





Background to MCNI

The Migrant Centre NI was established in 2010 to protect the rights of migrant workers in NI, tackle racism, eliminate barriers against new and settled migrant communities in NI, advance education and raise public awareness about their rights. MCNI has 3 offices across NI, in Belfast, Lurgan and Derry~Londonderry.



Belfast

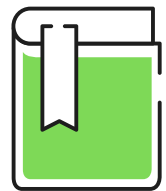


North West



Lurgan

Our work



Advice and advocacy

- Immigration advice
- Financial Health and Wellbeing including welfare benefits



Hate Crime

- Supporting victims of race hate crime through advocacy project



Outreach and capacity building

- Advocacy, lobbying and policy
- Global Majority Fund

Advice



Financial Health and Wellbeing:

aims to address issues around debt, poverty, financial health and money management (including benefits) by providing a culturally sensitive service in a variety of languages to ensure migrants and their families do not face financial instability which can lead to mental health issues and increased risk of substance abuse.

EU Settlement Scheme Support Service:

in partnership with Advice NI we are providing support to vulnerable EU citizens who need additional help when applying for their immigration status through the Home Office EU Settlement Scheme. This service covers the whole of NI and is provided in a range of languages. We are OISC registered.



Support for victims

Race Hate Crime Advocacy:

project funded by the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) where our Bi-lingual Support Workers provide a one-stop shop model of services to victims of race hate crime and incidents.

We work in partnership with Victim Support NI, Leonard Cheshire and the Rainbow Project.



The Global Majority Fund

The Global Majority Fund aims to help diverse communities disproportionately impacted by Covid-19 in the UK. Migrant Centre NI has just awarded its third round of grants to support communities experiencing racial inequality across Northern Ireland.

The grant funding is possible as we have been chosen as one of the intermediary technical partners with the fund from Comic Relief co-financed by The National Emergencies Trust, The Clothworkers' Foundation, Barclays and Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.

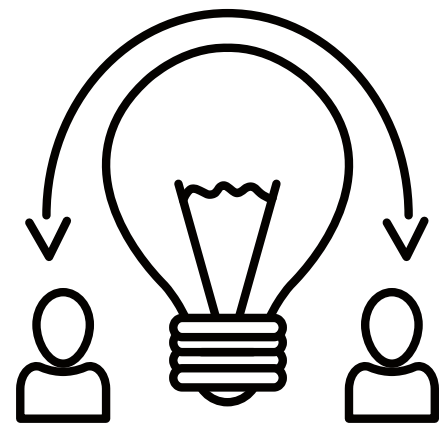
10 specialist charities across the UK have been awarded a share of a new £2.8million fund which is set to help hundreds of smaller grass roots projects across the UK that provide vital services to diverse communities at the greatest risk of Covid-19.





Communities experiencing racial inequality

When we talk about communities experiencing racial inequality, we refer to individuals and communities which are usually defined as 'Black, Asian and minority ethnic' (BAME), a term widely used by government departments, public bodies, the media and others when referring to ethnic minority groups.



The acronym 'BAME' may be seen as problematic as it strips away individual identities and assumes we all share the same experiences, challenges and barriers to representation.



Advocacy, lobbying and policy

Migrant Centre NI engages in advocacy, lobbying, and policy work to advocate for migrant rights and for a more just immigration system.

Our advocacy work is informed by the lived experiences of our service users and we engage in legislative, policy, and media lobbying, education, and awareness raising at the NI and UK levels.

Our involvement in the work of the sector

We engage with and sit on:

- Equality Coalition
- Human Rights Consortium
- Co-Design Group for the NI Gender Equality Strategy
- NI Women's Policy Group
- NI Human Rights Commission Bill of Rights and Brexit Human Rights Working Groups
- the All-Island Women's Forum
- the PSNI's Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy advisory group
- the Belfast City Council Voluntary and Community Sector Advisory Board
- The Foyle Race Equality Forum
- Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council - Equality Forum
- the Immigration Law Practitioners' Association (EU and NI groups)
- NI Civic Working Group on the Protocol

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Questions?



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