

NEWSLETTER



Dignitaries who attended Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha's (GNNSJ) 50th year Jubilee gather for a photo to mark this special occasion

The Last 5 Months

The last five months saw us close out the financial year with noteworthy changes. GNNSJ celebrated its 50th year of selflessly serving the community by hosting a jubilee, bringing together dignitaries worldwide from different sectors to celebrate GNNSJ's long-standing commitment to community empowerment.

The final months also saw the continuation of a difficult funding landscape, as this year, many funders took the opportunity to realign their strategies and goals with how sectors have changed following COVID. The lack of funding opportunities led to several projects being at risk due to having no further funding; in response, NCA recognised the necessity to evolve and adapt to these circumstances so that we can continue to serve and empower the community, expanding our focus into employment support and digital skills training, building upon our initial success with the Multiply Project.

By enhancing our programmes, we aim to provide individuals with the necessary skills to navigate the job market successfully, ensuring they are equipped to flourish.

“—

I was in a dark
place, and they got
me out of it...

I'm gonna be lost
without them.

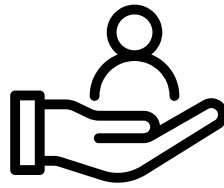
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YEAR TO DATE STATS



£6,793,885  **63%**

In client financial outcomes



4,473  **18%**

Cases/People Supported

COMMUNITY CANCER CARE CONNECTORS LAUNCH



On November 30th, we officially launched the Community Cancer Care Connectors project. The project, funded by Macmillan Cancer Support, has been created to tackle inequalities by providing culturally appropriate knowledge on cancer prevention, early diagnosis, cancer treatment, support and living beyond care.

The launch saw local and national organisations come together to provide the community with information, advice and health screenings, helping to reduce the health inequalities among marginalised communities.

Since its launch, the Community Care Connectors have hosted several workshops, following a different theme each month, starting with Cervical & Ovarian Cancer, and then proceeding to cover the likes of Kidney, Brain & Prostate cancer, with an upcoming workshop on Bowel & Testicular Cancer.



Drop-ins every Wednesday between 10am-12pm

Upcoming Workshops

START OF LIFE CARE PHASE 2 LAUNCH



In January, the 2nd phase of our groundbreaking Start of Life Care project began, aiming to build on the success of the first two phases that saw over 70 women supported and 370 onward referrals to support services.

By securing funding from the Fairer Futures Fund, we continued to expand and improve upon the support the Start of Life Care Programme offers, improving wraparound support, with our new cohorts providing further post-natal support at the Nishkam Healthcare Trust.

The post-natal sessions are led by healthcare and early years professionals who cover essential topics, such as nourishment and weaning, encouraging development, early years education and mental health & well-being of mothers.

We have also continued to strengthen our partnerships with several hospitals, such as Birmingham Women's Hospital, so the team can go out and speak to Mums about the programme.

[Antenatal Classes Registration](#)

[Post-Natal Classes Registration](#)

PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT THROUGH DIGITAL SKILLS



**West Midlands
Combined Authority**

In February, we secured funding from the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) to deliver the Digital Divide Project. The project builds upon our previous successful relationship with the WMCA, where we delivered the Multiply programme, which offered working adults a route to develop their numeracy skills.

The new project aligns with our long-standing commitment to tackling inequalities and empowering communities by providing a structured pathway for participants to progress their digital skills, taking them from the basics such as using devices and accessing the internet - to more advanced skills like completing online job applications, learning to use digital workplace tools and accessing day-to-day essentials such as online banking and the NHS app.

Through culturally tailored support, multilingual engagement, and a focus on getting people into employment, the Digital Divide Project aims to create meaningful and lasting change, bridging the digital gap, addressing systemic inequalities, and unlocking opportunities for some of Birmingham's most underserved communities.

Digital Divide Webpage

Call 0121-515-4229

ADVICE SERVICE RECEIVES FURTHER FUNDING



Picture from our Social Housing workshop, teaching members of the community all about social housing

Earlier this year, after 13 years, our Community Safety Net project was at risk; an advice project, which over the years, has supported the local community with matters regarding welfare benefits, housing & debt, supporting over 8,000 people and resulting in over £19,000,000 in beneficiary financial outcomes, which clients may have missed out on without the support of the CSN team.

