



YEAR REVIEW 2022



Football Unites, Racism Divides



FURD



A message from Simon Hyacinth and Mehrun Ahmed, CEOs of Football Unites Racism Divides Educational Trust:

"As 2022 draws to a close, we want to thank you for your continued support. If it wasn't for your help, feedback and goodwill, there's no way we could have delivered so many programmes and activities.

We've seen what can be achieved with good volunteers when passionate individuals and organisations join forces. By working together, we can make a real and lasting difference. We just wanted to extend a HUGE thank you to you for all of your efforts. Your involvement shines a light on the fantastic work that goes on within communities and we are very thankful for your generosity in supporting our work.

With the aftermath of Covid and the ongoing political challenges, we see societal inequalities deepen, which has been further exacerbated by the cost of living crisis. There is even a greater need for strengthening bonds and working in partnership, most importantly for the vulnerable in society.

We just wanted to send a big thank you for all your support for us at Football Unites Racism Divides.

We look forward to building on this important work in 2023, as we continue to build stronger communities.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year".



Football Unites, Racism Divides

Teach a man to fish and it shall feed him every day.
Breaking bread is peace and welcome.

Life leads one way, but we have to survive
each day. Like these giant waves at sea, nobody

knows where they are heading. Make time for life.
Make time for others. Follow the path

you have seen from your dreams. Like this crashing
wind that blows from everywhere and comes from

nowhere. Care about strangers. They bring
the flood of seasoning storms, they rain

never-ending boneless fishes. See how
condensation will gather all the salty fishes

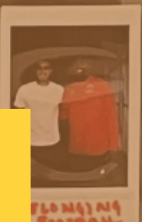
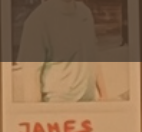
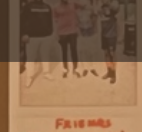
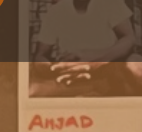
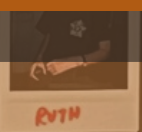
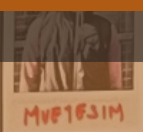
from sea to sky into your kitchen.
Welcome everybody with the warmth

of a mother's breast holding her baby.
Not everyone who knocks at your door is lost.

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MAMA USED TO SAY - WRITTEN BY DIYO MULOPO
BOPENGO



YEAR IN NUMBERS

TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE
SUPPORTED IN 1-TO-1 ACTIVITY
BY THE SERVICE DURING 2022

82

TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE
SUPPORTED IN GROUP ACTIVITY
BY THE SERVICE DURING 2022

400

TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE
REACHED THROUGH EVENTS BY
THE SERVICE DURING 2022

1800

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MVP18JIM



B4F



RUTH



ANJAD



FRIENDS
B. FOOTBALL



JAMES



B4F



COACH K



FRIENDS
B. FOOTBALL



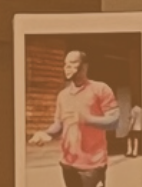
FRIENDS
B. FOOTBALL



MOHRUN



HOWARD



ISAIAH



ABDULLAH

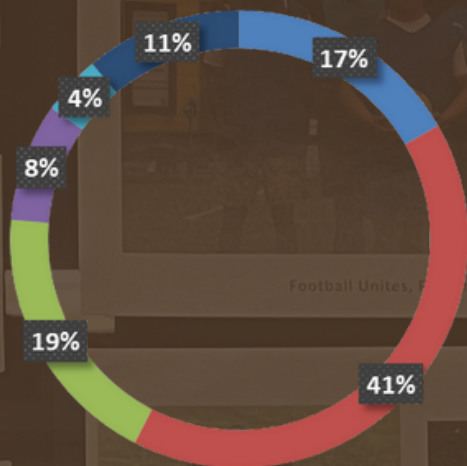


ABDULLAH



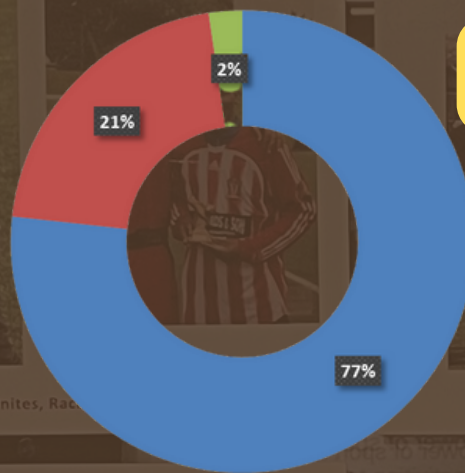
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BY AGE



