

Project partner:



Merseyside
Expanding Horizons

Nicola Daley



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

LIGHT

INNOVATIVE METHODS AND PRACTICES TO FACILITATE SOCIAL INCLUSION

Project No. 503575-LLP-1-2009-1-LT-GRUNDTVIG-GMP



Merseyside
Expanding Horizons

Who are we?

- The Expanding Horizons Partnership first formed in 1997,
- bringing together a unique partnership of Merseyside based voluntary and public sector agencies, which collectively possess specialist skills and proven track records in the direct delivery and
- commissioning of services for people who face social exclusion.
- Merseyside Expanding Horizons (MEH) is a non profit organisation based in Liverpool, United Kingdom. MEH is an infrastructure organisation and works across all of Merseyside, and particularly targets organisations working with individuals who are often multiply excluded and 'fall through the net' at more local levels of funding, including:
 - ***disabled people; lone parents; ex offenders;***
 - ***substance mis-users; racial minorities; homeless people; mental health; people needing help with English as a second language; people in need of basic skills, unemployed, youth.***



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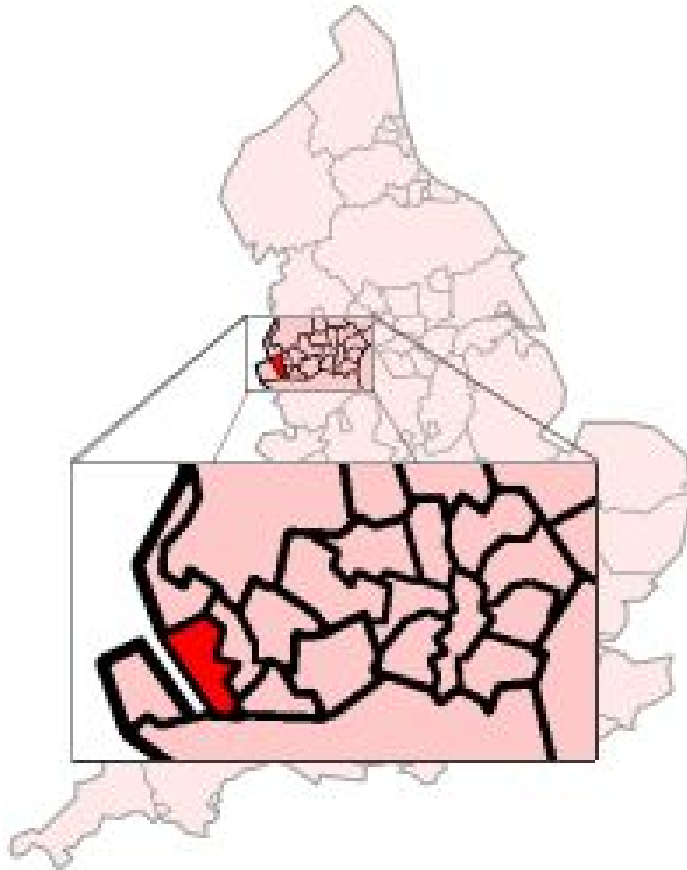
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Our Vision

To work towards a socially inclusive society in which all individuals can achieve their potential

Our Aims

- To encourage and support partnership working in the promotion of social inclusion
- To promote and enable the social inclusion of groups and individuals
- To effect positive change and best practise in advancing social inclusion

MEH Projects :

Merseyside Expanding Horizons (MEH) is acknowledged as a specialist agency with skills in the direct delivery and commissioning of services for people facing social exclusion. We run a number of programmes including:

- A project supporting Enterprise and Inclusion (Access Enterprise) – tailored support to overcome Social exclusion and move towards training and employment through specialist support and mentoring.
- Support to voluntary and community organisations
- Accountable body for the Every Parent Matters Network
- An ESF project which focuses on worklessness and health – providing tailored support to overcome personal issues and barriers to inclusion in the labour market.
- Support for Social Enterprise Programmes

MEH Current EU Projects

- As lead partner in Two Leonardo TOI Projects:
- Fish in a Euro Box - Which is develops an innovative method of teaching and learning with excluded
- Crossing the Line: Eurospectives –which is developing a DVD and teaching materials for working with disadvantaged young people.
- As Partner:
- FAMILY Project – which is a two year Grundtvig Multilateral project looking at family friendly practices and work/life balance.

MEH Case Study

Positive experience on overcoming
problems concerning migration -

Brenda Vasona Gwanvoma

Brendas Background

- Brenda is originally from Cameroon
- Before coming to The UK she was a student at university in Germany
- She moved to the UK over five years ago to accompany her husband who had moved here.
- She became a victim of domestic Violence
- Involved in a custody battle for her child
- She became homeless - living in a Refuge
- She was referred to the MEH Enterprise and Inclusion Project via a partner organisation

MEH Enterprise and Inclusion

Enterprise and Inclusion was a pilot project to develop entrepreneurship skills amongst beneficiaries who are often most excluded or experience multiple exclusion in order to develop their business proposals and business skills. All beneficiaries received a holistic package of tailored business support to improve their motivation and entrepreneurial skills to further develop their business ideas.

Brendas Journey

- Joined the E&I Programme in March 2008
- Attended group workshops around developing ideas and business skills.
- Received individual personalized business support to develop a business plan.
- Offered personal support through MEH via a buddy/mentor and specialist agencies.
- Received a grant of £500 to start up her business.

- With The grant from MEH she bought the shop sign, chairs and equipment and had business cards printed.
- We also referred her onto a programme with the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce for further support and funding
- Her Business opened in 2009.



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Brendas Business





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24th February, 2010

LIGHT - International seminar, Utrecht

Brenda Today

- Brenda No Longer lives in a refuge – she has a home for herself and her children
- Brenda has since had another child.
- She still supports herself and her family through hairdressing.
- Brenda is also a poet and has exhibited at the Liverpool museum.

***“The war is over I am Free!
I am found home and haven in a strange
land
I am here to tell my story to fight for those
left behind
Sisters together we can fight to stop every
form of war and Injustice”***

- From The Refugee Womans Story by Brenda Vasona Gwanvoma

Thank You

