

As someone who has always been passionate about social justice due to my own experience of poverty and having parents who moved to the UK as asylum seekers, working in community organising with Citizens UK has provided me with the reminders that there are people out there who are using their time and resources to create meaningful change in peoples lives and the wider community. Through working with women 100 on an upcoming event to celebrate international Women's day, I have had the chance to meet and work with inspiring women. As a young woman myself it's important for us to meet female role models who are dedicated to

their career as well as managing other responsibilities such as raising a family. Working with these women has taught me a lesson that as women we are strong and continue to defy the odds even when we have what may feel like the weight of the world on our shoulders. I look to continuing my internship with Citizens UK and developing my understanding of how we can organise power within the community to create meaningful change.

Racheel Osando
Queen Mary University of London

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Prince William and Kate, visited the East London Mosque and London Muslim Centre, to meet staff and volunteers who supported the needy and vulnerable during the lockdown, as well as some of the beneficiaries. They were impressed by the leadership of the Mosque and Sufia Alam during the pandemic.



Afsana Salik
Community Organiser
Citizens UK & Queen Mary University of London
afsana.salik@citizensuk.org



We're a people powered alliance dedicated to challenging injustice and building stronger communities for everyone





Sufia Alam from East London Mosque. Sabina Nessa Vigil organised by Maryam Centre and Women100.



Silent retreat 2019. Four Muslim leaders and four Christian leaders from Women100 went for a retreat to reflect and reconnect with their purpose of fighting for justice and how their faith motivates them to social justice.

OUR VISION

Every woman in the community and engages in their local political decision-making process. Our journey started in January 2019, with a small fund from near neighbours and Citizens UK.

About Women 100

Women 100 is a community for women in East London from all/no faiths, all ages and backgrounds to come together to develop themselves as leaders and increase women's participation

from Citizens UK alliance initiated the programme, founding members are the East London Mosque, St Georges in the East Church, Muslimat London, E1 community Church, Queen Mary, University of London, The Theology Centre and Tower Hamlets Citizens.



International Women's Day 2022 at Dawatul Ummah. Celebrating those women who broke many barriers and achieved so much for their communities.



Razna Al-faradhi, Mind Tower Hamlets, Newham and Redbridge.

Women100 is an initiative that aims to bring women from all/no faiths to come together and collectively work to help lift each other up to better society. Through this I was able to work with other leaders from Shadwell and build a housing campaign, resolving a dispute between the Council and private developers. Through our well planned and well structured campaign, we won the case. This heightened my confidence even more.

Soon after and during the pandemic, I was appointed as a community engagement officer by the centre of theology and community for Shadwell. Using Community organising training, we were able to understand local issues and make some changes. These included offering digital literacy for BAME communities, making GPs services more accessible, making Iceland join Government free school meal scheme, offering friendly services and responding to food poverty. One of my challenges

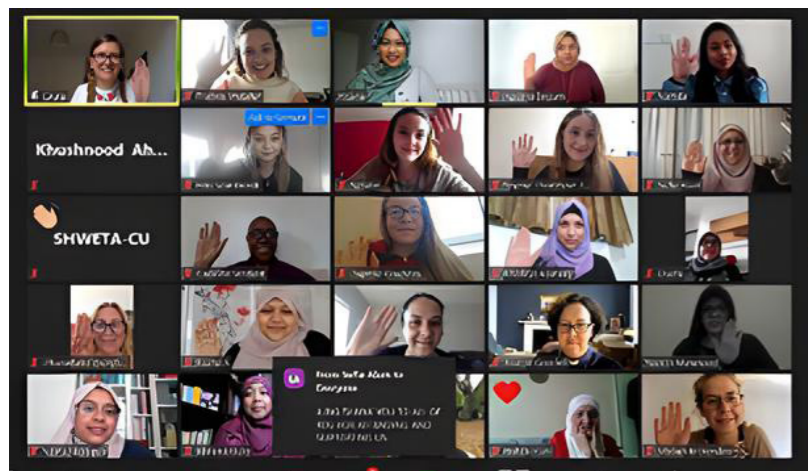
was keeping my self grounded and keeping my self strong as some of the lived experience that was shared was very emotional. As a women and a mother this really matters to me I don't want my child go hungry or excluded from education because of a lack of digital devices. Women100 allowed me to work on those issues and bring changes using Community organising and leadership tools.

Social justice is as negotiations, part of my faith and storytelling and my organisation, leadership that and Women100 is broaden women's a platform where opportunities to women of all faiths or leadership positions. none can come and develop themselves and increase capacity for their become parents institutions. As an organisation we want to make sure women trustees for faith are represented well in management and happy international leadership positions. Women100 training equips women with skills such all!

Hayley Still Salvation Army Stepney



Women100 won the most innovative award by TELCO Citizens in 2019.

