



B | C Better Community
B | N Business Network

F A C T S H E E T

2019

Better Community Business Network

Established in 2011, the Better Community Business Network (BCBN) is a Muslim-led charity set up to identify difficult social causes and worthwhile community projects within the UK. We provide grants and support the work of grassroots, community organisations and charities working within deprived communities.

Programme areas range from education and poverty to social cohesion, health and wellbeing. All our supported causes and charity partners undergo a comprehensive due diligence and vetting process.

BCBN has raised in excess of **£1.4 million** and has been described by many as a “safe pair of hands” acting as a conduit for businesses to engage fully with their corporate social responsibility. BCBN avoids duplication and carefully selects charitable partners who already have an in-depth understanding, specialism and infrastructure in the field to deliver the specific projects selected.

We commission research for a more targeted and effective, evidence-based approach to the projects we support long-term. BCBN works with academic institutions, researchers, think tanks and government departments, seeking to overcome barriers in furtherance of a more just and equal society.

As a founding principle, BCBN's operational costs are met entirely by its Trustees. It relies on the generosity of its sponsors and the community to support its causes

THE PROCESS

-
- Identify difficult social causes
 - Undertake research
 - Stakeholders consultation
 - Identify delivery partners
 - Create a deliverable and measurable project
 - Seek political and community-wide support & endorsement
 - Corporate sponsorship
 - Annual Gala event to raise awareness and project capital
 - Project monitoring & evaluation
 - Impact report
 - Advocacy

Sponsor Membership Scheme

BCBN invites businesses and organisations who have an interest in supporting UK charitable causes and community initiatives to join its sponsor membership scheme. By joining the scheme, you are helping us create a **vital distribution resource** which enables us to direct funding to various charitable causes in the UK. This means BCBN is equipped to **respond to issues** as they arise and engage in more long-term, strategic efforts in addressing the needs of the Muslim community.

Your contribution to funding **research** means that we can raise **awareness** of issues that affect our community, which not only advises our own processes but **on-going solutions** to the challenges and disadvantages we face in our community.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT

BCBN's sponsor membership scheme is a 3-year commitment of £5,000 annually or through monthly instalments.

MEMBERS BENEFIT

- A research informed approach and strict vetting process is applied to all our supported causes and delivery partners. Your donation will be best spent on focussed and specialist programmes that have a sustainable outcome
- Fulfil part of your corporate social responsibility and contribution as a valued member of the community
- An opportunity to visit the projects we support and engage with stakeholders
- Stay informed and receive our newsletters, reports and personal event invitations.
- Prominence at BCBN's annual, gala events - our prestigious annual event attracts over 600 businesspeople, professionals, key politicians across the political spectrum and heads of major charities. See further benefits for event partners.
- An opportunity to engage with key politicians and policy makers

For further information visit bcbn.org.uk | Contact Sabah Gilani, Chief Executive Officer: Sabah.Gilani@bcbn.org.uk

Recent supported causes

BCBN has raised over £1.4mil & distributed funds to over 70 charities and community organisations



Mental Health Conference on British Muslim Youth in partnership with University of East London

The first mental health conference focussing on Muslim youth which brings together multiple sectors including health, social care, education, charitable organisations, research and policy makers. The conference will present mental health issues that most affect British Muslim youth, showcase case study's, identify gaps in service provision, research and policy.



Tackling Youth Violence Exclusion to Empowerment in partnership with Khulisa, StreetDoctors and Redthread

The Project supports young people at three high risk transition points in their lives and provide holistic support to divert young people towards a positive future.



Football for Peace City For Peace, Youth Leadership Programme

A diplomatic sports movement that aims to use game to promote peace and understanding within society. The project has enabled over 800 participants from a wide range of backgrounds to come together and partake in training programmes to increase their skills employability.



Imperial College Health Trust, NHS a partnership with Advance Saving Lives in support of a hospital based Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA).

The IDVA will be the first point of call in any scenario or situation in which the person at risk and suffering from domestic violence will receive much needed help and support.



The Black Prince Trust Training and Development : Black Prince Community Hub

An inclusive, inter-generational community centre focussed on creating opportunities in sport, education and employment for the local population. BCBN has funded community activities such as fitness classes for the youth and elderly as well as the renovation for homework clubs and healthy eating.



Wingate Special Children's Trust



NASSA debate to lead programme



Leeds Jewish Welfare Board: therapeutic national environment allotment



Metro Blind Bowlers



The Rainbow Trust supporting children with terminal illnesses



Katherine House Hospice



Muhsin School of Martial Arts for students with special needs



Made in Europe: Keep Britain Tidy campaign



Northampton Hope Centre Food Bank

Our Supporters



HRH Prince of Wales

"The aims of the network [BCBN] are a tribute to the generosity and far-sighted nature of our Muslim communities in the United Kingdom."



Rt Hon. Nick Clegg MP

*Deputy Prime Minister
(2010 - 2015)*

"As someone who is a great supporter of grass root projects, I do believe BCBN is a model for others to follow."



Rt Hon. Jeremy Corbyn MP

*Leader of the Labour party
(Sep 2015 - Present)*

"BCBN brings businesses together to support charities – I really applaud their work, thank them for stepping up to the plate and giving us all a safer Society and giving all of our young people a better future."



Sir. Rt Hon. Vince Cable MP

Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills (2010-2015)

"[BCBN] is a very good, well organised network. People know if they do contribute, their money would go to a good cause. It's not narrowly focused, it moves from one good project to another."



Rt Hon. Sadiq Khan MP

Mayor of London (2017 - Present)

"I have always believed that BCBN is a pioneering initiative, it selflessly seeks to identify and support the vulnerable and disadvantaged on the margins of our society, whether its refugees, victims of domestics abuse, ex-offenders, young people or smaller charities doing fantastic work in this great city and country of ours."



Rt Hon. Dr Rosena Allin-Khan

*MP for Tooting
(June 2016 - Present)*

"It's a fantastic organisation that brings together the very best of humanity in one room, people working towards the greater good. You [BCBN] do essential working in bringing the business community together to act as agents of change to support our third sector organisation"



Rt Hon. Emily Thornberry MP

Shadow Foreign Secretary (2018)

"It is refreshing to come across BCBN, which aims to provide solutions from within society itself."



Rt Hon. Dominic Grieve QC MP

Attorney General (2010-2014)

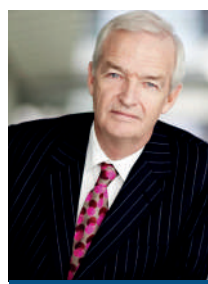
"It is refreshing to come across BCBN, which aims to provide solutions from within society itself."



Mary Nightingale

ITV Newsreader (2016)

"This benevolent donation will allow Rainbow Trust to continue to support families across the country with a life threatened or terminally ill child. We are very grateful to the Better Community Business Network for its generosity."



Jon Snow

Journalist and TV presenter

"It's about ALL of us pulling together for each other. Muslim led – BCBN fund-raises and invests in the community. Part of the patchwork of voluntary endeavour that is all about enabling and supporting communities and lives of those who live and work within them. VIVA THE BCBN! I am proud to support you"

[See More](#)

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