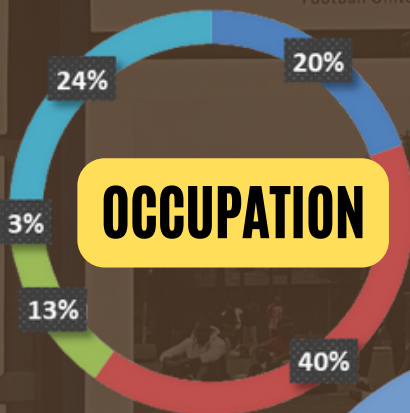
- Age Under 16
- Age 16 - 25
- Age 26 - 39
- Age 40 - 64
- Age 65 - 80
- Age 80+
- Age Unknown / Prefer not to say

BY GENDER



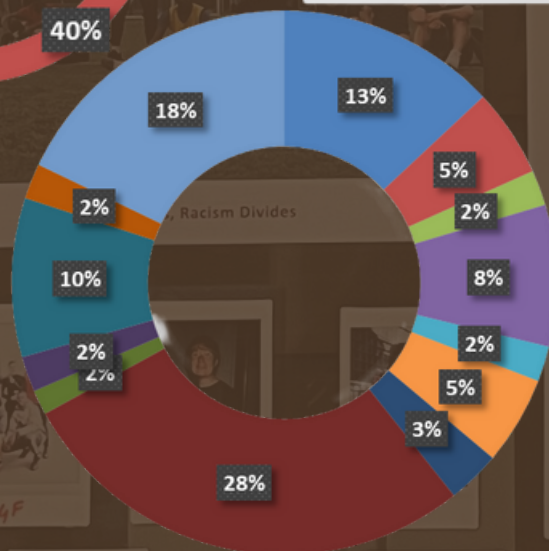
- Male
- Female
- Unknown / Prefer not to say

OCCUPATION



- In work
- Not working
- Student
- Retired
- Unknown / Prefer not to say

BY ETHNICITY



- White British
- Other Mixed race
- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Asian Other
- Black Caribbean
- Black African
- Black Other
- Yemeni
- Arab Other
- Other
- Unknown / Prefer not to say

WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

The FURD Community Champions project was a response to the need within Nether Edge and Sharrow - as identified by FURD, young people and community stakeholders - to prevent and address violence experienced by children and young people. Using an asset-based approach, FURD aimed to work with a diverse range of young people and the local community to devise and implement an intervention that could bring about positive change. The intervention aimed to establish positive role models and a committed cohort of community volunteers to build positive relationships with individuals and families and provide diversionary activities. This project aimed to leave a lasting legacy in the local community through the development of future leaders.



CASE STUDY



Addressing norms that support violence.

For one of the young men who were more deeply embedded in a culture of community and 'being hard', the project created space for him to look at life differently. In particular the discussion on the impact of knife crime on families. Within the group he was asking more questions, engaging more and thinking more before saying, something as opposed to just giving the 'right answers'.

For another young man, the project has shed some light on the consequences of knife crime and has given him time to think about and appreciate the things he can lose. However, it was felt that the project time frame has moved too quickly to be able to see a deeper transformation, highlighting the need for the longer term, and targeted engagement in anti-violence.

Youth work pathway key skills.

At the start of the course, she was apprehensive about attending the sessions because she did not know her peers, and whether she would have the freedom or confidence to express herself. She had her pre-judgement of the group before getting to know them. Within the project she was able to share her outlook and experience of life, she shared experiences regarding knife crime and how she has been impacted. The group gave her reassurance and gave a positive outlook, but also an understanding that she was not alone in knife crime, and there are those in similar positions as her.

The outcome for this young woman, as reflected by project practitioners, was the confidence to educate peers and others, through the ability to express herself in a group, talk about herself and her story and tell other peers about her experiences.





Phoenix Project

The Phoenix project; funded by The Henry Smith Charity, has been working on supporting clients aged 16-25 who are NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) with engaging in projects to increase their employability skills. In addition, to accessing employment, training and educational opportunities, the Phoenix project has provided a vast range of volunteering opportunities at the U-Mix Centre and has supported clients with business start-up projects.

2022 has seen the Phoenix project build on its success through increased client participation and partnership work. With the centre fully re-opened, clients could engage in a range of activities. As part of the Phoenix Programme, clients were offered 1-1 counselling sessions and 1-1 fitness. The programme continued to focus on personal development as there was a great need to address the heightened anxiety levels that clients were experiencing post-COVID-19.

