

ANNUAL REPORT

2007 - 2008

The African and Caribbean Voices Association



ACVA

Charity Registration No. 1098295
Company Registration No. 5697861

LEARNING IS FOR LIFE

Chairperson's Report

This is my final year as chairperson of ACVA and I am pleased to say that my expectations for our organisation have been achieved. I always wanted to act but did not have the confidence. However ACVA has over the years trained me and given me the opportunity to practice some latent skills that I had from a child but just did not get the opportunity to develop.



Chairperson, Myrtle Laing.

ACVA began way back in October 1999 with just 3 people including myself and now it is a national charity with over 300 members; this is quite an achievement for a black organisation. I endorse the four strategic aims of ACVA that are outlined in our revamped brochure. I support the reduction in age of the people we set out to serve and know that we will be more than able to attract younger, fitter people to our activities.

I will be staying on the committee and I look forward to working with the newly elected Chair.

Vice Chairsperson's Report

I was approached by Angela in 1999 to take part in a film about people and their arrival into Newham.

The interview was filmed at Hibiscus Caribbean Elderly Association and from then on I was hooked by the aims of this organisation.

I have watched the organisation grow over the years but now I feel it is time for someone else to take on ACVA's Olympic torch and run it, although I will continue to serve on the committee.



Vice Chairperson, Hugh Dwyer

Services & Activities

Sugar Tours:

The highlight of this grant funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund was the launch of the Giant Chain of Remembrance held at the Museum in Docklands on 23rd February 2008. Over 90 people packed the Refractory to watch the unveiling of a 20 foot artwork created by over 100 children from East London.

This event was a significant development in the Sugar Tours project which began in July 2007 with the aim of raising awareness about the socio-economic impact the Slave Trade had on British financial and social institutions and to commemorate the passing of the Slave Bill 1807.

We were commissioned to organise guided tours to 10 museums and stately homes associated with the slave trade. We visited some of the popular places but also more obscure ones such as the Cowper and Newton Museum, Harewood House and Chatham Historical Docks. The result of this project has been more informed users, members and groups in the wider community, better involvement by children and younger people in our activities and a 15% increase in ACVA's membership.

Project Worker,
Clover Phipps-Gordon



Cowper and Newton Museum



Science Museum Birmingham



Brighton & Hove - London Group



Clement at the Sugar & Rum fair

Health Tours

We realised that many of our users were not aware of significant services that are available for those who have diabetes, heart disease and who are recovering from strokes. We also realised that there was a sharp increase in the number of 40-55 year olds from the African and Caribbean community who had high blood pressure, high cholesterol and suffered a heart attack.

The Health Tours project, Funded by the Department of Health, came out of our concerns about the ill health of the African and Caribbean community. This project is set up to raise awareness about Primary Care Trusts' and NHS services that users can access.

We organise guided visits Hospitals in East London; firstly visiting the new wing at Newham University Hospital followed by visits to Guys Hospital, St Thomas, Whipps Cross and The Royal London Hospitals.

We organised talks with visiting speakers from some of these hospitals and others from Alternative Therapy groups and visited over 20 organisations informing their client groups about the project.

Project Worker, Maria Kamara



Herb Garden Tour 2008

ACVA's Training Programme

This year we offered Quadrille for Beginners as a way of enticing individuals and groups back into learning and health.

We began by organising a series of presentations in association with Quadrille groups followed by longer training sessions in Hackney, Brent, Kensington and Islington.

Our training approach was greeted with a lot of enthusiasm and this gave us the chance to promote our less popular arts, crafts and healthy living training courses.

It is through this method that we have managed to achieve our target for 2007-08.

Project Worker, May Paule Charles

ACVA' S Befriending Scheme

"I would like to meet that nice woman who calls me up every Monday, who is she?" Pansy Carryl has diligently called and informed members of ACVA over the last 12 months. She has attracted a number of members who are housebound and isolated during the winter months and she entices a few out to socialise and take part in ACVA activities. The Befriending Scheme has become an invaluable asset to ACVA's work. We sometimes do not see each other from one Annual General Meeting to another and the Scheme provides the link through which members can feel involved and stay informed with what is happening in this organisation. Thank you Pansy.



Management Committee Member,
Roslyn Robinson

Treasurer's Report

House prices and the cost of commercial premises was rising and rising and only now there seems to be an end to the property boom period of 2007-08. Even so ACVA has been priced out of the Market in Stratford and we will now need to look outside the borough for larger premises if required.

We have, however, been financially successful with the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Big Lottery underpinning our work. We have some respite from fundraising and time to reflect. The result of our reflections are in ACVA's Business Plan which can be made available to those who wish to read it in full.

Treasurer, Emmanuel Nkwo



Staff, Volunteers and Management
Committee members 2007/08



ACVA Committee member 2005-06

Treasurer's Report Cont'd

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st March 2008

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2008
Incoming Resources	£	£	£
Grants	0	91,130	91,130
Donation	340	0	340
Membership	455	0	455
Bank Interest	568	0	568
Sales/Other	1,563	0	1,563
	<u>2,926</u>	<u>91,130</u>	<u>94,056</u>
Resources Expended			
Charitable Costs		88,655	88,655
Management & Administration	1,147		1,147
Publicity	0	0	0
	<u>1,147</u>	<u>88,655</u>	<u>89,802</u>
Net Movement in funds	1,779	2,475	4,254
Funds at 1st April 2007	2,234	6,507	8,741
Total Funds at 31st March 2008	<u>4,013</u>	<u>8,982</u>	<u>12,995</u>

Staff Members

Angela Brivett -
Project Manager
Maria Kamara -
Project Worker
Clover Phipps-Gordon
Project Worker
May Paule Carpin
Finance Worker

Funding Bodies

The Big Lottery Fund
Heritage Lottery Fund
Help a London Child

Volunteers

Clement Adejayan
Cynthia Adejayan
Hadyn Francis
Glenda Vaughn
Myrtle Laing
Pansy Carryl
Tom Moore

Management Committee

Myrtle Laing - Chairperson
Hugh Dwyer - Vice Chairperson
Clement Adejayan - Secretary
Emmanuel Nkwo - Treasurer
Clement Adejayan - Member
Claude Griffith - Member
Claris Johnson - Member
Roslyn Robinson - Member
Franklyn Georges - Member

Contact Details

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