

The Role of Faith Organisations in Safeguarding African Children

Conference Brochure and Programme

.....Faith communities are amongst the largest providers of services for children and should be leading the way in child protection. Sadly this hasn't always been the case. This conference addresses vital issues and every faith group needs to be represented so we can begin to make a big difference to children's lives.....

David Pearson
Executive Director
Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service

Thursday 6 July 2006 9.15am - 5.00pm

The Princess Diana of Wales Memorial Fund
County Hall, Westminster Bridge Rd, London SE1



In partnership with:



Working for a safer Britain

Conference Background

AFRUCA - Africans Unite Against Child Abuse is the premier charity promoting the welfare of African children in the UK. Established in May 2001, we work within our community in raising awareness of key child safeguarding issues. As part of the activities marking our fifth year in existence, we are holding a London wide conference on “The Role of Faith Organisations in Safeguarding African Children.”

This conference is being held to explore key safeguarding issues within different faith organisations. It will examine how they (faith organisations) can play a leadership role in the African community in protecting and promoting the welfare of African children.

Conference Aims & Objectives

- Enable discussions and information exchange between faith organisations and practitioners on the safeguarding needs of African children
- Identify barriers in policy & service provision to faith groups to assist them in their work with children.
- Explore future strategies to improve relations and communication between faith organisations and practitioners.
- Develop recommendations & strategies for policy & practice to ensure the safeguarding of African children within faith organisations.

Conference Themes

- Madrassahs: Discipline & Physical Punishment
- Religion, Culture and Female Genital Mutilation
- Witchcraft, Exorcism and African Churches
- The Church and Combating Child Trafficking

Keynote Speakers

- Detective Chief Superintendent **Peter Spindler**, Head, Child Abuse Investigation Command, Metropolitan Police Service
- **Dr Ghayasuddin Siddiqui**, Leader, Muslim Parliament of Great Britain
- **Rev. Nims Obunge**, Executive Director, The Peace Alliance

Invited Speakers

- **Shakeel Hafez** – Supplementary Schools Co-ordinator, Kirklees Borough Council
- **Rev. Kanyemesha Jean-Bosco** – Senior Minister, London Fire Church International Fellowship
- **Dr Carrie Pemberton** – Chief Executive, Churches Alert To Sex Trafficking In Europe (CHASTE)
- **Mary Kanu** – Executive Director, Development Support Agency (DSA)

Conference Chair

Debbie Ariyo – Executive Director, AFRUCA

Who Should Attend

Social work practitioners, faith organisations, policy makers, academics, refugee and asylum seekers groups, voluntary sector groups, health sector practitioners, education sector workers, youth groups, African community organisations, sure start programme staff, crime prevention officers etc.

Conference Fees (per delegate)

£120 Statutory sector, private sector, others
£50 Faith or African Community Groups

Further Information

Please contact **Anita Kamyá-Kaddu** on 0207 704 2261 or by e-mail at anita@afruca.org



Conference Programme

9.15 – 10.00

Registration

10.00 – 10.10

Welcome and Introductions

10.10 – 10.30

Keynote Speeches

- **Rev Nims Obunge** - Chief Executive, The Peace Alliance
- **Peter Spindler** - Detective Chief Superintendent, Metropolitan Police Service
- **Dr Ghayasuddin Siddiqui**, Leader, Muslim Parliament of Great Britain

10.30 – 10.50

Culture, Religion and Female Genital Mutilation: Promoting the Rights of the Girl Child. Speaker: Mary Kanu, Development Support Agency

10.50 -11.10

Exorcism, Witchcraft and African Churches: Improving Practices to Safeguard Children. Speaker: Pastor Kanyemesha Jean-Bosco, London Fire Church International Fellowship

11.10 – 11.30

Question & Answer Session

11.30 – 11.50

Tea Break

11.50 – 12.10

The Role of Churches in Combating Child Trafficking Speaker: Rev Carrie Pemberton, CHASTE

12.10 – 12.30

Madrassahs, Physical Punishment and Child Protection: Learning from The Kirklees Experience. Speaker: Shakeel Hafez, Kirklees Borough Council

12.30 – 12.50

Question & Answer Session

12.50 – 13.50

Lunch

13.50 – 14.50

3 Parallel Workshops (1st Round)*

14.50 – 15.10

Tea Break

15.10 – 16.10

3 Parallel Workshops (2nd Round)*

16.10 – 16.40

Panel Session

16.40 – 16.50

Conference Conclusions and Next Steps

16.50

Conference Ends

* Workshops will be repeated to enable participants experience two of interest.

Conference Workshops

Workshop One

Developing & Implementing Child

Protection Policies: Issues for Faith Organisations

Facilitator: Marcia De Costa, Chair, Safeguarding Children Independent Advisory Group.

Presentations: Rev David Pearson, Executive Director, Churches Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS) and Shakeel Hafez, Kirklees Borough Council

Workshop Two

Working with Faith Organisations to

Safeguard Children: Learning from Project Violet

Facilitator: Dr Mbololwa Lewanika, Trustee, (AFRUCA)

Presentation: Detective Superintendent Chris Bourlet, Metropolitan Police Service, Project Violet

Workshop Three

Working with Young People in Faith Organisations to Safeguard Children

Facilitators: Elvina Quaison, Child Advocacy Officer, AFRUCA (first session) and Million Joseph, National Advocacy Officer, AFRUCA (second Session)

Presentations: Leyla Hussein, Somali Youth Group, Nancy Mbugua, United Church of the Kingdom of God (UCKG) and Makola Mayambika, African Youth Link

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AFRUCA is a UK registered charity number 1093027 and a company limited by guarantee no 4306536

Conference Booking Form

Conference Fees

£120 (Statutory sector, private sector, others)

£50 (Faith or African Community Groups)

Please use a separate booking form for each delegate.

Booking Details / Information

Name _____

Organisation _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

To book workshops indicate your highest preference with 1 and 3 for your least preferred. There will be two workshop sessions available.

- Developing & Implementing Child Protection Policies: Issues for Faith organisations
- Working with faith organisations to safeguard children: Learning from Project Violet
- Working with young people in faith organisations to safeguard children

Please tick one dietary requirement for lunch and please advise us if you have any additional needs.

- Mixed inc. meat Vegetarian Halal

Payment is required in advance with your booking.

An administration fee of £5.00 will be charged for invoicing. A receipt will be dispatched with the confirmation of your booking.

Please enclose a cheque/postal order payable to:

“Africans Unite Against Child Abuse”

Please invoice my organisation for £ _____

Include Address if different from above:

Cancellations: *Must be made in writing and will be subjected to an administration charge of 50% if cancelled up to 2 weeks before the date of the conference. We regret that no refunds will be made after this date, but we are happy to accept a substitute delegate.*

Return your booking form with payment to: Anita Kanya Kaddu, Administrative and Finance Officer AFRUCA, Unit 4s Leroy House, 436 Essex Road, London N1 3QP