

Voice4Change England, in partnership with the Pargiter Trust, has awarded 9 organisations £43.5k in grant funding, enabling them to carry out health, wellbeing, advice, and training support with those aged 65 and over in Black and Minoritised communities.

Below is an alphabetised list of our grantees and a summary of their projects.

Afro Innovation Group £5,000

Leicester

The organisation will run a befriending project supporting isolated migrants, refugees and asylum seekers through weekly visits and engagement to encourage independence and improve wellbeing. Beneficiaries will have digital literacy sessions on how do to tasks online such as shopping, sending emails, making a GP appointment, accessing information, and connecting with others.

African Woman Impact UK £5,000

Walsall

Digital champions will conduct in-person sessions teaching IT skills to elderly refugee women, enabling them to socialise with friends and family online and reduce isolation and loneliness.

Chinese Community Wellbeing Society £5,000

Bristol

Funds will be used to set up monthly support groups for Chinese and East and South East Asian elderly. The sessions will be delivered both in-person and online to accommodate individual needs and will provide a space for engagement and social interaction.

Day-Mer, Turkish and Kurdish Community Centre £3,664.61

London

The organisation will run digital training sessions, yoga classes, arts classes, and breakfast clubs for those aged over 65, providing service users with routine and structure, creating a social environment where they can be upskilled and make connections with other people to reduce loneliness.

Islington Bangladesh Association £4,900

London

Funds will be used to re-engage older people from Black and Minoritised communities who are at risk of a decline in their independence by providing community activities that will encourage them to interact, stay active and improve their mental and physical health. This project was developed in conjunction with the BAME elderly, and will run socialisation activities, health information advice and other sessions.

Masjid Al Quba £5,000

Leicester

The organisation will offer social engagement and support needs sessions to male beneficiaries aged between 65-75 from low-income households who are suffering social isolation. The funds will allow Masjid Al Quba to engage with the senior citizens directly to identify any pressing needs, offer support and/or signposting, as well as providing a safe space for 1-2-1 interaction.

Noviha UK £5,000

London

This grant will address the intergenerational gap through skill-sharing and social interaction, with young people aged 18-25 teaching digital skills to older people from Black and Minoritised communities. The project will upskill both the volunteers and the beneficiaries, equipping them with knowledge that will last beyond the lifetime of the project.

Sports4Heath CIO £5,000

London

Funds will be used to run table-tennis, softball, and badminton sessions for LGBTQ+ beneficiaries aged 65 and over who feel excluded from mainstream activities. The project aims to reduce loneliness and isolation whilst improving mental and physical health.

The Flowhesion Foundation £5,000

London

Multi-lingual staff will host a series of workshops designed to educate and provide tools on how to deal with stress, low mood, and depression. Sessions are aimed at women aged 65+ and will reduce isolation amongst this group, with additional support on offer where needed.