

**Community Development  
in faith based social action  
Faith Based Regeneration mini course**

**Community Development and faith based social action: Worksheet 1**

**What is Community Development?**

You will need large sheets of paper and coloured pens

Working in two or three groups, depending how many of you are doing the course (we suggest between 3-4 in a group)

1. Draw a diagram of your faith based social action project in the middle of a large sheet of paper. Include the things you do and the people who are involved.
2. Underneath your diagram write down the faith values that you think are important and evident in your work. These underpin what you do and make your work stand out as a faith based project.
3. Around the edges of the diagram write down the different skills people use in your project.

This will take between 15-20 minutes.

4. Share your diagrams and discuss together:
  - a. How are your faith values demonstrated in your project?  
This could be through the things you do, it could be through the people who are involved.

## Community Development and faith based social action: Worksheet 2

### Community Development Values in faith based settings

1. Match the faith values which you identified on worksheet one with Community Development values.

Community Development Values:

Social justice: helping people to be involved in decision making, to act responsibly for the good of the community and to be able to claim their human rights.

Participation: making sure all people who want to be involved with the project can be, and can have their contribution valued and respected

Equality: challenging attitudes and behaviours that discriminate against other people for whatever reasons and helping people to come to terms with their own prejudices

Learning: recognising the skills and abilities we all have, helping people to use those effectively and identifying training needs. Helping people to identify their own learning and to use the learning to inform policy makers to bring about change

Co-operation: working together to identify what needs to be done, what we can celebrate and how we can bring about positive change respecting the diversity that is part of our daily lives

2. Where are the similarities?
3. Where are the differences?
4. Create a poster to remind you of your faith values and Community Development values. Show how they complement each other.  
This may take you a few weeks to finalise. You could either ask a small group to design the poster, or you could all do one and then decide which best describes your project. Once you are happy make copies of the poster to display in your project and to remind you all of the values that underpin your work.

## Community Development and faith based social action: Worksheet 3

### Using Community Development in our project

1. Identify the different groups of people involved with your project. For example:
  - a. the organisation (staff, management group, volunteers)
  - b. partners and funders
  - c. service users
2. Divide into small groups taking one of the groups you have identified each. Use the table on the next sheet to note down how you currently use Community Development values with them, and more importantly what you could do in the future.

For example you might carry out a questionnaire with your users to check if you are providing services they want. You could develop this by asking them to carry out the questionnaire – you may get very different answers, or by making sure you display the results and anything you are going to do as a result.

3. Once each group has completed their chart, put the ideas together under each Community Development value. We suggest you write each value on a large sheet of paper and add ideas to each sheet. Decide which ones are most important. Then decide how you will make sure they happen.

Be realistic all these things take time, resources and energy. They are worth doing, but worth doing well. You could agree to do one or two in the next month and then revisit your list.

This is a good way of regularly checking out that you are using the values and that you are keeping in touch with all those involved with your project.

**The group:**

<b>Community Development Value</b>	<b>What we do now</b>	<b>What we could do</b>
Social justice: helping people to be involved in decision making, to act responsibly for the good of the community and to be able to claim their human rights.		
Participation: making sure all people who want to be involved with the project can be, and can have their contribution valued and respected		
Equality: challenging attitudes and behaviours that discriminate against other people for whatever reasons and helping people to come to terms with their own prejudices		
Learning: recognising the skills and abilities we all have, helping people to use those effectively and identifying training needs. Helping people to identify their own learning and to use the learning to inform policy makers to bring about change		
Co-operation: working together to identify what needs to be done, what we can celebrate and how we can bring about positive change respecting the diversity that is part of our daily lives		

**Community Development and faith based social action:  
Resources and further support**

**The Faith Based Regeneration Network is grateful to:**

Aurangzeb Khan Community Development Officer Bradford Trident,  
Park Lane Centre, Park Lane, Bradford, BD5 0LN

01274 435492

[aurangzeb.khan@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:aurangzeb.khan@bradford.gov.uk)

Funding support from the Department for Communities and Local Government for Inter Faith Week projects 2011

**Further courses:**

Open College Network (OCN):

<http://www.nocn.org.uk/qualifications/faith-community-development>

Church related Community Workers (United Reformed Church)

[http://www.urc.org.uk/what\\_we\\_do/crcw/community\\_work\\_in\\_the\\_church](http://www.urc.org.uk/what_we_do/crcw/community_work_in_the_church)

**Further reading:**

What is Community Development?:

[www.cdx.org.uk/community-development/what-community-development](http://www.cdx.org.uk/community-development/what-community-development)

Faith in Action (Community Development Foundation): [Faith in Action](#)

**Further support:**

Your local CVS or VSC

Community Development Foundation: [www.cdf.org.uk](http://www.cdf.org.uk)

Federation for Community Development Learning: [www.fcdl.org/home](http://www.fcdl.org/home)

**Contact Faith Based Regeneration Network:**

Email: [janewinter@fbrn.org.uk](mailto:janewinter@fbrn.org.uk)

Phone: 0207 842 8518

Address: Voluntary Sector Centres, Suite F2  
First Floor, 76 Shoe Lane, London. EC4A 3JB