

**West London Bangladeshi Association**  
Hillingdon Community Trust  
Small Grant Monitoring and Evaluation

**Project Ref No:** 357/1058

**Name of organisation:** West London Bangladeshi Association (WLBA)

**Name of person completing the report:** Mr Feisal Islam

**Contact information:** 0845 387 0207 / info@wlba.org.uk

**Position in the organisation:** Administration Officer

**What the funding was for?**

Women Only Amateur Badminton Club to improve physical and emotional wellbeing and enhancing self-confidence, self-esteem and togetherness in minority ethnic women.

**How much funding was awarded?** £6,205

**How much has been spent to date?** £6,205 (total cost was £6,283 additional expense £78 covered by donations)

**The work you have undertaken with our funding to date**

Every Saturday, WLBA runs badminton sessions for women only at Stockley Academy.

WLBA have used the funding to book the courts, provide all necessary equipment and training where needed and for those ladies that require it, a taxi service has also been provided.

Sessions run for an hour and is managed and administered by a dedicated member of staff, ensuring all participants register, sign a disclosure, equipment is set up and tidied up afterwards and health & safety is not compromised.

**Who has benefited?**

A total of 46 individuals have participated in the badminton sessions although we had planned for at least 50. In addition some ladies brought with them a few children and this was only permitted if there was space on the courts.

**How many beneficiaries from the Trust area?** All participants were from the Trust area.

### **What has changed as a result of the project?**

#### **Summarise your most significant achievements and how these match the outcomes and targets agreed when the grant was approved.**

- 46 ladies participated in the badminton sessions although we had planned for 50.
- Almost half of these ladies have said they will continue to play once funded sessions are over. The drop outs seem to be those that have transport problems.
- All were pleased to have these sessions although there were some issues raised – see below.

### **What difference has the work made (so far)?**

- Confidence has grown within the group.
- Activity has become part of the weekly routine for some ladies who have not had any real active sport in their lives for some time.
- One keen participant is planning to start up fitness classes with some of the contacts she has made through the group.
- Some of the participants have come together to start a English language class with a hired teacher.

### **How do you know your project has made this difference?**

We have had positive feedback. The numbers have not been as large as we had hoped.

### **How the project worked**

#### **Have any problems occurred during the lifetime of our grant? If so, what have you done to address these?**

Two problems were encountered. Stockley Academy has frequently cancelled sessions due to school activity in the sports hall eg exams, extra curricular events, maintenance work and therefore the 6 months of bookings is going on longer than planned and started later than planned. This has annoyed some participants as they don't like the gaps in play and it leads to drop outs.

Some participants were more regular than others and this was something the manager found difficult to manage. Eventually the number stabilised.

**Have you changed any aspect of the work since the start of the grant? If so, please provide details of how and why.**

The sessions started later than planned due to extensive maintenance work at the school after we had paid for the first 3 months of bookings.

**Will the work continue beyond the life of our grant? If so, please indicate in what way and what funding you have secured or need to secure.**

We are in discussions with the participants to see if sessions can continue. This is dependent on the total number willing to participate as the more participants the lower the cost to the individual.

Off shoots from the project include fitness classes and English class.

**Have there been any organisational or external factors, which have influenced your work? e.g. staff changes, premises, funding, changes in government policies.**

Premises was not available as initially booked due to maintenance work. This delayed starting the project. However, the refurbished facilities were better.

**With hindsight would you have done anything differently?**

No