

Communities Addressing Gambling Harms 2026 grantees:

Project Summaries:

The Flowhession Foundation

Flowhession supports South Asian, Arab and Somali diaspora communities across Greater Manchester through culturally responsive services including counselling, welfare advice and health and wellbeing activities. They are delivering bilingual Gambling Harms Awareness Workshops for women in Bolton, exploring the impact of gambling on mental health, finances and family life, and training Community Champions, reaching 100 people over the course of the project.

<https://flowhessionfoundation.org.uk/>

Bethel Pentecostal Church Manchester

Bethel Pentecostal Church in Tameside serves low-income, ethnically diverse and migrant residents through pastoral care, food provision, crisis support and wellbeing activities. They are embedding gambling harm awareness into existing community networks, aiming to reach 60 people through interactive workshops, peer discussion circles and informal one-to-one conversations, plus equipping volunteers with the confidence to recognise warning signs and signpost to support.

<http://www.bethelpentecostalchurch.org/>

Bolton Community Development Partnership

Bolton Community Development Partnership supports young adults aged 16–25 facing complex needs including insecure immigration status, financial hardship and exposure to exploitation, helping them transition into adulthood through housing, welfare, employment and life skills support. They are delivering weekly workshops on budgeting, digital safety, emotional wellbeing and recognising manipulative gambling design, alongside peer-led sessions and one-to-one support, aiming to reach up to 100 young people.

<http://www.boltoncdp.org>

Odd Arts

Odd Arts, based in Manchester, works with people facing disadvantage and discrimination, including those with experience of the criminal justice system, using therapeutic theatre and community engagement to improve mental health, wellbeing and social cohesion. They are working with 10 lived experience experts through creative sessions to develop and perform a legislative theatre production on gambling harms, culminating in a public event for community members and local authority staff to collaboratively explore policy solutions.

<https://www.oddarts.co.uk>

Syngesis CIC

Syngesis CIC is a grassroots social enterprise supporting British Bangladeshi, South Asian and other global majority communities in Oldham, Manchester and Rochdale, where gambling harms are often hidden due to shame, stigma and financial pressure. Their project delivers targeted small-group outreach in mosques, women's networks and youth groups, community film screenings with facilitated discussion, and practical mini-workshops, all supported by bilingual materials in Bangla/Sylheti and English, aiming to directly engage 150–200 people.

<https://syngesis.org/>

**Unbound
Programme CIC**

Unbound Programme CIC provides trauma-informed coaching support to adult and young survivors of modern slavery and human trafficking across Greater Manchester, many of whom are from racially minoritised communities and face poverty, insecure immigration status and multiple disadvantage. They will engage 80 community members by delivering monthly gambling harm awareness workshops covering financial literacy and mental wellbeing, training 10–15 Community Champions in early identification and safe referral, and hosting community forums to reduce stigma and strengthen peer support networks.

<https://unboundprogramme.org.uk/>

Greater Manchester Kenyan Community Organisation (GMKCO)	Greater Manchester Kenyan Community Organisation (GMKCO) is supporting 40 Kenyan residents across Stockport and Tameside, many of whom face financial vulnerability linked to low-wage work, No Recourse to Public Funds, and the cultural pressure to send remittances to family in Kenya. They are delivering financial wellness workshops co-designed with lived experience facilitators, reframing gambling as a risk to household stability rather than a moral failing, alongside a digital awareness campaign across their WhatsApp and social media networks. https://drive.google.com/drie/unavailable
Happy Me Community CIC	Happy Me Community CIC Happy Me Community CIC is a women-led, trauma-informed organisation serving women in Bury who face racial inequalities, poverty and multiple disadvantage, with senior leaders holding personal lived experience of gambling harms. They deliver a six-month, once-a-month programme of themed sessions covering gambling harms, coercive control, resilience and community action, shaped by a co-design process, and reaching 30 women face-to-face, and more through their social media. https://happymecommunity.org/
Family Unit Trust	Family Unit Trust supports families in Manchester affected by cancer, particularly those from racially diverse and low-income communities where illness can intensify existing financial pressures and increase vulnerability to harmful coping mechanisms. They are embedding gambling harm awareness into their existing Stronger Together Families wellbeing programme through community awareness sessions combining family activities with structured discussions on warning signs, financial impact and support pathways, using culturally sensitive materials, aiming to engage around 50 individuals. https://www.familyunittrust.org.uk/
Community Thriving Together CIC	Community Thriving Together CIC supports ethnic minority and migrant families in Manchester, particularly women facing language barriers, social isolation and limited access to mainstream services, through wellbeing groups, ESOL learning and family activities. They are embedding gambling harm awareness into their established coffee mornings and family activities,

