

# **Drug and Alcohol Action Programme Ltd**

**Registered in England as a charity no: 1101661  
and a company limited by guarantee no: 4758866**

## **Annual General Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2004**

**Dr. Raj Rajarayan OBE  
Chairperson's report**

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT**

### **Our Beliefs**

We believe that every individual should be treated with dignity and respect

We believe that people should have the opportunities, support and encouragement to exercise control over their own lives and acknowledge their responsibilities to others

### **Our Purpose**

Drug and Alcohol Action Programme Ltd. works to advance the education of all sections of the community about aspects of substance misuse and related issues. In particular we work towards eradicating addiction by and through education; by developing and managing culturally appropriate programmes and treatment services and by conducting appropriate research on addictive behaviour. DAAP seeks to represent the views and concerns of individuals and communities affected by substance misuse.

DAAP will promote predominately, but not exclusively, for minority ethnic communities, issues relating to substance misuse, in particular alcohol and drug addiction. This is in recognition that many Black and minority ethnic communities do not have appropriate access to drug and alcohol education or services.

### **Our commitment**

Drug and Alcohol Action Programme is an equal opportunities employer and seeks to promote equality and diversity in all its functions. We believe that discrimination on the grounds of an individual's lifestyle, culture, beliefs, ethnic origin, colour, religion, gender, sexuality, disability, age, social or economic status contravenes the fundamental human right of individuals to determine their own options and choices and to achieve their full potential

Our commitment to equality and diversity relates to the management of the organisation, our relationships with external organisations, service provision, employment and training of staff and volunteers. DAAP expects trustees, consultants, employees, volunteers and all agents that act on its behalf to adhere to the letter as well as to the spirit of this statement and to operate within the law.

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**Chairperson's Report**

It has been an exciting and challenging time for the Drug and Alcohol Action Programme Ltd in the first year of its existence. Drug and Alcohol Action Programme Ltd (DAAP) was formally constituted as a limited company on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2003 and registered as a charity on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2004 to take forward and develop the work commenced by the Southall Community Drugs Education Project (SCDEP) in Southall, from 1999 to 2001.

**Principle objectives**

- To advance the education of the public about all aspects of substance misuse and related issues particularly by working towards eradicating addiction by and through education; by developing and managing appropriate programmes and treatment services; by conducting appropriate research on addictive behaviour; and by disseminating the useful results of such research for the benefit of the public;
- To promote for the public benefit, predominately but not exclusively for minority ethnic communities, issues relating to substance misuse;
- To relieve poverty and to relieve physical, mental and emotional distress amongst individuals and communities subject to and affected by substance misuse by the provision of advice, education, treatment and such other means as shall further the Principal objects;
- To build upon the work initiated and developed by the Southall Community drugs Education project from 1998 to 2002;
- To raise awareness about the problems facing individuals and communities affected by substance misuse, in particular alcohol and drug addiction;
- To set up and manage culturally appropriate education, prevention and treatment programmes primarily but not exclusively for minority ethnic communities;
- To co-operate and collaborate with voluntary bodies, statutory authorities, businesses and other independent organisations working on similar issues; to exchange information and develop joint initiatives;
- To work with voluntary, statutory and other agencies to promote culturally sensitive drug and alcohol education, prevention initiatives and treatment programmes;
- To arrange and provide for or join in arranging and providing for the holding of exhibitions, meetings, lectures, workshops, seminars and training courses;
- To act as a national voice for individuals and communities affected by substance misuse;
- To promote the benefits of a multi-cultural society and to increase understanding of cultural issues;

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**Ealing Drug Education Project**

DAAP's three year funded project - the Ealing Drug Education Project (EDEP)- provides drug education to all the communities in the London Borough of Ealing. The project works in a focussed way with the African, Caribbean, Somali and South Asian communities in Southall and other parts of Ealing. This is to ensure that the range of cultural and language needs are met appropriately and that relevant drug education resources are deployed.

The project works with individuals, families and organisations to increase their knowledge about drug issues as they affect the local communities. It also enables users and carers to access relevant services. The project focuses on community cohesion as an essential issue in empowering the communities to tackle the issue of increasing drug use and the notion of 'it can't happen to us'.

**Project activities**

- Delivering drug education in appropriate languages to parents, young people and local organisations
- Training local volunteers to disseminate drug education
- Enabling drug users and their families and carers to access appropriate services
- Working with young people from all communities to enhance community cohesion
- Training young people as peer educators
- Working within schools on providing drug education for pupils and teachers
- Working with local drug services to develop culturally sensitive services
- Undertaking appropriate research to highlight good practice as well as gaps in education and service delivery
- Undertaking appropriate research to develop and produce resources in the appropriate languages
- Supporting local communities by working with religious, business, statutory and voluntary organisations to engage with community development and support issues to mitigate the impact of drug use

**Funding**

EDEP is funded by the Big Lottery (previously known as the New Opportunities Fund) for the Southall Healthy Living Initiative and the Ealing Primary Care Trust (substance misuse commissioning). Community against Drugs and the Ealing Joint Strategic Commissioning Team (substance misuse services) provided a start up grant for the organisation. DAAP is also grateful for the private donations and donations in kind received from the Anglo-Asian Odontological Group, Mr. Amarjeet Khambhay and Ms. Reshmi Patel.