The Phoenix project has worked with 42 clients over the 2022 period. This year, clients have been involved in creating resources, drama production, enterprise, accessing learning institutions based online, enrolling at colleges and centres for completing training courses, applying for jobs and gaining volunteering experience in a range of sectors. One client has also gained paid sessional work at the U-Mix Centre and we have clients working on projects that could lead to employment.



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CASE STUDY



Will has been part of the Phoenix project for 11 months. He decided that he wanted to change his life habits after he was released from the prison. He stated that he had spent time self-reflecting and was determined to not make the same mistakes again. He heard about the Phoenix project from visiting the U-Mix centre following his re-settlement back in Sheffield. Will came in to enquire about music workshops. Over the years, Will has been investing his time in making music and wanted to continue this line of passion but with a focus on making a difference in the community.

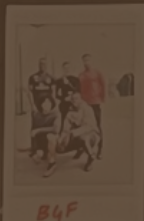
Will met with the Phoenix project worker consistently and co-created an action plan that resulted in creating a "letter to my younger self" a resource to support the anti-knife crime campaign. Will has completed several volunteering experiences and has been attending one of the local churches and is now working with the youth club at the church and is aspiring to be a pastor in the future.

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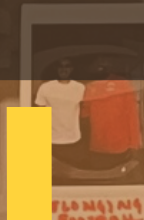
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FLORIAN
FOOTBALL



MOHEVN



HOWARD



ISAIAH



ABDULLAH



ABDULLA



LISA





DEAR YOUNGER ME ..

LISTEN TO THIS...

YOU MADE IT ACROSS THE OCEAN FROM YOUR MOTHER'S LAND AND NOW YOU ARE 13!

BIG AGE TIME!

WHY IS THIS TIME SO IMPORTANT TO YOU?!! THERE IS A SAYING.. WHAT YOU DO TODAY WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BECAUSE OF WHAT WORK YOU DID YESTERDAY AND TOMORROW WILL BE THE REWARDS OF WHAT YOU DID TODAY!!!

GROWING UP THINGS MAY BE TOUGH BUT YOU CAN NEVER TAKE AWAY HOPE AND FAITH FOR BETTER DAYS.

BASICALLY, AS A KID YOU WILL FEEL LEFT OUT OF YOUR OWN FAMILY SO YOU WILL JUST DO YOUR OWN THING AND THAT'S WHEN A LOT OF INFLUENCES WILL START TO COME THROUGH.

YOU NEED TO STAY TRUE TO BELIEVING THAT VIOLENCE IS NOT GOING TO SOLVE EVERYTHING ESPECIALLY AS YOU GET OLDER.

YOU WILL FEEL THAT YOU WILL BE PLACED WITH JUST ONE OPTION AND AT TIMES YOU WILL BELIEVE THAT IT IS THE ONLY OPTION! JUST REMEMBER, THIS IS WHEN YOU HAVE TO "CHECK IN" WITH SOMEONE YOU TRUST TO SEE WHERE THE END ROAD OF THIS OPTION TAKES YOU!

REMEMBER YOUR WORTH

BECOMING ANGRY, VIOLENT, USING DRUGS, PICKING UP A KNIFE AND GENERALLY ACTING FOOLISH WILL NOT HELP. YOUR MIND, BRAIN IS DEVELOPING AND NEEDS TO BE ABLE TO THINK.

THERE ARE A FEW THINGS YOU NEED TO BE CONSCIOUS OF AS TIME WILL PASS YOU BY AND YOU MAY WONDER WHAT HAPPENED THAT BROUGHT YOU TO THIS POINT.

HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

- . STAY IN SCHOOL MY FRIEND AS EDUCATION IS KEY TO GET YOU WHERE YOU NEED TO BE IN LIFE!**
- . ALWAYS BEHAVE AND LISTEN TO YOUR PARENTS NO MATTER WHAT COS THEY JUST WANT THE BEST FOR YOU EVEN IF YOU DON'T SEE IT AT THE TIME!**
- . DON'T EVER BE A SHEEP AND BE THE LEADER IN EVERYTHING YOU DO!**
- . DON'T LET INFLUENCES BE WHAT MAKE YOU AS A PERSON AS YOU ARE WORTH MUCH MORE THAN THAT!**
- . KEEP IT HUMBLE AND STAY FOCUSED ON YOUR GOALS NO MATTER THE SETBACKS YOU ENDURE BECAUSE YOUR TIME IS TO COME...**

