Funding Support

The Boaz Trust

The Boaz Trust is a Christian charity serving destitute asylum seekers and refugees in Greater Manchester. They provide accommodation, practical and pastoral support and a programme of social and educational activities for clients. Boaz also campaigns for an end to the destitution of asylum seekers and refugees.

Alongside accommodation and the basic provision of support, Boaz had a vision to provide more intensive support for male clients that would enable them to rebuild their lives and move on from Boaz. The project plan included a full time Male Case Worker, legal advice and representation, and regular activities to help asylum seeking men prepare for the future.

Boaz contacted us in Summer 2012 for support with funding a new support programme for asylum seeking men. We met with the Boaz team and supported them in developing a Stage 1 application to the Big Lottery Reaching Communities programme, a funder they had not previously contacted. With support from us Boaz successfully passed Stage 1 and was invited to submit a Stage 2 application.

We supported Boaz in developing a Stage 2 application and also brought in an expert funding consultant to aid the process. This intensive support involved face to face sessions as well as reviewing draft sections via email.

The support helped Boaz present their project strongly, clearly and in their own words. Time was spent ensuring that there was a clear thread running throughout the application showing the connection between need, evidence, services and outcomes and clearly reflecting costs in a robust and realistic budget.

Emily Roberts, Fundraising and Communications Manager, said: “It was a great help to have someone external to Boaz, critique our application and ask difficult questions about the project. This helped us strengthen the application and produce a more detailed project plan. The funding consultant was a good motivator and kept us on schedule to submit the application.

The lottery grant of £248,602 over three years is the largest grant the Boaz Trust has been awarded to date. Through the project we anticipate seeing over 100 asylum seeking men significantly improve their physical and mental wellbeing, and re-connect with society. We are now looking forward to the hard work ahead, and are grateful to Manchester Community Central for their help in making this project possible.”
The Asylum Seeking Men’s Support Programme began in October 2013. For more details on the Boaz Trust visit: [www.boaztrust.org.uk](http://www.boaztrust.org.uk)