

Since 2004 DRI has supported thousands of ethnically diverse community members, community organisations and local authorities, and mainstream community entities by running community development programmes, facilitating forums to share knowledge, offer trainings to develop skills and employability, and partner in research to deepen social understanding.

Our Motivation

Diversity Resource International was set up to contribute to social justice in 2004. DRI was set up to work towards racial justice in East Sussex at that time when racialised new migrants were being met with antagonism and hatred. DRI wanted to welcome them, by creating a befriending programme and facilitate an emotional connection between people as people of colour and allies of people of colour.

BIGGEST CHALLENGE -

The biggest challenge is not receiving long-term investments. Long-term funding fosters sustainable community development. Short-term funding can lead to a sense of putting out fires and organisations stretched too thin, with a lack of developing thriving and self-sufficient communities. DRI continually works to overcome this by utilising the resources available to us and continuing the push for agencies to trust, value, and invest in ethnic-led organisations.

Our Beneficiaries

- ◆ "Made me feel that there were people out there in Sussex fighting for me in a way I haven't quite felt before"
- ◆ "The direct impact on me is a feeling of empowerment and encouragement to fight for the things that have been silenced for so long."
- ◆ "[Bilingual Advocate] came to visit us to give us a warm greeting when we just arrived in UK, very friendly and supportive."
- ◆ "[DRI] gave more confidence to see the doctor"



Left to Right:
DRI Director – Patrick Nyikavaranda,
DRI Founder and Director – Dr. Yaa Asare,
DRI Founder and Director – Mebrak Ghebreweldi

Message to the public

DRI wants to co-recreate the life experience for people from ethnicities that are not part of the majority population, wherever they are living in Britain. We want to see a society where differences spark educated and welcoming curiosity rather than resentment, and where people of all ethnicities feel a sense of belonging, safe and valued for their contribution to the cultural and economic fabric of life.

DRI Achievements

DRI works directly with minoritised communities to develop self-confidence and to learn new skills while maintaining their racial identity, building their resilience, and becoming aware of their rights. We do this through our training courses and community development programmes such as; unpaid Carers support groups, Women's Walking Group, Strengthening English Skills Programme, and the Hong Kong BN (O) Welcome Programme, Community Researchers courses and Bilingual Advocate courses.

Throughout our work, DRI has seen how affirming identity leads to racial justice; for instance, we empowered minoritised Carers to tell their stories and produced a film, showing how important and valuable they are to the fabric of our society. We organise a walking group for Muslim women in Hastings where peer support helps build confidence and share concerns linked to being racialised in minority white spaces. DRI's community work empowers ethnically minoritised communities to build their skills, knowledge and ability to access services.

Discussion forums have enabled communities to discuss and share lived experiences, reducing the ignorance of local institutions, and connecting people, all leading to growing racial justice in East Sussex.

English here."

- ◆ "Next time when I want to get a train I can understand how to buy a ticket and how to get out of Lewes station"

DRI Beneficiaries continued...

- ◆ " [The webinar] exposed me to broader knowledge and experiences beyond my own. Provided a space with others who are interested and keen to learn and influence our spheres. It also encouraged me that racial inequality is not off the table in different areas and that this is something we need to keep pushing on the agendas in our organisations."
- ◆ "I want to thank [Bilingual Advocate] and Diversity Resource International who helped me to sort out everything with my children's nursery. You helped me when I moved house to transfer everything with Universal Credit and the bills and helped me with letters. I am very grateful for all that you have done."
- ◆ "The carer group is very useful to me. I have made new friends and we exchange ideas about caring roles."
- ◆ "[DRI helped] to meet people who come from Hong Kong, we can help each other, share information living in Eastbourne, to think what we will work, the requirement what we should learn."
- ◆ "[DRI] help me to know more Honk Kong people in Eastbourne. Opportunity to learn and speak English more. Many useful talks for us to attend."
- ◆ "I am very happy to learn

Email: Community@driorg.com
Website: www.driorg.com
Phone: 07586 34059



[https://www.linkedin.com/
company/dri-org/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/dri-org/)



(7) Diversity Resource International | Lewes | Facebook



@DRI_Training



@dri_training