TRUST ME

U-mix

General (overall) use of The U-Mix centre is once again high, particularly outside, on the 3G pitch, where we have returned to pre Covid-19 levels. The start of the new football season and school/academic year means the pitch is very well used, in a commercial sense, in the evening and at weekends. Alongside this, FURD, Sheffield United Community Foundation and Sheffield City Council offer a wide range of football sessions for young people aged 6 years to senior adults and for both males and females. The centre is often fully-booked at peak times, weekday evenings, as we continue to have a good mix of community and commercial usage. Indoor use of the centre is also on the rise and we are once again taking party/event bookings for groups of up to 50 people.

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HOWARD

ISAIAH

ABDULLAH

ABDULLA

LISA

Sports Engagement 2022

We deliver coaching sessions for juniors throughout the week at The U-Mix Centre.

Monday, Wednesday, Saturday & Sunday football sessions are led by our very own legend Luis De Silva! This session has had as many as 60 players aged between 7 and 13 years. Luis is supported by ex Sharrow United star Oday Ibrahim (The Baghdad Wizard). This year, Luis and Oday have referred five of our young players to Sheffield United's Academy.



Football sessions on Tuesday and Thursday are led by Abid Kabul. Abid is a young, well-known local person. He has built a strong relationship with the young people and their parents. The players range from 6 to 11 years old and pretty new to the game. However, with the support of coach Abid, they are growing into future stars! We have a girls only session for 6-15 year olds on Saturdays, run by our female coaches Ayesha and Hafsa.



The School Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is now a common occurrence at the U-Mix Centre. This is a government-funded initiative which aims to provide children and young people who are eligible for free school meals with free access to fun healthy activities and food over the school holidays. U-Mix serves as a HAF delivery centre for FURD and a number of local partner agencies, including Roshni, Sheffield United Community Foundation and Musical Works. HAF activity runs throughout the year and as well as offering a wide and varied range of exciting sporting and arts-based sessions, participants are provided with a healthy and nutritious meal. FURD HAF delivery usually centres around football coaching and multi-sports sessions.



Adult football

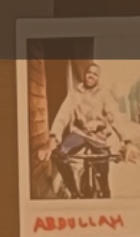
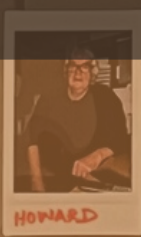
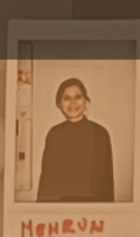
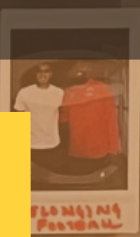
Our walking football session takes place on Tuesdays 1-2pm and is attended by a variety of individuals with participants as young as 80 years! Alongside the football, participants have been able to make friends over coffee and biscuits.

Every Wednesday we have our Belonging Together Group. Volunteers arrive from 10am to help prepare for the attendees of the football and exercise session from 11am. Activity starts with a warm up and exercise and strength training. This is then followed by tournament style football where all teams play against each other once. Due to high attendance, we usually have teams of 8 or 9 people that play each other on half a pitch.



When football finishes at 1pm, the players take a short break to enjoy refreshments made by the team of volunteers. Players take this opportunity to socialise and receive support in anything they may be struggling with.

On Thursdays from 11am-1pm, Tahir Saleem (aka George Michael) is leading our Minds Over Football session for local people that come along to keep their minds and bodies busy! This is a great session with some fantastic players!



Women's football:

Throughout 2022 FURD has run regular free or subsidised women's football sessions for any ability, including walking football and 'normal' football. The sessions attract a diverse group of participants in terms of age, ethnicity and football experience.

Teams made up of our participants have entered several small-sided tournaments including Winterfest and Springfest, organised by the County FA, and Rainbow Laces. A number of women have benefitted from our sessions to build their fitness and confidence before joining local league sides.

From 2021-22 we also partnered with Shipshape Community Hub to deliver some 'Desi football' sessions targeting women and girls mainly of south Asian heritage.

With support from the Women's Euros Legacy Fund and the County FA, we've recently set up a new session, 'Women's Belonging Together' in partnership with Voluntary Action Sheffield, aimed particularly at female refugees and asylum seekers. This is on Tuesday mornings at the U-Mix Centre followed by refreshments and a chat.

We are also here to support women to get into competitive football, coaching and watching football and other voluntary and community initiatives at FURD and beyond.