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**Members of Staff**

In June 03, the project initially employed four full time staff and a part-time project co-ordinator and an administrator. Currently the project has two full time staff and a part-time project co-ordinator and an administrator. Trained volunteers and session workers also work with the project with specific audiences.

**Staff**

Ms. Perminder Dhillon, Project co-ordinator  
Ms. Harbhajan Ghatore, Project officer  
Mr. Awale Kullane, Project Officer  
Ms. Rami Kohli, Project administrator

**Past staff**

Ms. Devinder Ghatoare, Project Administrator  
Ms. Angela Harewood, Project Administrator  
Mr. Saeed Khan, Project Officer  
Mr. Terence Mason, Project Officer

**Key Achievements**

DAAP hosted a local dinner to officially launch the organisation in April 03. Many members of community who attended pledged to support the project in a number of ways. The project has also taken part in a number of public events and conferences to raise the issues that it seeks to address. Notably the launch of drug services in Ealing at the Ealing Town Hall that attracted over 500 people and the 'Women against drugs' event that was held on the international women's day 2004 in Southall and attracted over 100 women.

The project has met and exceeded targets set by funding organisations on disseminating drug education to specific communities. It also uses trained volunteers and specific drug education language resources. It has pioneered work in local schools with pupils who have been disciplined for use of drugs.

In addition, the project has successfully engaged the Somali community and drug professionals on the use of Khat use and is in the process of developing appropriate education resources in the Somali language.

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A number of people have accessed appropriate sources of help and support through the project. A number of support groups exist to provide support for users and carers.

Yoga sessions targeted at users and carers enrich people's lives by enabling them to take more control of their physical, mental and spiritual well being.

The project continues to represent the interests of minority ethnic groups in the commissioning process and in impacting local services in order that diverse needs can be addressed.

At times the small staff team has been stretched by its considerable workload especially in light of establishing the procedures and protocols required of the new organisation.

**Future Developments**

The project will continue its drug education work and will focus on developing culturally appropriate drug and alcohol services.

The full compliment of staff and skills must be achieved over the next year.

The trustee board will continue to ensure that it becomes more reflective of the communities it serves.

On behalf of the board I would like to thank all members of staff and volunteers for their continued commitment and support. Particular thanks go to Perminder Dhillon, the project Co-ordinator, for sustaining the team and the trustee board.

My grateful thanks go to the project steering group and my colleagues on the board who have prioritised DAAP work despite their very full schedules.

**Trustees**

Mr. Maqsood Ahmed, OBE  
Mr. Amarjeet Khambhay  
Ms. Sandra Machado  
Mr. Jiten Patel  
Dr. Raj Rajarayan OBE

It is a privilege to be chairing DAAP and I am confident that the organisation will go from strength to strength

Dr. Raj Rajarayan OBE  
**Chair, DAAP**

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**Southall Community Drug Education Project**

SCDEP was the local name of the project managed and delivered by Perminder Dhillon from the then Ethnicity and Health Unit, Faculty of Health, University of Central Lancashire from 1998 to 2001. The project was jointly funded by Ealing Council's Single Regeneration Budget and the University of Central Lancashire to disseminate drug education particularly to minority ethnic communities in Southall. Philip Wright, Ealing Council's Head of Education and Community Centres oversaw the project. The project also employed a part time youth worker, Amolak Tatter.

Additional funding was received by the Department of Health to develop and produce a drug education video aimed at Punjabi speaking Sikh parents. This was produced by Perminder Dhillon from the university and was launched by Charles Clarke (MP) Minister of State for the Home Office on 26<sup>th</sup> March 01 at a national conference held in Southall titled *Life, People and Freedom*.

The project successfully worked with local organisations, young people from all communities and parents from the South Asian communities to disseminate drug education. A number of volunteers were recruited and trained to work with parents to offer drug education, advice and advocacy. More than 300 local people were reached through workshop; drop in sessions, small group and one to one sessions as well as from video shows and seminars. The project worked with many diverse groups and organisations and involved young people who successfully set up a young people's panel. The panel presented their drug prevention strategy for Southall at the *Life, People and Freedom* conference.

The project established good practice in working with diverse communities and with young people and has been commended for its work. The project attracted both local and national media coverage via the BBC, Channel East and other Asian TV channels.

The Southall Drugs Education Project received a grant from the Department of Health in 2001 to undertake a needs analysis of the South Asian communities in Southall. This was funded by the Black and Minority Ethnic Community Drugs Misuse Needs Assessment grant managed by the University of Central Lancashire. The study was carried out through structured interviews undertaken by field workers and volunteers who were trained at the university to undertake research. A public consultation was held on 3 July 2001 and was attended by 100 people that included both members of the community and representatives of relevant agencies.

