

Steps to Recovery

Team

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#Steps2Recovery

Sadia AKRAM – Advisor (Northern England)



Sadia is currently Programme Director at the Discussion of Israel and Palestine and is an adviser to groups in Northern England in 'Steps to Recovery' programme.

She is an expert in interfaith dialogue surrounding the Israel and Palestinian conflict. She was recently the recipient of the national BEDSA award for bringing women of faith together through sports. Her previous positions include being Senior Governance Manager for Trafford Housing Trust's flagship development, Limelight in Old Trafford.

She has a background in community cohesion and engagement. Her experience has been managing community related projects and implementing engagement techniques with communities. Sadia is a practitioner on building good relations and a director for Good Relations Oldham – a programme to develop better relations between different communities across the North West. Sadia has an extensive background of working in civil society organisations, having worked with local housing and interfaith bodies for over 12 years. She holds a post-graduate qualification in Housing Practice and Policy and teaching English as a foreign language.

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Mark Ereira-Guyer Advisor (Northern England)



Mark is the Founder Director of Civil Society Consulting CIC and lead advisor for Steps to Recovery beneficiary groups in Northern England.

Over four decades he has developed an advanced knowledge of fundraising, evaluation, review and consultation assignments for a wide variety of voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise organisations and public bodies. In the last 17 years alone he has delivered 48 evaluation assignments allied to fundraising, 26 consultation assignments and 42 impact reports. He has raised over £18m for small to medium-sized civil society organisations.

He has worked in a wide range of settings helping disadvantaged communities: Barking & Dagenham, Liverpool and Middlesbrough. In senior roles, he has worked with the Refugee Council, Community Action Suffolk, Lloyds Bank Foundation & Home Office; and in consultancy roles, he has most recently worked with the Together Network, Strengthening Faith Institutions, Church Urban Fund and Near Neighbours. He was an elected councillor in Suffolk for 22 years and served on the LGA Community Wellbeing Board.

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James BADDELEY – Fundraising support



James assists the Steps to Recovery programme with the provision of dedicated and insightful fundraising support. He is an experienced consultant and fundraiser for the civil society sector - nine of his 21 years' experience were spent in front-line charity work with beneficiaries, senior charity management and fundraising, whilst the last 12 years have been as an independent fundraising and management consultant.

James works mainly with small and medium-sized charities working with disadvantaged communities right across the country and this year he reached the milestone of raising £10 million for all his clients, mainly being secured from Lottery funders Charitable Trusts and Foundations and Government grants. James is a strong communicator, has a can-do approach to fundraising and holds a Diploma in Fundraising from the Chartered Institute of Fundraising, for which he is a long-serving member.

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Francesca GODFREY – Advisor (Southern England & West Midlands)



Francesca is a Director of CSC and lead advisor for Southern England and Midlands on the 'Steps to Recovery' programme. Francesca specialises in social research and has led the team on projects such as developing an inclusive online learning programme based on research by the Campaign to End Loneliness and evaluating barriers to access to perinatal mental health services to develop into evidence-based policy recommendations for NHS England and Mind.

Recently, she researched and wrote a report assessing the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on organisations that are led by and focused on ethnic minority and newly arrived communities in Middlesbrough. Francesca has a particular interest in migrant advocacy, and has experience working with refugee and asylum seeker support groups across the UK.

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Natasha Ereira-Guyer



Natasha is a Director of CSC and she is heading up Communications as part of the team for 'Steps to Recovery'. Natasha has extensive experience of Civil Society and Sustainable Development, including Communications and translating intelligence into policy on a range of scales. For example, in her former role as Researcher and Policy Advisor at the Centre for Sustainable Peace - a think tank promoting Social Cohesion across the world. She has worked in a number of coordination and Communications roles in multilateral (UN) organisations out in East Africa, as well as working closely with hyper-local organisations in the UK through Civil Society Consulting's pilot 'Steps to Sustainability' programme.

With an academic background in the Behavioural Ecology of People, Natasha (MSc) has a good understanding of the psycho-social perspective on social inequality and its mechanisms. The same background has made her at home with Social and Behavioural Change Communications (SBCC) - a particular passion of hers - and highly skilled at designing effective and actionable projects, strategies and operating procedures.

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Yasmin JIANG – Communications, research and fundraising support



Yasmin is a final-year undergraduate student at UCL, studying an interdisciplinary degree with a strong focus on qualitative and quantitative research methods. Her academic interests include community health and development. She has extensive experience conducting interviews as a part of her social research concerned with improving Chinese women's access to healthcare.

Yasmin is supporting the team with communications and research as a part of 'Steps to Recovery' programme. In the past year, Yasmin has also participated in policy-making workshops, and she is currently a coordinator on a student-led volunteering project that engages young people to creatively express their views on 'difficult' issues. As a volunteer for Civil Society Consulting, Yasmin's support is provided on an expenses only basis.

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Simon PICKERING – Webinar leader and fundraising support



Simon has an extensive track record working in the civil society sector across a range of roles over a 20-year career. As a highly skilled and experienced consultant, having worked in a consulting capacity for over five years. He has a detailed understanding of the impact and landscape that civil society and faith-based organisations operate within. He has a successful track record of working in the youth, faith, criminal justice, homelessness, LGBTQ*, Learning difficulties sectors.

Simon is a talented communicator, his specialist skills include business planning, fundraising, bring social change to life through storytelling, impact and evaluation. Simon leads on the 'Steps to Recovery' Income generation webinars and delivers one to one support for groups and organisations.

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Theophilia SHAW – Advisor (Southern England & West Midlands)



Theo has over eight years of experience supporting local and international civil society organisations with public policy research and training, to support the delivery of services to a range of beneficiaries in various settings.

Alongside working as an advisor on the 'Steps to Recovery' programme, Theo is currently a Community Organiser at Citizens UK, responsible for developing and growing a substantial network of key influencers in Merton, Wandsworth, and Southwark.

Previous to this, she has worked as a Church & Community Transformation Learning Co-ordinator at Tearfund and a Public Policy Researcher for the Diocese of Southwark.

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