UEFA Women's EURO 2022

2022 was a very special year for women and girls' football. The UEFA Women's Euros were held in England with England's Lionesses winning the trophy and gaining many new fans along the way. We were very fortunate that Sheffield and Rotherham were two of the host cities, with seven matches being played in the area alongside many cultural events. Our host city status brought with it extra funding to provide more opportunities for women and girls in the area to ensure the expected increase in interest could be met.



FURD was very much involved with the Euros and their impact in many ways:

We distributed free tickets for the local group stage matches to participants in our schemes, which enabled many local people who would otherwise have missed out to experience international women's football on our doorstep. We worked alongside Sheffield & Hallamshire County Football Association and other local organisations in Sheffield's Euro Legacy group, to plan and deliver an expansion in opportunities for women and girls from all backgrounds to be involved in football.

Stoppage Time project:

We worked with Sheffield City Council and the Football Association on the Stoppage Time project to research and celebrate the hidden history of women's football in Sheffield, from the 19th century onwards. This was part of a Heritage Lottery funded project for all the host cities to produce exhibitions about the history of women's football in their area for the Euros. The resulting exhibitions were outside Sheffield station, in Sheffield Central Library and the Winter Gardens from July till October. We also produced a series of oral history films which can be seen [here](#).

Eid Fest

Our annual Eid festival took place on Sunday 17th July. This is the first mega event we have had post-COVID-19. The event's purpose is to provide a platform for local communities from varying backgrounds, faiths/non-faiths to celebrate the Muslim festival of Eid al-Adha. Through this event, FURD believes that it's continuing to challenge some of the myths about Islam and Muslims by bringing established BAME second and third-generation British communities with migrant experience together. Activities on the day included a Mega slide and play zone for toddlers, fun fair rides for the older children, a boxing ring for those wanting to spar, cricket, and an inflatable football pitch. We also had a variety of food from around the world, mocktails, displays and exhibitions by local providers and music performances by well-known artists. An estimated 1500 people from the local community attended this event.



BELONGING TOGETHER: REDUCING ISOLATION AND LONELINESS

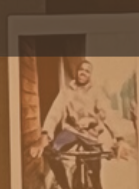
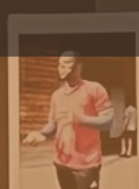
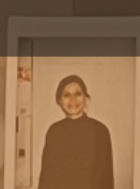
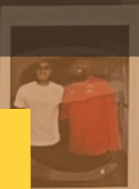
FURD's work with refugees and asylum seekers

FURD has worked over the last 10 years to support newly arrived asylum seekers aged 16 and above through our Belonging group which was an outcome of a research project, "Football: a shared sense of belonging?".

Our project was able to increase community connections through activities whilst tackling loneliness and isolation. At the end of the project, 89% of participants agreed that they had made new friends through the Belonging Together Project. Those who accessed the FURD session benefitted from developing relationships with their peers. People bonded over common interests and identities such as their local area, food, (through history and storytelling), and ethnic or cultural, backgrounds. Many conveyed they felt a sense of 'Belonging'.

Over this project period, FURD was able to

- Deliver over 30 activities
- Over 400 sessions
- 4 community events
- Reaching an average of over 300 people a year



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LISA

In 2022, we took a step further ahead by launching a pilot to design the FURD Young Migrants' Centre for Development. It is a project working with and for young people to build empowered pathways and support their personal and social transformation. The Centre for Development was launched as a pilot in Feb 2022 and it builds on FURD's long-term work to support young people to thrive within challenging social and political contexts. Part of this project was funded by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, South Yorkshire and some by anonymous donors who have been friends of FURD for a long time.

We worked in partnership with different agencies providing health and well-being sessions through football and other sports, vocational skills training to improve digital and other literacy skills and empowered futures and structural support through volunteering and mentoring.

- Over this project period, FURD was able to reach:
- 150 participants registered with us for the year 2022.
- An average attendance of 32.5 per session was recorded every quarter.
- 20 participants have benefitted through mentoring, volunteering and through employment support schemes.
- 2 participants from our volunteering programme are now part-time employees of FURD.



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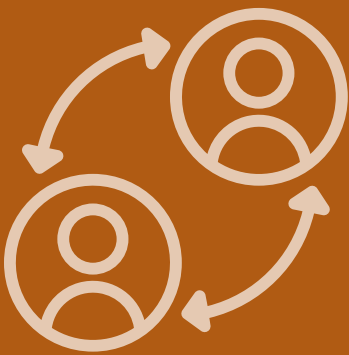
LISA



October 2022 was widely celebrated as Black History Month (BHM), remembering and celebrating the achievements of Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities in the UK and worldwide. BHM serves as an opportunity for communities, and individuals, both locally and at large to recognise and learn about Black people's contributions and their struggles with racism and inequality. It also serves as an opportunity for us to make strides toward eradicating the inequality that still exists in society today.