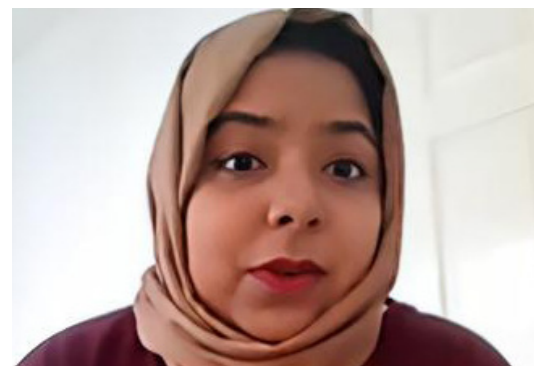


OUR STORIES

Participating in the Community Organising Internship with Citizens UK has been something I have found to be of great personal benefit, especially as a young woman. Quite often, especially within different cultural contexts, we can find that young women are discouraged from developing strong leadership skills and therefore struggle with feelings of both personal and professional confidence. Personally, during my internship, this is something I have found myself confronting, the feelings associated with imposter syndrome and a lack of confidence are

something I'm sure a lot of women can relate to in various situations. Being given the opportunity to develop this confidence in a safe and welcoming environment has been hugely valuable to me. It is so important that we continue to encourage young women and those of underrepresented backgrounds to not only develop their own leadership skills but especially within the context of Community Organising where real social change can be realised.

Tishani Di Silva



Apsana Begum MP joined the celebration virtually in 2021 to show her support for women's development.

International Women's Day 2021- Due to Covid-19 we celebrated Iwd21 virtually, 150 people attended the celebration, including Faith leaders, political leaders and community leaders

I believe that my involvement in Women's 100 has been highly beneficial on a personal level to me. This is because my involvement has helped me to grow as an individual as it has enabled me to have had improvements in my confidence with public speaking and my project management skills. Overall, I would highly recommend being involved with Women's 100 for any young person!

Jennifer Queen
Perez Mary
University of London



Recognition from former Mayor of Tower Hamlets John Biggs. since we started more than 250 women were trained in community organising and leadership by women 100, some of the women recognised by the Mayor of Tower Hamlets.



Women100 received the most innovative leadership of the year by TELCO Citizens in 2019.

OUR AIM

- 1) To increase women's participation in public life by giving leadership and community organising training to women from different organisations.
- 2) Create togetherness between women from all/no faiths and ages in the community.
- 3) To inspire women to take leadership role in their institutions, so their voices are heard and taken into decision making processes.
- 4) Bring justice for women in the community, by equipping them with tools to make change in the community.

Councillor Rachel Blake.
International Women's Day
2022 on zoom.
Sharing her reflection
of importance of
women development
for the Council.



OUR STORIES

What I learnt was power isn't your position but working together collectively bringing people together to take action around our common concerns and overcome social injustice that we face. Building relationships is so important, I've also learnt that you can't impose your ideas and your vision on people, but you have to work together in order to bring about change. The training taught me the impact and how to negotiate something I was not good at. But I am pretty confident after the training that I can negotiate as I was taught the art and the skills of being effective in negotiating. **Sabia Kamali, CEO Sisters Forum (Cllr in Newham council).**

I am not a Muslim. I am a Christian. I am a British Citizen who believes that people have the right to live out their beliefs if it brings no harm to others. The niqab is widely worn in Tower Hamlets and brings neither threat nor division. A mother has the right to access her child's school without shame or being treated as a second class citizen. I believe the rules around the niqab were against human rights and therefore I was proud to stand alongside fellow mothers and support their campaign in the school. **Sarah Warburton, E1 Community Church.**

I was in the midst of exploring my capabilities as being ME after becoming a mother to 5 children and a housewife for 23 years.. Being part of community organizing was a steppingstone to self-satisfaction and accomplishment on a dynamical scale. Women100 for me is all about creating a space for ordinary women to act in public life, demanding a place in the decision-making process. **Yesmin Begum, Welfare Advisor at a local Advice Centre.**

I have just completed Women 100 training with a group of 30 women from 8 organizations - we met at the East London Mosque for weeks 1 and 2 and St George's East for weeks 3 and 4. We learnt about power, 121, cycles of action, how to build a team and negotiations. This course specifically focused on women's leadership within their organizations. I found this training helpful and it has made me think of new ways to be a leader. **Catherine O'Shea, ESOL Teacher, ELATT.**



I have been a community activist for many years now but joining women 100 has enabled my work and build my confidence in public speaking as well as the importance of the structural system in project management and organising events.

Razna Al-faradhi – Mind Tower Hamlets

Since I completed community organising training, I have been actively engaged in the community started building relationship with community leaders and institutions. An example of this is my involvement in hate crime Action, delivering workshops on hate crime to institutions. Taking our concern to the mayoral assembly has developed my confidence in public speaking as well as how to work with

others to build power, I have also been to a retreat with Women from different faith which gave me an insight into other community faiths and helped me strengthen my relationship with other women in the community.

Ayesha Khanom, East London Mosque

There are few things that have left me feeling as empowered as I did after attending Women100 training. Being in a room full of powerful women who want to see and make positive change in their communities is inspiring to say the least. Now, more than ever, we need to develop women in our communities as leaders, to fight injustice and inequality.

Beatrice Elizabeth Easdale-Cheeley (Queen Mary University of London).



Women100 training in Newham, 12 leaders from Spresha programme completed Women100 leadership training. Spresha Programme aims to develop Albanian and other Eastern European communities in Newham using Community organising leadership training by Citizens UK.



First International Women's Day celebration by Women100 in 2018, in St George's in the East Church in Shadwell. 102 people attended and shown their interest to continue to develop Women100 and women leadership in the borough.



Women100 community Organising and leadership graduation ceremony at Newman University, Birmingham- we have 10 leaders went to do a course on community organising and leadership, and graduated from Newman University in 2021.