

# Annual Report

## 2014/15



In 2014/15 we continued to offer activities across the Central and West area, from Whiteinch to Townhead. We were able to tackle the integration of communities with different needs and at different stages of their life in Glasgow, helping to make links between people from different communities.

However more than ever we also focused on the pressing needs that face refugees and asylum seekers. These are obvious from the growing demand for our Food Bank, used by up to 50 people a week in 2014/15 (and more since). Given the current pressure of people seeking refuge in Europe, we must continue to do what we can to support people and make them feel welcome.

I am pleased that we do this not just by helping with immediate needs such as food, but by offering people chances to (for example) get advice, learn English and take part in social activities such as our new Men's Group.

We have also broadened the range of our cultural activities, with very successful dance, singing, cookery and other activities (including a new cook book!) We continue to offer support to member organisations to develop their own capacity and activities. Our members' meetings continue to provide opportunities to exchange information and ideas about the issues facing our communities and the actions that people are taking, or could take together, to deal with these issues.

We recently surveyed our members and the organisations with which we work. Everyone who replied thought that CWIN is serving our communities well, two thirds of them "very well". Every one of the types of work that we do was described as "very important" – which is reassuring but not much help when it comes to deciding what our priorities should be!

Thanks for all this must go to Florence, Julia and Antoinette for all their efforts, and to our great team of volunteers and all our members. Thanks also to our wide range of funders and to Glasgow Community Planning Partnership, without whose core financial support none of this would be possible.

Peter Taylor  
Chair  
September 2015



I am delighted to give the financial report of Central and West Integration Network and particularly pleased that the organisation has been able to be sustained in the second year running despite the funding climate within the Third Sector. We have been able to maintain our financial stability by securing our core funding and funding from other sources for other activities.

During the year the charity received grant funding totalling £96,353. Funding was received from a number of sources including Glasgow City Council – Integrated Grant Funds/Area Budget, Voluntary Action Funds, Community Safety Glasgow, Scottish Refugee Council, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, NHS Health Scotland, Foundation Scotland Comic Relief Local Community Fund, Celebrate, Big Lottery Communities and Families Fund, Lloyds TSB Henry Duncan Award, Scottish Government Emergency Food Fund, Scottish Fair Trade Forum, St Nicholas Care Fund and Cash for Kids. These grant funding were used for our core activities, events and projects.





During this year we continued to develop our regular programme of activities as well as setting up new projects.

The **weekly parents and children project** continued with up to 35 sessions each of cooking classes and arts and crafts classes, and 24 sessions children drama sessions and presentations. **Our Men's group** was set up this year beginning with the White Ribbon Campaign theme incorporating workshops, arts related activities and film show. The group had opportunities to go for hill walking and outdoor activities and a number of human rights workshops. **Whiteinch Centre Women's group** continued to run. Activities include ESOL provided by Glasgow Clyde College and Glasgow ESOL Forum. The group also had sessions of sewing classes, ribbon work and involvement in the process of design of the Refugee Week 'Welcome Banner'. **Townhead Women's group** continued to develop during this period. Activities of the group have been **Zumba sessions**, working on **3 Commonwealth banners, cake decoration and arts and crafts**. They also had 4 sessions of elementary food hygiene course with **10 people achieving the certificate**. **Healthy Mothers and Babies** – CWIN delivered up to **10 sessions** of health information, advice from NHS staff and practical cookery sessions for BME Asylum Seekers and Refugee women in Townhead Village Hall. The Network held weekly **ESOL classes 4 times a week in 3 venues** including Garnethill Multicultural Centre, Townhead Village Hall and The Whiteinch Centre



**Volunteers Development Project** – This partnership project was funded by Voluntary Action Fund. Central and West Integration Network worked in partnership with Asra, Scottish African Women Association and Scottish Society for Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia. This enabled CWIN and partners to develop their volunteering programmes.

**Glasgow Integrated Voices** - The choir had more than **30** sessions of rehearsals during this period. They performed in a number of community events including the closing event of the Empire Café in the Briggait, Celebrate (Big Lottery) event held on the day of the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games closing ceremony, Queens Cross Housing Association Commonwealth themed gala day, Central and West Integration Network events including the Refugee Week concert, Burns Night event, cultural exchange event and International Women's Day event. The Choir had more than **22** members of the choir during the reporting period

**Commonwealth cooking** – Central and West Integration Network had 2 commonwealth cookery projects this year funded by Celebrate and Glasgow City Council Area Budget. There was 6 sessions of commonwealth cooking classes in Townhead Village Hall. About 58 people attended the sessions..

