2nd August 2021

# Free Intergenerational - Interfaith Dialogue workshop to build trust in communities in North London

[Initiatives of Change UK’s Sustainable Communities Programme](https://iofc.org.uk/initiatives/sustainable-communities/) in partnership with the Spanish NGO, [Foro-Abraham](http://www.foroabraham.org/), is organising a four-day intergenerational and interfaith dialogue workshop from 23-26 August from 10am to 2pm for all communities in North London. The project is supported by the [International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID) - Network for Dialogue](https://network4dialogue.eu/). The training is hosted by the [Somali Bravanese Welfare Association (SBWA)](https://www.sbwa.org.uk/) as part of their summer youth programme for all communities living in Finchley and North London. The event will take place at the newly built Tarling Road Community Hub, a site where the Al-Rahma Islamic Centre once stood before it was destroyed by a fire in an apparent hate crime attack in 2013.

Lockdowns and social distancing have caused widespread fear, loneliness and isolation. Further divisions between different communities and across generations have heightened during the pandemic. This training is an opportunity to breakdown social barriers and build trust. Participants will be able to reconnect and build relationships across the divides in a safe and Covid-friendly environment. They will be able to meet members from the migrant/ refugee and host communities alongside community leaders and special guests. The vision of the training is to:

* to **build relationships** across generations through dialogue and creativity
* to **share skills** for effective communication around challenging issues faced across generations of people from different faiths
* to **forge broader cohesion** between migrants/refugees and the host community from different faiths and no faith.
* To **inspire** a cross-generational mentor-mentee relationship
* **To empower** people from diverse communities to become agents of change

A certificate will be provided to each participant, who successfully completes the training along with a gift as a token of gratitude. All training expenses will be covered including refreshments and live entertainment. At the end of the training, there will be a multicultural celebration in the park with food, music, entertainment, arts and crafts.

This training workshop is part of a connected project that Initiatives of Change UK’s Sustainable Communities Programme and Foro-Abraham have been collaborating together as network members of the Intergenerational Dialogue Centre (KAICIID) - Network for Dialogue. [Three policy briefs](https://www.kaiciid.org/news-events/news/kaiciid%E2%80%99s-network-dialogue-publishes-policy-briefs-addressing-issues-social) were recently published addressing issues of social exclusion among Europe’s refugee and migrant communities. The training workshop is a connected project looking at the broader issues around migration and creating an inclusive policymaking process.

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## Notes to editors

Title: Intergenerational Dialogue for Social Cohesion with Migrants and Refugees in Europe

When: 23-26 August 2021, 10am – 2pm

Where: Tarling Road Community Hub, 20 Fallows Close, London N2 8LG

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/intergenerational-dialogue-for-social-cohesion-with-migrants-and-refugees-tickets-165730158365>

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## About Initiatives of Change:

* Active in over 60 countries, including the UK, Initiatives of Change (IofC) is a global movement and NGO dedicated to building trust across the world’s divides.
* IofC encourages conscience-based decision-making that generates positive change across society, with its programmes centred on ethical leadership, sustainable living and trust-building.
* The UK team undertakes activities in the UK and around the world, in collaboration with other IofC national or regional bodies plus other partner organisations. Current programmes include:
  + A national Sustainable Communities programme, formed in 2012 in response to the UK riots of August 2011. The work focuses on strengthening community initiatives and providing practical support that equips people in disadvantaged areas to become agents of change.
  + Refugees as Re-Builders™, a training programme aimed at refugees who want help contribute to the rebuilding of their country of origin. Subjects include dialogue facilitation, ethical leadership and sustainable livelihood.
  + Creators of Peace, which has been empowering women to be radical peace-builders and powerful agents for positive change within their own communities since 1991. Its workshop and conference-based activity addresses the roots of conflict, providing tools to build bridges of forgiveness across racial, religious and social divides.

## About Foro-Abraham:

* Foro-Abraham for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue is a nonprofit organisation based in Spain. Through cultural and educational activities, Foro-Abraham contributes to the mutual knowledge of people of different religious beliefs.
* Foro-Abraham aims to create a space for dialogue from a socio-cultural, apolitical and non-denominational approach, with absolute respect for the beliefs of its members and of the participants in its activities. They cooperate with national and international entities and activities to promote, develop and organize and / or sponsor artistic and cultural activities and volunteer training.

## About Network for Dialogue:

* a Europe-wide initiative seeking to unite faith-based and secular organisations, religious leaders, and scholars in strengthening dialogical approaches to the integration of refugees and migrants. Currently, Network members come from Austria, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.