions and attitudes towards people of minority ethnic communities. We have seen an increased level of enquiries and participation from people of minority ethnic communities and existing communities. An example is the number of expressions of interest received from people across cultures who wish to actively participate in programmes or those who wish to volunteer their time in supporting the delivery of project activities. We also believe that the project has increased profile and visibility of the organisation in the local community. This has had a very positive impact in our service delivery and partnership working with other community groups. Because of this project and its impact in the community, the organisation featured on the BBC community life programme. This has also had a very positive impact in the community level where we received a significant number of project participants and successfully trained 15 more people to become cultural ambassadors from various cultural backgrounds.

Evaluation forms from various project activities also clearly illustrate the impact and positive outcomes that the project is achieving. Participants have expressed

their satisfaction when receiving direct services such as English Language Lessons. Local community and Statutory organisations have increasingly relied on us to provide them with advice and support whilst dealing with issues presented to them by people of minority ethnic communities. NWMF has now officially become the "go place" for advice and support for government departments, community groups and statutory agencies such as the PSNI, Housing Executive, local Schools and the Local Council. Attendance was consistently high with waiting lists for most activities. It is evident that the project continues to meet a specific need within the community and that it will continue to attract interest and greater participation from the whole of society.

Our Cultural Awareness Programme, Capacity Building, Family Fun Day and Youth Intervention Activities have consistently attracted a lot of interest from BME members and existing members from majority cultures living in the city. The level of interest continuously reaffirms the need for this project. We can confidently assert that the project is changing the way existing communities' view people of minority ethnic communities. We have seen an increase in the level of trust between members and existing tribes, and specifically between young people who are taking part in activities, playing together and socialising together in a consistent manner.





**Individual Level** (Case Study – Primalgit)

Primalgit is a 64 years old female from India. She migrated to Derry-Londonderry in 1972 with her husband. Although she has lived in the city for more than 30 years, Primalgit has never taken any formal English Language Lessons or training. She is however a very good cook, a dress maker and an excellent beautician. After living in Derry for one year, she started a family. She was blessed with two daughters and 2 sons and this made her decide to stay at home to look after her children. Because of language barrier, she struggled to make friends. Primalgit and her husband are very traditional and wanted their children to learn their native language and culture. She never really saw the benefits of learning or speaking in English until she decided to apply for her British Citizenship. During the application process, she realised that she needed to pass her life in UK test. This caused her anxiety and stress as she couldn't visit her sister in Letterkenny without a visa or extend her Brows business to Carandonagh.

Primalgit contacted NWMF in January 2018 looking for help. Although she struggled expressing herself in English, she was anxious to learn English as she wanted to pass her Life in UK test. She however lacked confidence to be in the same class with other people as she felt "too old" and out of place. She told us that she only spent time with other women of her age in the Indian temple on Sundays. Engagement with NWMF resulted in Primalgit meeting other people from different backgrounds who helped her

practice her English. We also started a one to one English language lessons focusing on the Life in UK test to support her English Skills Development and Confidence to take her test.

To pass the test Primalgit needed to be proficient in computers and in English. We also provided opportunities for her to volunteer at NWMF, typing letters, creating her own email address and social media pages. This contributed immensely in her improved IT skills. Primalgit also became one of our Cultural Ambassadors. Using her excellent Cooking Skills and experience living in Derry-London for more than 3 decades, we created opportunities and encouraged her to deliver cultural awareness activities. To do this she had to be trained in Food Hygiene and sit for a food safety test. She also had to take part in our facilitation training and confidence in public speaking training. Working in collaboration with peoples Plus, she was able to sit for her food hygiene training and passed her test. In December 2018, Primalgit passed her Life in UK test and has now officially become a British citizen after successfully applying for her British citizenship with the help of our staff here at NWMF. By creating opportunities for her to facilitate our cookery programmes she also volunteered to deliver Indian Cultural Awareness workshops in schools through other projects. Primalgit is now one of the many Volunteers Cultural Ambassadors we have been able to support throughout the year, and who have benefited directly through this project.