FURD has resided at the forefront of anti-racist work for more than two and a half decades bringing people from different backgrounds together, through football and other (informal) educational means, to break down barriers and add social value to society. Our team of dedicated staff and volunteers have served refugees & asylum seekers from the local community for over a decade and reflect the diverse ethnic make-up of the clients we serve. In honour of all those we have worked with and are currently working with, this year for Black History Month, we hosted the campaign 'ONE AMONG US' to celebrate our friends, clients and volunteers who have been part of our Belonging Together Project. As part of the campaign, we published their stories as an exhibition, as you scroll through you will find the digital copy of our exhibition below.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



'ONE AMONG US'



DIYO MULOPO BOPENGO

I'm originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo. I migrated to South Africa in 1997 with my family as we were fleeing persecution due to my father's political activities.

I completed most of my studies in South Africa and worked as a senior manager after university.

I was a victim of political unrest which led to xenophobia in 2008. My father was also a victim and died months after. Foreigners are often blamed for social and economic problems such as unemployment.

In 2015 I was jailed for alleged protesting, but a friend helped prove my innocence after two nights in jail.

In 2019 I became suicidal. Friends helped me move here. I didn't even know where I was going. The lady that brought me took me to Croydon to claim asylum. After a month I was moved to Sheffield.

I got refugee status here in December 2020. The process was a nightmare. My case was rejected first. They wanted me to relocate to South Africa, so I had to prove I'd still be vulnerable if I did.

My brother went back to the DRC with his family, but within two weeks he was killed. His wife was also killed a few months later. I became the legal guardian of their children and am waiting for them to join me here through a family reunion.

I first came to the U-Mix Centre for a football tournament for refugees. I started chatting with people which gave me the confidence to start volunteering. I volunteered everywhere, including football coaching with FURD.

I support them and they support me. I also write poetry with Good Chance Theatre. Volunteering has helped keep me going.

Football Unites, Racism Divides



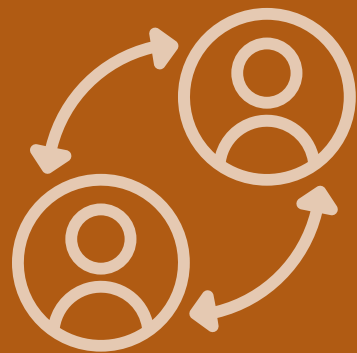
FURD
Football Unites, Racism Divides

The following story is part of the Belonging Together Project. It has been captured by and for Football Unites, Racism Divides Educational Trust (FURD).

FURD is a registered charity (1149203) and a company limited by guarantee (08169407).



FURD



'ONE AMONG US'



MUETESIM AHMED



Football Unites, Racism Divides

The following story is part of the Belonging Together Project. It has been captured by and for Football Unites, Racism Divides Educational Trust (FURD).

FURD is a registered charity (1149203) and a company limited by guarantee (08169407).

I'm from Eritrea in East Africa and I'm 26. I arrived in the UK in 2019.

Eritrea is ruled by a military regime. Everyone – boys and girls – has to do military service. Most people have to stay in the military forever.

I decided I couldn't do it. That's why many young people cross the border. 3 of us and a guide walked for ten days across the desert to Sudan. I stayed there for a year.

You have to avoid the military, border guards and smugglers who deal in organ trafficking. They kidnap you and demand a big ransom. If they can't get the money they sell your organs.

Agents in Sudan got me a Visa for Europe. I spent 9 months in Belgium and then in France trying to get to the UK because my brother and sister were in London and I could speak English.

Sometimes I slept outdoors. Eventually, I hid on a lorry and a ferry took us to Middlesbrough. We were taken to the police station, and then to detention. I was sent to Sheffield and given temporary accommodation. Soon came the pandemic and lockdown. It was like going from one detention to another.