**Food Bank** – CWIN continued to operate the food bank with the distribution of an average of 40 food parcels in a week. We continued to work with Fare Share community food project who delivered food weekly to the project. We arranged food pick up from a local warehouse and market to supplement the Fare Share deliveries. CWIN continued to attend Glasgow Food Bank Forum and Glasgow Asylum Destitution Action Network. The project has now developed further through funding from the Scottish Government Emergency Food Fund. We are now able to provide cookery classes for those attending as well as extra staff hours. Our foodbank did grow at this time of reporting. Most of the people attending the food bank are asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants



Central and West Integration  
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## Our Regular Events

CWIN continued to hold regular community events during the year. These include 2 events during the Refugee week, GRAND Week, Commonwealth Feast, 2 Christmas parties in 2 different centres including Garnethill and Whiteinch. Burns Night event in Hillhead Library, Cultural Exchange event in Garnethill Multicultural Centre in partnership with Glasgow Oriental Dance, 2 Family Fun Days in Townhead, International Women's Day, event for older Chinese and Scottish people to facilitate integration of 2 day care centres and 3 coffee afternoons for older and disabled BME people. Additionally, our women's choir participated in 3 other events including Big Lottery Celebrate closing event for the Commonwealth Games, Empire Café closing event during the Commonwealth Games and Queens Cross Housing Association Commonwealth themed Gala Day. Our Network provided Commonwealth Themed food at the Gala Day and supported 30 people to attend a family day in Milton Community Campus. We were able to get involved/support/organise more activities/events this year as a result of Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games



Our regular events and activities bring people from different cultural backgrounds together in a non threatening manner, helping to break down cultural barriers

‘...because of being in new culture. No barriers now to move on and be flexible with my parenting as far as it helps my child and make my family happy.’  
The course made them ‘more confident’, ‘more patient’, ‘better understanding of the parenting world’, ‘I am not alone’, ‘pass on the information to other parents’, ‘good memories’.

Our regular activities and groups enable service users who otherwise may have stayed at home isolated and lonely to get involved in activities with others. One of the service users stated that coming to group activities improves her mental health. The parenting class which we organised, enabled asylum seekers and new migrants to learn better ways of communicating with their families to get better results. As one of the participants stated in the evaluation



Central west Integration Network partnered with North West Partnership and Development, Glasgow Life, Simmy Community Development and Townhead Village Hall to run a number of activities programme during the summer of 2014. This culminated with a fun day which attracted more than 300 participants.

We also worked with **Asra**, **Scottish African Women Association** and **Scottish Society for Scottish Society for Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia** to develop a Volunteer Development Project for BME and asylum seeker volunteers. The project resulted in producing volunteers handbooks for the 4 organisations.

Our partnership with Maryhill and **Posilpark Citizen Advice Bureau** and **Garnethill Multicultural Centre** continued to provide advice surgeries once a week in Garnethill Multicultural Centre. Maryhill and Posilpark CAB also provided advise and signposting services to our services users at the Food Bank.

**Garnethill Multicultural Centre** continued to support our work with the Parents and Children project, Glasgow Integrated Voices and the Food Bank.

We supported over 50 children to access **cash for kids** Christmas Grant in December 2014. Central and West Integration Network took a group of more than **50** people of mostly asylum seekers and Refugees to watch **Table Tennis tournament during the Commonwealth Games**.

Our organisation partnered with the **Empire Café** during the Commonwealth Games to provide food in one of the community venues. We worked in partnership with The **Whiteinch Centre** to provide services to Women's Group including ESOL and crèche. The Network worked in partnership with **Parents Network Scotland** to provide parenting skills classes to women. We continue to work in partnership with **Garnetbank Parents Association**. We supported them in their summer playscheme with Commonwealth themed activities and food.

The Network continued to be represented in as well as made contributions to the Arts and Environment Strategy group of the new **Woodside Health Centre**. As a result of the work with the Stay Well project for older BME people, Central and West Integration Network is now part of the **Scottish Older People Food Task Force**. This group is made up of representatives from both statutory and voluntary sector including the Scottish Government. We are a member of the **Glasgow Asylum and Destitution Action Network** which is a group individuals and organisations mainly from the voluntary sector and individuals who come together to discuss the welfare of destitute asylum seekers. We are also members of **Glasgow Integration Network Forum** with representatives of most of Glasgow Integration Network meeting regularly to discuss issues of importance to the Integration Network, inviting agencies such as Serco, NHS, and CAB, Migrant Help etc. to speak and discuss issues of importance to asylum seekers. Staff of Central and West Integration Network attend and made contributions in the **North West Violence Against Women Implementation Group**. Central and West Integration Network Staff and Volunteers attended the **International Association of Community Development conference** held in Glasgow in June 2014...

## Our Funders

We do appreciate the funding we received from a number of agencies in order to carry out the above activities. These include Glasgow City Council, Scottish Government Emergency Food Fund, Voluntary Action Fund, Foundation Scotland Comic Relief Local Community Fund, Big Lottery Celebrate Fund, Big Lottery Communities and Families Fund, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Community Food and Health Scotland, Scottish Refugee Council, Community Safety Glasgow and Scottish Fair Trade Forum

## Our Management Committee

Peter Taylor	Chairman
Ramzan Shah	Treasurer
Priscille Mulhearn	Executive Committee Member
Cath McGee	Executive Committee Member
Heidi McLean	Executive Committee Member
Shamaila Massod	Executive Committee Member
Mubina Irfan	Executive Committee Member

## Our Staff Member

Florence Dioka	Development Manager
Julia Hung	Admin and Support Worker
Antoinette Premkumar	Project Worker

During the year, we have worked with a number of regular **Freelance Workers** including

Cassandra Mackie	Mothers and Children Project
Geetha De Silva	Women's Groups
Swarti Chauhan	Mothers and Children Project
Patricia Nkere	Healthy Mums and Babies Project
Patricia Macindoe	Refugee Week and Commonwealth Connection Project
Paria Goodazi	Events and Commonwealth Connection Project
Iman Tajik	Events Photographer

