

Affiliating to birmingham race action partnership

the
benefits
of joining

Introduction

Birmingham Race Action Partnership (**b:RAP**) is a charitable organisation limited by guarantee. We strongly believe that the challenges of 'race' inequality cannot be met without re-thinking both our approach and delivery in this area. We are committed to developing fresh, innovative thinking and translating this into action by working with key institutions and organisations to assist in the development of their own 'race' equality responses.

Our mission

'**b:RAP** is a strategic advisory organisation on 'race' and related equality issues. We, and our partners, aim to promote better community relations, to deepen mutual understanding and to bring about city-wide change.'

To do this we will:

- engage with the key institutions that provide services to Birmingham people;
- create the capacity for fresh innovative thinking on 'race' and equality issues;
- provide high quality advice and information, which improves intelligence and understanding;
- help to monitor and extend the services offered to black and minority ethnic (BME) communities.

Our products and services

- **Developing mainstream practice** - Working to ensure that 'race' equality and equality measures are routinely embedded in service provision and institutional behaviour. Supporting national and local policy development, in addition to providing advice on implementation, plays a huge part in helping us to deliver this objective.
- **Making networking count** - We develop networks that work across organisations and with a range of people. This helps us to develop 'joined-up' responses to equality, understand the experiences of people 'on the ground', and actively support learning and change within organisations and with individuals.
- **Research, learning and thinking** - We undertake research to help us to develop approaches to address disadvantage that are analytical and evidence-based. Only by doing this are we able to produce advice that recognises and responds to the complexity and heterogeneous nature of BME groups, the systemic nature of 'race' discrimination, and how it replicates within society.
- **Effective Community Consultation and Engagement** - We pilot innovative approaches to consultation and assist others to ensure that BME communities are better able to articulate their views and experiences.
- **Professional development and consultancy** - We provide a range of tailor made consultancy services to organisations that affiliate to us, in addition to running seminars and events that increase knowledge, provide accurate information and develop competency in the areas of 'race' and equality.

b:RAP

As a b:RAP Affiliate...

The primary goal...

As a **b:RAP Affiliate** you will be concerned about the future effectiveness of your service in Birmingham and want to be ahead of the game by keeping abreast of 'race' equality thinking and practice in this area. Most importantly you will be making a stand for 'race' equality and committing your organisation to a city wide movement of institutions, organisations and individuals, who also wish to achieve this aim.

Secondary benefits include...

- a diagnostic assessment of your 'race' equality policy;
- access to **b:RAP**'s library and resources;
- receipt of **b:RAP** reports and publications;
- receipt of **b:RAP** newsletters;
- information on conferences and events;
- preferential rates for our professional development services;
- access to our active networks.

Getting in touch

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what our Affiliates say about b:RAP

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I wanted to let you know how pleased we have been with the event which b:RAP organised and delivered for us. I have been extremely impressed with the feedback I have had from my managers, many of whom have told me how thought provoking and useful the event has been...

Margaret Tovey, District
Manager, Jobcentre Plus

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b:RAP consultants take a supportive role allowing the college to prioritise and develop at its own pace.

Solihull College, 2004

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It was very interesting and educating. Good to hear from young black people.

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Excellent attendance, energy and passion in the room.

Participants at 'Urban Myths,
Street Realities' event, 2003

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The Black Women's Network (BWN) have played a critical role in helping us develop our work in Hall Green and Selly Oak. We are really pleased to have them on board.

Helen Shaw, Community Development
Worker, Hall Green District

Amongst our many partnership roles, b:RAP was part of the project steering group that assisted in the production of the Strategic Health Authority Race Equality Guide 2004.

b:RAP