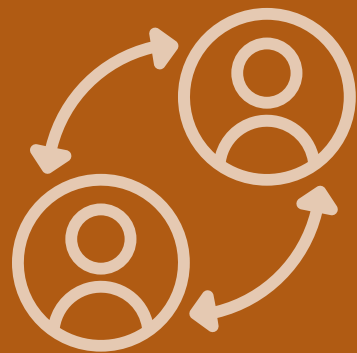
18 months later, I was granted refugee status. This gives you the right to work. I took English classes online, then went to College. I came to FURD's Belonging group football to play and use the gym at the U-Mix Centre. I started helping other newcomers (Asylum Seekers) with paperwork and translation and this helped me get a job in the reception at the U-Mix Centre. I'm also doing an access course and then hope to study Psychology at the University.

Now I see my brother and sister (in London) whenever I can and I speak to my family back home on the phone, but there's no internet access there.

This is my story; there are thousands more that are untold. We've lost a lot of young people, some of them drowned at sea or died in the desert.

Football Unites, Racism Divides





'ONE AMONG US'



NARGES



Football Unites, Racism Divides

The following story is part of the Belonging Together Project. It has been captured by and for Football Unites, Racism Divides Educational Trust(FURD).

FURD is a registered charity (1149203) and a company limited by guarantee (08169407).

I'm 35 and from Iran. I've been in Sheffield since January 2022.

Life is terrible for women in Iran. You can't choose your lifestyle, your religion or what to wear. It's been like this since the Islamic Revolution in 1979.

I was born into a Muslim family, but it's not a choice in Iran. If you do something un-Islamic in public you are sent to prison. Sometimes people are killed.

My father's family is very strict. When I was 5, my father told me I'd go to hell if I didn't fast during Ramadan. I was frightened.

In school, water taps are blocked during Ramadan to stop people from drinking, even though women don't have to fast during their periods. Once I fainted.

I went to University and became a lecturer, and converted to Christianity. One day I talked to my students about being Christian. Someone told the authorities. They came into my house and took my laptop, Bible and diary. My mum warned me not to go home. My minimum prison sentence would have been 5 years. I hid for two weeks. I didn't have anything with me as I had to leave so suddenly.

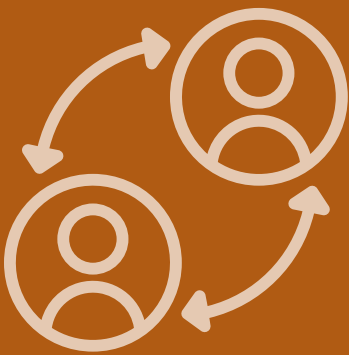
My Christian community helped me escape. A lorry driver smuggled me into Turkey where I stayed with a friend. After a few months, Mum found an agent who helped me fly to Edinburgh where I claimed asylum. I cried for 7 hours. Then I was taken to a hostel in Sheffield.

I'm currently living in a shared house with other asylum-seekers. My asylum claim hasn't been assessed yet. I can do voluntary work. I met someone at church who told me about FURD. Now I help in the kitchen at the U-Mix Centre

I have much anxiety, but I'm very happy to be here. People are very welcoming in Sheffield. Thank you.

Football Unites, Racism Divides





'ONE AMONG US'



ARTHUR DAVIDS

I was born in Jamaica. I'm 21. When I was 10 I moved to the Cayman Islands, which is close to Jamaica, because I have family there.

The Cayman Islands is a peaceful country, you can leave your door open, and it's cool. There aren't many opportunities though - I wanted to join the army, but there's no military there.

So last year I came to the UK for better career opportunities. I had family here too. My aunt applied for a visa for me to come here.

I stayed in London for a few months then moved to Sheffield because it's cheaper. I live with my mum and siblings. Mum is a pastor and a graphic designer.

I go to an army training college in Manor Top. I'm doing fitness training and maths and English. When I've passed them I can sign up for the army. I'd like to be a gunner, a soldier on the front line. I like a challenge. You have to be mentally strong and disciplined. I don't drink or smoke, I focus on living a healthy lifestyle.

I saw people playing football at the U-Mix Centre and asked if I could join. The staff at FURD helped me get shorts and boots. Now I volunteer with FURD as a way of thanking them. I want to be a role model for my family and the people in my community.



FURD

Football Unites, Racism Divides

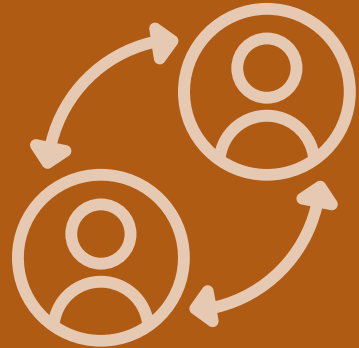
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Football Unites, Racism Divides



FURD



'ONE AMONG US'



ISAIAH FISAYO OMOWOLE

I am Isaiah Fisayo Omowole and I am 33 years old. I come from Nigeria and I moved to Sheffield as a dependent through my wife who was a student at Sheffield Hallam University.

