

Disabled and in Exile; being excluded twice

CAN Mezzanine, 7-14 Great Dover Street, SE1 4YR

21st November 2016, 12.30-17.30

TIME	ACTIVITY	DELIVERED BY
12.30	Arrivals and lunch	Chickpea Sisters
13.30	Introduction to HEAR, aims for the afternoon and housekeeping	Mhairi McGhee and Christine Goddall HEAR Equality and Human Rights Network
13.40	Health implications for survivors of torture, physically and psychologically.	Kolbassia Haoussou Freedom From Torture and Refugees In Media and Broadcast
13.50	Needing to learn about disabled refugees - one organisation's experience	Sarah Crowther Refugees in Effective and Active Partnership
14.10	First they came for...?	Ellen Clifford Inclusion London
14.20	Disabled, LGBTI, and asylum seeker.... The challenges	Moud Goba Micro Rainbow International
14.30	Questions and answers	
14.40	BREAK	
14.50	The barriers that disable asylum seekers in the UK	Fariha Bhatti Positive About Disability and REAP
15.00	Entitlement to healthcare for refugees and vulnerable migrants in the UK	Anna Miller Doctors of the World
15.10	Housing issues for disabled asylum seekers	Polly Glynn Deighton, Pierce, Glynn
15.20	Supporting disabled people faced with asylum support appeals	Alice Webb Asylum Support Appeals Project
15.30	Protections and entitlements for disabled refugees	Mhairi McGhee HEAR
15.40	Questions and answers	
15.50	Speed networking the sector	
16.40	Questions, answers and plans for the future	
17.30	END	

HEAR is the network of equality and human rights organisations and community groups in London. HEAR recently became registered as a charity and is currently hosted by REAP (Refugees in Effective and Active Partnership) and a member of the London for All Partnership, led by LVSC. This event is funded by Trust for London and London Councils.

Kolbassia Haoussou has worked at Freedom from Torture since 2009. In 2006 he co-founded the Survivors Speak OUT network, a national network of torture survivors and former clients of Freedom from Torture who draw on their lived experience of torture and seeking protection through asylum, to influence decision-makers and raise public awareness of the challenges facing survivors trying to rebuild their lives in the UK. Members of the network addressed the UN General Assembly in New York in 2013. Kolbassia is an accomplished speaker and in 2014 delivered a keynote speech alongside William Hague and Angelina Jolie-Pitt at the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict.

Refugees in Effective and Active Partnership (REAP) is an independent, refugee-led organisation in West London that aims to empower refugees and asylum-seekers to live as valuable and valued members of British society. We believe that it is essential to protect the right to refuge so people can escape danger and suffering caused by persecution, and that one implication of giving refuge is that there must also be reasonable level of effective and equitable support for people as they recover and rebuild.

Ellen Clifford is campaigns and policy manager for Inclusion London, disabled activist and member of the Disabled People Against Cuts steering group

Moud Goba, is a Zimbabwean lesbian and refugee. She is an LGBTI activist with more than 10 years' experience in working with BME LGBTI community groups and in running her own small business. She was one of the founding members of UK Black Pride. Ms Goba passionately supports LGBTI asylum seekers and refugees. She currently works for as a Project Manager for Micro Rainbow International, an organisation that addresses LGBTI poverty worldwide. She has previously worked for UK Lesbian and Gay Immigration Group. In 2015, Ms Goba was named one of the top 100 most influential LGBTI people in the UK by The Independent and was the recipient of the Attitude Pride Award.

Fariha Bhatti started volunteering with REAP in 2005 as an interpreter and she is now a Trustee/Director for REAP and founder of Positive About Disability. Fariha is a qualified Civil Engineer and a disability rights campaigner, who got involved with campaign work after doing a Human Rights Course and founding her organisation called Positive About Disability. Fariha never applied for any type of funding for her organisation, instead she started helping her fellow disabled people by advocacy and assisting them by filling in related forms to apply for their basic rights as a human being, regardless of their status. Fariha has campaigned/helped clients with different issues including the rights of freedom pass, blue badge, benefits and suitable accommodation etc. Fariha hopes to continue doing the same in the future and make a difference in the life of most vulnerable group of people in our society. She also wants all disabled people to realise that being disabled doesn't mean that they are no good and they should stop being apologetic for this. We all have to live this life we are in, now it depends on us that we choose to spend it happily or miserably.

Anna Miller leads Doctors of the World's Right to Care Project. Using DOTW's experience of providing healthcare to excluded people, the Project aims to improve health policy and practice in the UK. This includes working with national and regional stakeholders to improve access to healthcare, and training medical students and professionals on healthcare entitlement and rights.

Polly Glynn is a public law and human rights specialist with a particular interest in public law challenges relating to destitution. Having worked as a solicitor in social welfare law for almost 25 years, she is interested in innovative ways of empowering communities and front line organisations to know and enforce their legal rights. She is the founding partner of Deighton Pierce Glynn – a top rated solicitors firm specialising in actions against the state, with a particular focus on discrimination issues and issues effecting migrants.

Asylum Support Appeals Project aims to support people faced with asylum support appeals, with legal representation, advice, and information.

Chickpea Sisters are a catering group based in Tooting, South West London. What began as an informal cooking group for refugee and migrant women, is now a bustling catering social enterprise.