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# FaithStar LLP

## Social Impact Report 2021

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July 2020 - July 2021  
Shahida Siddique  
Chief Executive

# About the Organisation

FaithStar is a social enterprise, specialising in faith-based management, to enable places of worship, charities, and other faith organisations to adhere to the regulatory requirements of the civic, financial, ecclesiastical, and religious law they are all governed by. We also provide accountancy as well as administrative, organisational, meetings and events management. Since its inception, FaithStar has strived to build bridges between communities, religious or not, throughout the hugely diverse city of Sheffield. Increasing understanding and cooperation whilst challenging prejudice and misconception, bringing seemingly contrasting cultures together towards a common goal and purpose. We have been able to achieve this through collaboration with our unique way of relationship building and network of community contacts, with which we share a positive and mutually respectful relationship with.

## The Team

### **Shahida Siddique**

Chief Executive Officer

### **Savannah Mayo**

Executive Assistant to CEO

### **Janet Daye**

Finance Officer

### **Ash Najib**

Finance Officer

### **Tracy Haycox**

Executive Partnerships and Relationships Officer

### **Lily Hadfield**

Communications and Development

### **Ismaila Khan**

Research and Development Officer

### **Nivi Shanmuganathan**

Marketing Officer



# What the report aims to do

Last year, we released our Social Impact Report for February through until June 2020. In this, we outlined our work that we achieved over the initial months of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our mission within this first report was:

*To save lives. To support the city and stop the spread of the virus in whatever capacity we can, by supporting, linking, capacity building; individuals, organisations, and communities to be better connected with each other.*

Over the last 16 months, we have achieved this aim, by bringing together communities, statutory agencies and different sectors it was crucial for us to be self-reflective on our organisation, the communities, and the city of Sheffield looking at the aftermath of the pandemic, so to look at the rebuilding of society as well as prevention.

As well as this, we want to be as clear as possible, the work we do at FaithStar is about long-term, structural, and institutional change. This means that there are aspects of our last report that also are included in this one; the work we are doing will not be done after one year. Community engagement, building trusting relationships, and intersectional work is most productive and effective when they are done with the mindset that the projects will not be done in a short timespan.



What have we done?

## BLACK, ASIAN AND MINORITY ETHNIC COVID-19 RESPONSE:

- Secured holiday hunger programme development for next year with dedicated support for BAME and underserved communities
- Secured in excess of £500k of funding direct to BAME groups – supported the development and Infrastructure support for COVID grant round 1 and 2
- Supported secretariat work around the BAME Public Health inequality group Suicide support and engagement during COVID
- Our CEO is the co-chair race equity and inclusion group
- Pfizer community engagement with local Sheffield BAME group first of its kind in the country
- Hosted webinar that saw experts discussing the vaccine with communities; covering issues in break out groups such as 1. Increasing representation in Vaccine Development 2. Program Delivery reducing vaccine hesitancy what have we learned so far 3. Implementation getting the vaccine out \*
- Continued our work as a business support link for BAME communities
- Setup and supported the BAME maternity working group
- Hosted 29 Meetings on a fortnightly basis co-chaired with Sarah Hepworth from Public Health.
- Worked with the DWP in engaging with BAME communities
- Averaged 2.5 days per week being accessible to all BAME communities (with a focus on the 30+ on our list), in Sheffield as required
- Provided support to the Chinese community during COVID hate crime and community engagement
- Support to ACP partners on ad hoc basis for advice and guidance on issues relating to BAME communities engagement as needed
- Continued our work with A&E community engagement
- Helped and supported the move more strategy

# Summary

## How many people have we helped?

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Due to the nature of our work, we help people both directly and indirectly. This has been no different throughout the pandemic.

### Direct:

- 35+ BAME organisations in Sheffield who have then gone on to support the communities they serve
- Supported 30 groups to get communication grant from SCC
- Supported 30 groups to access Covid support fund 1 and 2
- Supported 30 groups to access Flu support fund
- Supported 30 groups to access Vaccination programs funds

### Indirect:

- 25% of Sheffield population (BAME percentage)
  - 40+ different communities
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# Recommendations for this section

**From the last report we have done the following and will continue to:**

- Deliver against the methodology of listen, learn, and act in order to transform systems, services and resources in order to meet the needs of communities
- To build upon and develop existing relationships.
- Continue to address the trust deficit in the city between communities and institutions.
- Secured 500k in pandemic for communities and are working strategically to acquire more resources
- Have supported 20 orgs with their PQQs (pre qualifying questionnaire)
- Supported the development of race equality inclusion group at ACP, Accountable care partnership. To ensure decision makers are hearing the needs of communities.
- Kevin Fenton recommendations: approved and endorsed by health and wellbeing board
- Empower the community's voices to a high level
- Support through the all the phases of COVID-19 and will help support though the recovery phase



What have we done?

# FAITH COVID -19 RESPONSE

- Bereavement support and development
- Secretariat and Development of the Sheffield COVID memorial group
- Environment and enforcement team advice and guidance on mosques, places of worship and wedding halls and religious festivals
- Suicide support and engagement during COVID
- Averaged 2.5 days per week being accessible to all faith communities in Sheffield as required
- Video for faith communities on vaccination program
- YouTube video that has over 200 views, showing faith community members and leaders discussing the vaccine, promoting it's uptake in Sheffield\*
- Funeral and deaths for faith communities protocols and community management
- Updating and maintaining the shefffaithcomm website to update faith communities on guidance, lockdowns, vaccine and testing sites, and much more.
- 6 meeting co-chaired or lead with the Director of Public health of Sheffield, Greg Fell, as needed
- Universal credit and foodbanks support
- Religious festival support and letters as needed
- Mosques guidance as needed
- Communications assets, letters, social media
- Signposting COVID-19 information as and when is needed in line with the guidance.
- Supported the ongoing process of reopening places of worship

# Summary

## How many people have we helped?

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Due to the nature of our work, we help people both directly and indirectly. This has been no different throughout the pandemic.

### Direct:

- 70+ faith workers Sheffield who have then gone on to support the communities they serve

### Indirect:

- 10000+ people of faith in Sheffield
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# Recommendations for this section

**From the last report we have done the following and will continue to:**

- Support the implementation of the national guidance on places of worship in an appropriate way and support them with reopening
- Continue to support the faith keyworkers across the city
- Ensure that faith communities voice is heard across the city
- supported and developed partnership working between faith communities and institutions in the city in support of communities
- Ensured that faith communities are the heart of the recovery phase in support of communities.
- linked faith communities with different stakeholders across the city
- Ensure religious and cultural practices are being followed



# WE ARE REALLY GRATEFUL FOR THE HELP AND SUPPORT FROM:

All our partners, stakeholders and statutory bodies, in VCF, public, and private sector, with whom we have worked tirelessly with, achieving the best outcomes for our communities.

If you would like to be involved within the work we do, or if you need our help, please contact us on:

E-Mail: [info@faithstar.org](mailto:info@faithstar.org)

Telephone: 0114 350 3310

