

NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO RUTH

We're delighted to welcome the newest member of a team, as Ruth Gray has joined Moreen and Shuang to work on our Staff Mentoring Programme.

Having worked for the last 15 years in the voluntary sector, with a specialism in volunteer management and mentoring, Ruth brings a wealth of experience in project management, people management and evaluation techniques. And she is looking forward to delivering mentoring training in a new setting, having most recently run a programme for 9-14 year old girls with risk of mental health illness, and for refugees looking for work.

"I am passionate about mentoring and the value that it can bring to people's lives," says Ruth. "It is often the supporting hand that helps them believe in their own abilities and reach the next step, for both mentors and mentees."

In her spare time Ruth is a Guide and Scout leader, runs an allotment and makes her own clothes and crafts. So we expect to be working harder at our team away days in future!

And welcome too, to our new research intern Rebecca, who is working with Josh over the next two months on our ED&I Data Toolkit, among other things. A second year history student, Rebecca will have plenty to talk about with our middle east expert.

JO JO'S BREATHING HELPS US ALL

Speaking of mentoring; in last month's SMP Celebration Event in



Birmingham, Jo Jo Crago, from One Manchester, shared he story of self discovery and, just before the lunch break, led us all in a mindfulness breathing session.

The full auditorium fell silent, apart from the calm words of Jo Jo who helped us to breathe easily and meditate briefly using techniques she employs as a Yoga instructor.

Breathing exercises are a great way to combat anxiety or stress, as well as potentially improving your lung capacity. And, of course, you can do it on your own. Thanks Jo Jo.

MOREEN CONQUERS THE NORTH

We were at the CIH Manchester Conference last week and it was great to see so many of you during the three days, and at our networking event on Wednesday.

Our London contingent (Moreen) starred on the Fringe Stage on Wednesday afternoon in a discussion on how to tackle racism in housing head on.



In a stellar panel also featuring Shruti Bhargava and Ulfat Hussain, Moreen was at her passionate and erudite best as the experts discussed the scourge of racism in housing, in particular the poor representation of BME representation on Housing Association boards. Moreen talked about the HDN Board Excellence and Staff Mentoring Programmes as well as the work done by her BME Action Learning Group which is at the heart of tackling racism head on.

And a tip for recruiters: if you claim to want to promote diversity in leadership, don't have the temerity to say you are struggling to find the talent. You are not really trying are you?

THE OAK PROJECT



Friends, Families and Travellers is a leading national charity that works to end racism and discrimination against Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people and to protect the right to pursue a nomadic way of life.

On 13th June FFT launched The Oak Project, a partnership aimed at increasing site provision across England in line with the needs of Gypsy and Traveller people, funded by the [Oak Foundation](#).

The partnership is formed of [London Gypsies & Travellers](#), [National Policy Advisory Panel on Gypsy and Traveller Housing](#) and the [Housing Diversity Network](#) and seeks to:

- Improve learning and understanding of Local Authority planning policy and practice on Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation;
- Encourage the construction of Social Gypsy and Traveller sites in England through Housing Association development programmes;
- Strengthen Gypsy, Roma, Traveller civil society's ability to advocate for substantial changes in planning practice and policy.

EVENTS



HDN Webinar: Being Jewish: Identity, faith and housing need

Join our webinar where our panellists will be discussing the diverse identities and needs of the UK's Jewish communities

[More Info](#)



HDN Webinar: Menopause Support

In this webinar we discuss why is menopause a silent issue in many organisations? And we can do to improve it

[More Info](#)



Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Train the Trainer Session (Online Session)

A training session hosted by HDN associate Anne-Marie Train the Trainer session Understanding the power of inclusive language

[More Info](#)

[For details of ALL our events CLICK HERE](#)

NEW MEMBERS





NOW HIRING



Managing Director

Following the retirement of our Managing Director, we are now looking for an inspirational leader. It is an excellent time to join STAR Housing following the award of a new 10-year contract to manage this key Council service. We have consistently delivered high levels of performance and we have forged a strong relationship with Shropshire Council. We recognise the potential to do more and our new Managing Director will work in partnership with Shropshire Council to develop even more services as we support them in delivering key community objectives., click [here](#) to find out more.

Independent Committee Members & Subsidiary Board member

Yorkshire Housing are looking to appoint two Independent Committee Members to join their Homes and Places Committee and a Board Member to join their wholly owned commercial subsidiary YH Residential Ltd. Previous non-executive experience is not essential, neither is living in Yorkshire, click [here](#) to find out more.

What We Do at HDN

Contact us to see if we can help



We work with organisations on a range of equality, diversity and inclusion issues. These include management and leadership training, board and executive team discussions on Black Lives Matter and/or the pandemic, and reviewing and helping on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plans and Strategies.

Contact [Mushtaq Khan](#) for further details.

WHAT THE TEAM'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT THIS WEEK

Some of the team watched the keynote event on levelling up at the CIH conference and were gobsmacked to hear former conservative MP Edwina Currie arguing with football legend and social housing campaigner John Barnes. Talk about differing viewpoints. While Barnes stands up for fairness for all, Currie's gems included how young people can get on the housing ladder by cancelling their Netflix subscription.

The 'I'm a Celebrity' star has form though, previously launching a sustained attack on food banks and, as Health Minister, causing chaos in the farming sector by announcing in a TV interview that British eggs were infected with salmonella.

Hey ho...

30 Manor Row, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD1 4QE, GB

www.housingdiversitynetwork.co.uk

You have received this email because your organisation is a member of HDN, you have attended one of our events or practitioner groups, are on one of our mentoring programmes or have come in to contact with us in some other way. If you no longer want to hear from us please unsubscribe using the link below. [Unsubscribe here](#)