supported by community champions, WhatsApp outreach and translated materials, aiming to engage around 120 people.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/647619346918151/?ref=share>

**Step-Up
Manchester Black
Men Community
Organisation**

Step-Up Manchester Black Men Community Organisation supports men in Oldham who face poverty, social exclusion and poor mental health, and for whom gambling harms are often hidden and tied to financial stress and untreated trauma. They will deliver a structured volunteer training programme on gambling addiction, its links to poverty and mental health, and peer support skills, followed by a community awareness campaign using workshops and outreach through trusted social and faith networks, directly engaging at least 60 people.

<https://stepup.org.com/home>

**Signpost Stockport
For Carers**

Signpost Stockport for Carers supports unpaid carers who experience poverty, poor health, financial hardship and social isolation, including those from racially minoritised communities who are least likely to access mainstream services. They are embedding gambling harm awareness into existing services by training staff in their Moneywise welfare advice service to identify harm sensitively during routine financial reviews, and delivering universal awareness sessions across their well-attended drop-ins, workshops and community groups, aiming to engage around 400 people.

<https://signpostforcarers.org.uk/>

**Choose The Right
Path CIC**

Choose The Right Path CIC supports young people aged 11–25 from diverse ethnic backgrounds in deprived areas of Greater Manchester, many of whom are exposed to gambling-style behaviours through online gaming, social media and peer pressure. Their Gambling Awareness Programme delivers structured awareness sessions in youth settings and schools covering online risks, peer pressure and links to mental health, alongside healthy alternative activities such as cooking, crafts and outdoor sessions to build resilience, aiming to engage 60–80 young people.

<https://choosetherightpath.co.uk>

Precious Gems

Precious Gems supports disadvantaged women from African and Asian heritage backgrounds in Bolton, primarily survivors of domestic and gender-based violence with No Recourse to Public Funds, through drop-in support, one-to-one guidance and culturally appropriate wellbeing activities. They will deliver weekly community-based awareness sessions in women-only environments, targeted micro-outreach through churches, mosques and food banks, and co-designed educational materials in community languages, aiming to engage up to 100 women on the links between gambling harm, financial abuse and mental wellbeing.

<https://preciousgems.org.uk/>

Across Ummah CIC

Across Ummah CIC Across Ummah CIC is a Black-led grassroots organisation supporting racially minoritised communities in North Manchester and Longsight through food hubs, digital skills support and empowerment workshops. Their project will raise awareness and reduce stigma surrounding gambling harms, building on previous lived-experience awareness sessions that demonstrated the value of culturally sensitive storytelling in trusted spaces. They will deliver outreach events, faith-based talks and small group workshops in Cheetham Hill mosques and churches, distributing culturally appropriate materials at community venues and events, and training volunteers as community champions to sustain awareness activity, aiming to reach 300 people.

<https://www.acrossummah.com/>

**Rochdale
Connections Trust**

Rochdale Connections Trust supports vulnerable children, young people, adults and families across Rochdale affected by domestic abuse, poor mental health, social isolation and disadvantage, with long-standing trusted relationships across diverse local communities. They will reach around 50 people by delivering tailored gambling harm awareness sessions in existing group settings for three cohorts: women affected by domestic abuse, children and young people, and men in their behaviour change programme; alongside internal staff training to strengthen early identification and confident, non-judgemental responses.

<https://www.r-c-t.co.uk/>