

**Name of the project / programme:** Boundary Women's Project

**Name of the organization: Main methodology applied**

St.Hilda's East Community Project

**Main project milestones**

The Boundary Women's Project aims to encourage local women to realise their own potential, especially individuals experiencing social exclusion or minority ethnic women facing language barriers, providing a wide range of services and opportunities

The Project combats the challenges arising from deprivation and social exclusion in the local community.

They promote the understanding between all sections of the local community, offering a setting for multicultural, intergenerational and interfaith exchange, to break down barriers and reduce isolation, enabling access to learning, training and opportunities, empowering people to reach their goals.

The Project provide the ideal environment for individual women aiming to get involved in confidence building activities and participating in the community.

**Players involved in implementation**

Sabeha Miah - Women's Project worker.

**Teachers**

**Resources applied to implementation**

**Teachers with craft based skills and the materials necessary for developing within the courses.**

**Mentoring and evaluation of results**

**Implementation period**

- **More than 5 years**

**Description of targets / users**

Local women, especially those experiencing social exclusion and minority ethnic women facing language barriers.

The project is designed for women to help build confidence, develop their creative skills and generate income for the future of the project as well as for the women who make and create. Most of the women that they work with are on benefits, have low levels of education and have been unsuccessful in finding paid employment. As a result, these women have often been marginalised and become excluded from mainstream society.

**How the users are selected**

Referrals to the Boundary Women's Project are welcome from both individual budget holders and/or professionals.

## **What is the cost?**

This is very much dependent on the needs of the individual wishing to attend and also based on the activity in which they may participate. If in receipt of a personal budget the basic cost will be approximately £14 per hour, with an incremental increase for higher level support if needed.

## **Needs and situations on which the project is based**

- **Job market related**
- **Insertion specific problems**
- **Training needs**
- **Otro:**

## **More information about needs and situations on which the project is based**

The Boundary Women's Project assists all women aged 18 to 65 who may be experiencing confidence or social isolation issues, and as result feel that they cannot participate in the wider community.

## **Main objectives of project / practice**

- **Produce changes in the targets**
- **Produce changes in the education / labour systems**
- **Produce changes in the insertion methodology**
- **General transformation of the social environment / community**
- **Otro:**

## **More information about the main objectives of project / practice**

The programme has regular weekly ESOL classes, IT classes, a Women's Forum (run as a coffee morning) and a Textile Course. Also provide some short term courses and in the recent past have provided courses in Home Finance Management, Cake Decorating, Sewing and Textiles. Sessions are run at various times through the week. Attendance is very much dependant on a client's individual needs or interests.

Participants generally have to make their own way into classes, though individual needs can be discussed prior to enrolment or attendance. It may be possible for the Women's Project to provide an escort, should this be needed.

This project wants to give these women a voice through the things that they create, to empower and make them feel that they are more than just a quiet statistic sitting on the fringes of the community. This will also provide them with an alternative route to income generation more suited to them than the requirements of conventional employment. During

the project women will be taken through a learning process which will develop and enrich their skills – making them more job ready, or even able to start their own businesses.

### **Main impacts on project / practices targets**

- Build and develop their creative making skills and knowledge base;
- Plan and produce products from start to finish;
- Develop and market products that they create for income generation;
- Support them to take on roles such as product design, project management and marketing.

In addition to helping create this new social enterprise, women will also develop their formal work ready skills through taking part in...

- ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Classes
- Enterprise Development Sessions
- Basic IT Skills Courses

### **Impact on methodological innovation**

**The Project focuses on both education and creativity.**

### **Impact on institutions**

### **Impact on social, educational, economic organisations**

**Impact on local community: the project contributes to improving the lives of local women within the community.**