**Staff volunteers and Committee training and capacity building**

We recognised that skills and development are the corner stone in every successful organisation. Therefore, one of our main objectives is to develop and harness the skill of our committee members, staff and volunteers. We continue to provide good governance training for management committee, fundraising, project management, media training, Health and Safety training to name just a few. These efforts are all geared towards strengthening existing skills and developing new one for staff and volunteers. Besides training, we also recognise the importance of connecting with others and learn more about the environment we live in. We have made strides efforts in attending events and conferences organised by other community, voluntary and statutory organisations. The organisation is represented at The Foyle Women Information Network, North West Community Network, Stronger Together, Subgroup for racial equality and Children and young people's strategic Partnership.

**Lesson learnt;**

Success comes with challenges; as explained above managing expectations is one of the biggest challenges we have faced throughout the project. (see explanation above)

The project continues to be very relevant and response not only to immediate needs of people of minority ethnic communities but also support cultural build up for existing communities.

Continuous engagement with funding officers has had a very positive effect to staff and to the project. We are confident that no matter the difficulties we may face on the ground funding officers are always ready and willing to help resolve these challenges. Flexibly is paramount to effectively and successfully deliver programmes, respond to community needs manage expectations

Childcare continues to be the main barrier to participation for families with children. Although we try to accommodate families in activities, those who attend are not able to engage with activities or with others because of children. Staff also find it hard to work with children in the building without proper childcare facilities.

Providing an inclusive programme for people of minority ethnic communities is paramount to quality participation and to achieving successful outcomes. It also means that families with children are not isolated or excluded. We will continue to highlight this issue with relevant origination and look for additional funding steams to support service

users with younger children to actively participate in project activities.

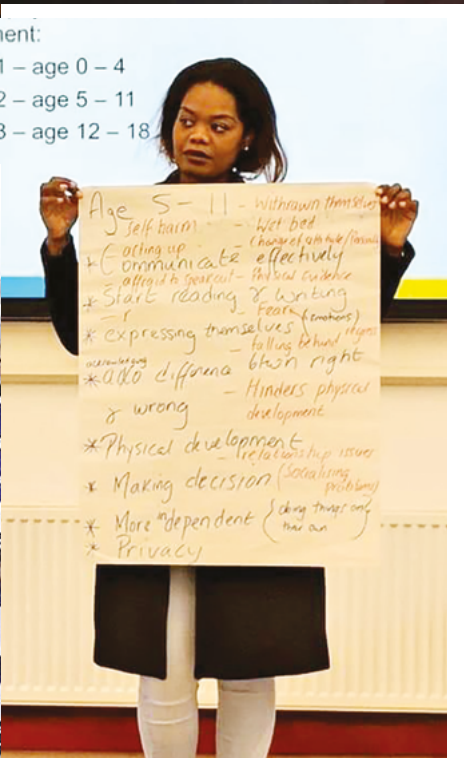
**Our Funders and Supporters**

We are extremely grateful to all our funders and to those who support us with time and expertise. We would not be able to make a difference to the community without the following funders and donors:

- National Lottery Community Fund
- The Executive Office - Central Good relations Fund
- The Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- John Moore's Foundation
- Community Relations Council
- The Hon The Irish Society
- Red Cross Crisis Fund











# Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2019

## ANNEX 1 ; ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2018-2019

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2018

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2018

Balance sheet at 31 March 2018

Notes to the financial statements

Auditors report



**NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019****Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 March 2019**

The trustees are pleased to present their report together with Receipts and Payments Accounts and the Auditor's Report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019.

**Reference and administration details**

<u>Name</u>	North West Migrants Forum
<u>Charity Number</u>	103178
<u>Principal Address</u>	10 Fountain Street Derry BT48 6QX
<u>Auditor</u>	Laurie Duffy FCA L Duffy & Co Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors 12 Queen Street Derry BT48 7EG
<u>Bankers</u>	Danske Bank
<u>Trustees</u>	
Cristina Ichimescu Keaveney	Chair
Resty Bautista	Vice-Chair
Irina Chernichenko	Treasurer
Jamal Simpson	Secretary
Anne McIlvar	
Marija Stuke	
Charlie Dillon	

**NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019****Structure, governance and management**

The group is governed by its constitution and is constituted as a trust, and has charitable status. Trustees are appointed and meet no less than 6 times per year.