What makes the CSN project unique and an integral project within the community is that the local community consists of a strong migrant population who often face barriers to accessing government support, such as a lack of literacy, language barriers and an overall lack of understanding of government processes.

Although the project provides vital support to the community and has the data to support the CSN team's outstanding work, the previously mentioned shift in the funding landscape made it difficult to secure funding to keep the project open.

Fortunately, after hard work and perseverance from the team, funding was secured to keep the project going for another year, allowing us to continue providing this vital support project.

GNNSJ CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SELFLESS SERVICE



On March 28th, Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha (GNNSJ) celebrated a historic milestone, reaching over 50 years of service to the community. GNNSJ has been a longstanding pillar in the community, from the work of its volunteers preparing and serving over 25,000 meals each week, to its broader initiatives, which have grown to span education, healthcare, civic engagement and more, all underpinned by the values of faith and selfless service.

The day commemorated 50 years of rich history by welcoming Guest of Honour, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the West Midlands, Derrick Anderson CBE, and other esteemed leaders in faith, civic, business and academic fields from around the world.

The NCA supported the celebrations by hosting a key feature of the event, a new exhibition created for the anniversary, titled **"Faith in Action: 50 Years of Nishkam Seva"**, which was on display throughout April. The exhibition took viewers through the last 50 years, exploring GNNSJ's pioneering initiatives in education, healthcare, civic regeneration, heritage conservation, and international development in the UK, India, and Kenya.

Event Highlights

FAMILY SUPPORT PROJECT



Values-led training being delivered at Hampshire County Council

In March, the main funding for our South Asian Family Support Hub (SAFSH) project came to an end - a project which, since its inception during COVID, has supported and empowered over 600 families.

The SAFSH project was created to provide person-centred, culturally appropriate support for families, helping them overcome barriers to build stronger, more resilient families.

The SAFSH project fulfilled a vital need in the community by offering culturally appropriate wraparound support. This was integral to some families as the SAFSH team frequently found that cases would require multiple interventions and ongoing advice, as multiple root causes often compounded to create a greater issue.

Of the data captured, **74.7%** of cases were moderate, requiring ongoing advice and multiple interventions, **8.8%** were complex, involving intensive, multi-agency support, and **16.5%** were single cases resolved with minimal intervention.

SAFSH will continue to work collaboratively with Birmingham Children's Trust to champion the Values-led Approach by championing and delivering Reducing Parental Conflict training, a method recognised in the DWP's Good Practice Guide. Based on this recognition, Hampshire County Council commissioned us to deliver our values-led training to 125 staff.

SUSTAINABLE STEPS TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE



The NCA was built over 20 years ago with the best equipment available at the time. As the building gets older and the benchmark for sustainability rises, we must find ways to advance the building along with it.

Fortunately, in the past couple of months, we took big strides in improving NCA's sustainability. We secured two grants from SPF, which enabled us to fit new carpets into several rooms, enhancing the experience of the events that take place at the centre, improving the extraction and heating system and replacing some of the lights in the building with new LED lighting.

A second grant was also secured from Groundworks to support the complete transition to LED lighting and the addition of a solar panel system.

The new LED bulbs replaced 1,250 old fluorescent and halogen lamps, reducing the building's energy consumption by 73%, saving £2,500 annually; along with the solar panels, estimated to save £5,261 per year, have helped alleviate the pressure from rising energy bills, a prominent issue among the charity sector, whilst also improving our sustainability.

LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME BEGINS ITS FIRST CLASS



We are delighted to share early progress from the first cohort of the Nishkam Senior Leadership Programme, launched in February 2025. This innovative, values-led apprenticeship aims to nurture future leaders who will make a meaningful difference in their organisations and communities.

The cohort marked a significant milestone since the strategic repositioning of our apprenticeship programme, transitioning from lower-level to advanced Level 7 apprenticeships.

Our initial cohort of 15 learners is now seven weeks into Module 1 (Leading and Developing People), delivered by Dr Chris Jones, Programme Director. Engagement has been impressive, with learners actively participating and engaging with sessions.

Apprentices in the first cohort have produced some fantastic work, demonstrating a strong grasp of leadership principles and exemplary tutor feedback.

We look forward to seeing this inspiring cohort continue to thrive over the next 23 months, and are looking forward to the next intake of apprentices in Autumn.

Apprenticeship Hub