**Objectives and activities**

The objects of the charity are to promote the benefit of migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and their families from non-EU countries, in particular but not exclusively living in Derry City and its environs of County Londonderry, by associating the statutory authorities, community and voluntary organizations and the inhabitants in a common effort to promote racial harmony, equality and diversity and in particular;

- to relieve need, hardship and distress amongst beneficiaries and their families through the provision of information, advice, support and representation;
- to promote good community relations and the social inclusion of the beneficiaries through the provision of educational, social, recreational and multicultural activities;
- to advance any other exclusively charitable purpose as the management, may from time to time, decide in accordance with the law of charity.

**Financial review**

The charity had unrestricted reserves of £742 at 31 March 2019 (£467 at 31 March 2018).

The charity does not have a policy on reserves as yet as all monies raised are used to fund the company.

**Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.



**NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

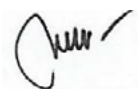
**Auditors**

A resolution will be proposed at the AGM that L Duffy & Co be re-appointed as auditors to the charity for the ensuing year.

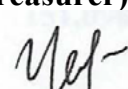
The trustees declare that they have approved the trustee's report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees on 23 October 2019 by

**Cristina Ichimescu Keaveney**  
(Chair)



**Irina Chernichenko**  
(Treasurer)


**NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019****Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2019**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2019 £	Last Year 2018 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Derry City and Strabane Council				3,730
Community Relations Council		1,600	1,600	
Big Lottery		100,000	100,000	95,000
John Moores		5,000	5,000	
NI Housing Executive		5,181	5,181	1,280
TEO		32,815	32,815	45,000
The Honorable The Irish Society	750		750	
Red Cross Crisis Fund		1,020	1,020	700
eMore				(11,207)
Fundraising and donations	3,025		3,025	387
	<b>3,775</b>	<b>145,616</b>	<b>149,391</b>	<b>134,890</b>
<b>Resources Expended</b>				
eMore		3,435	3,435	(11,423)
Syrian Refugee Project		2,000	2,000	1,033
Other Program Costs		44,486	44,486	38,263
Wages and Pension Costs	2,500	64,848	67,348	56,768
Rent and Rates		16,587	16,587	9,359
Insurance		1,152	1,152	743
Heat and Light		1,148	1,148	1,778
Telephone and Internet		2,031	2,031	1,466
Travel		3,944	3,944	1,058
Printing, Postage & Stationery		2,817	2,817	724
Website		583	583	2,000
Legal		708	708	
Audit Fees		2,400	2,400	2,400
Training costs		828	828	4,040
Bank charges		108	108	169
Depreciation	1,000	4,023	5,023	406
	<b>3,500</b>	<b>151,098</b>	<b>154,598</b>	<b>108,784</b>



**NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

<b>Net Receipts/(Expenditure)</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>(5,482)</b>	<b>(5,207)</b>	<b>26,106</b>
<b>Funds brought forward</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>47,983</b>	<b>48,450</b>	<b>22,344</b>
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>42,501</b>	<b>43,243</b>	<b>48,450</b>

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised during the year.

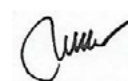
**NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

<b>Balance Sheet at 31 March 2019</b>			
	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2019 £</b>	<b>2018 £</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Assets	<b>2</b>	<b>8,023</b>	<b>674</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	<b>3</b>	10,064	31,412
Bank		29,861	19,514
		<b>39,925</b>	<b>50,926</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Accruals		(3,150)	(3,150)
PAYE		(1,555)	
<b>Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)</b>		<b>35,220</b>	<b>47,776</b>
<b>Net Assets/(Liabilities)</b>		<b>43,243</b>	<b>48,450</b>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>			
Funds brought forward		48,450	22,344
Net Receipts/(Expenditure)		(5,207)	26,106
<b>Total Charity Funds</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>43,243</b>	<b>48,450</b>

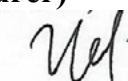
The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board on 23 October 2019.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees on 23 October 2019 by

**Cristina Ichimescu Keaveney**  
(Chair)



**Irina Chernichenko**  
(Treasurer)



The notes on pages 8 to 9 form part of these accounts.



**NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019****Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019****1. Accounting Policies****Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Companies Act 2006 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

**Fund accounting**

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

**Resources expended**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its estimated useful life or, if held under a finance lease, over the lease term, whichever is the shorter.

Equipment - 33.3% straight line

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019****Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2019 (cont...)****2. Fixed Assets**

	£
<b>Cost</b>	
Cost at 1 April 2018	9,014
Additions	12,372
Cost at 31 March 2019	<u>21,386</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
Depreciation at 1 April 2018	8,340
Charge for year	5,023
Depreciation at 31 March 2019	<u>13,363</u>
<b>Net Book Value at 31 March 2019</b>	<u>8,023</u>
Net Book Value at 31 March 2018	<u>647</u>

	2019 £	2018 £
<b>3. Debtors</b>		
eMore	-	3,434
TEO	10064	27,978
	<u>10,064</u>	<u>31,412</u>
<b>4. Total Charity Funds</b>	<b>2019 £</b>	<b>2018 £</b>
Unrestricted Funds	742	467
Restricted Funds	42,501	47,983
	<u>43,243</u>	<u>48,450</u>



## NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

### Independent auditor's report to the trustees of North West Migrants Forum

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of North West Migrants Forum for the year ended 31 March 2019 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS102.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2019, and of its total incoming resources and expenditure of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or

## NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorized for issue.

#### Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.



**NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019****Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on pages 3 and 4, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 65(3)(b) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 66 of that Act.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

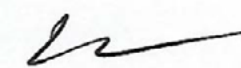
A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**Use of our report**

The report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**NWMF: REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019**

Signed:



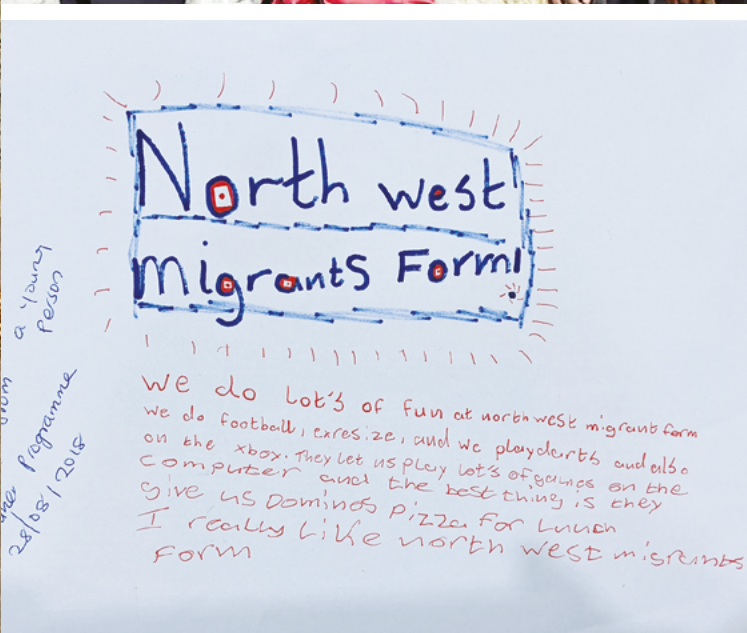
Date: 23 October 2019

**Laurie Duffy Senior statutory Auditor**  
**Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland**

**L Duffy & Co**  
**Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors**  
**12 Queen Street**  
**Derry BT48 7EG**











"My family really enjoyed all activities. My husband has never been around migrants and coming here today was a blessing to me and my family. We have connected with a very diverse group and I look forward to volunteering with you"

Family fun day attendee

"What can I say, this is my first year in this country and taking part in this family fun day has given me a new family in Derry. I am so grateful for North West Migrants Forum for making me feel at home away from my home. I now have a place I call home and my children also have met new sisters and brothers. THANK YOU, please do let us know when you have the next event"

Family fun day attendee

"Thank you for this uplifting and enriching experience" the weekend was absolutely superb, I made lifetime friends and I learnt so much about hate crime, racism and how to challenge them on the spot. It is our responsibility and I will do my part".

Intercultural intergenerational residential attendee