I am currently working as a Health Care Assistant in the city of Sheffield with elderly residents in a care home. My day-to-day role is to support the residents in our home with their health needs. I enjoy this job because the residents make me happy as I see them as my grandparents.

Working with the staff at the Care Home has been great. We work as a team and I learn a lot from them. I particularly found the period of the pandemic to be challenging. Transport at the time was difficult for me; I walked miles to get to work those days because of my empathy for our most vulnerable residents.

Over the past 2 years, I have been a volunteer football coach for Football Unites Racism Divides at the U-Mix Centre. All participants are like my family, when I spent time with them we play football, laugh and have a good time together. Sometimes when I'm not in for the session and still keep in touch. I like volunteering at FURD as I feel a sense of belonging. FURD has created a space for all of us from different countries to come and play a sport that each of us loves.

When I am not working, I like to play and watch football.



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Football Unites, Racism Divides



The background is a collage of various images. At the top right, there are four vertical bars in white, purple, green, and yellow. The main area is filled with a grid of photos and Polaroids. Large photos show groups of people, some playing football on a field. Smaller Polaroids feature individual portraits of people, each with a name written below them. The names visible include SIMON, NARQES, VICTOR, SONIA, KHADIJA, FANARA, MUHAMMAD, B4F, RUTH, ANSAD, JAMES, B4F, COACH K, HOWARD, ISAIAH, ABDULLAH, ABDULLA, and LISA. A central green box contains the text 'THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT'. A list of supporters is on the left, and two photos of football games are on the right, both with the caption 'Football Unites, Racism Divides'.

THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT

- BBC Children in Need
- Sheffield City Council
- University of Sheffield - MIMY: EMpowerment through liquid Integration of Migrant Youth in vulnerable conditions
- Sheffield Hallam University - Refugee Hub
- City of Sanctuary Sheffield
- SAVTE (Sheffield Association for the Voluntary Teaching of English)
- ASSIST Sheffield
- Roshni Asian Womens Resource Centre
- Sheffield & Hallamshire County Football Association
- Shipshape Health & Wellbeing Centre
- Sheffield United Community Foundation
- SUCF - EFDN - European Football for Development Network
- Yorkshire Sport Foundation - Tackling Inequalities fund
- Barclays Community Football Fund- Sported
- The Henry Smith Charity
- FareShare UK- (Waitrose and Tesco Sheffield)
- Morrison-Champion Sheffield Broomhill
- Sharrow Community Forum
- Sheffield City Trust - SIV
- National Lottery - Community Fund
- The New Beginnings Project - VAS
- Canva
- South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit
- Sheffield Mencap & Gateway Carers Outreach Project
- This Girl Can
- Uzma Bibi - Madiba's homes
- James Sheehan

Football Unites, Racism Divides

Football Unites, Racism Divides

This is a list of our regular weekly sessions in December 2022 - please check for updates.



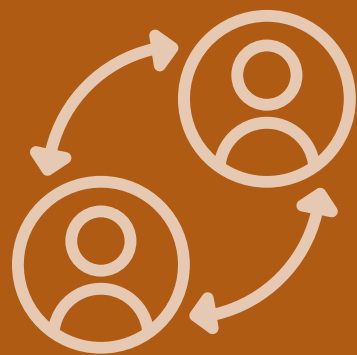
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AT THE U-MIX CENTRE 2022

YOUTH AND SOCIAL CLUB SESSIONS

Refugees & Asylum-Seekers Centre for Development: conversation, digital inclusion, football coaching.	Monday 10am-3pm	16+	FREE must pre-register
Sheffield Youth Service Youth Club	Tuesday 6:30-9pm	13-19	FREE
Sheffield Youth Service Youth Club	Thursday 5:45-8:15pm	13-19	FREE

FOOTBALL SESSIONS

FURD Football Coaching (2 age groups)	Monday 4:30-6pm	9-12 / 13-18	FREE
FURD + VAS Belonging Together Women's Football	Tuesday 11am-1pm	Adults	FREE
FURD + Shipshape Walking Football	Tuesday 1pm-2pm	Adults	£1
FURD Junior Football Coaching	Tuesday 4-5pm	6-11	£2
FURD Women's Football	Tuesday 6pm-7pm	16-60+	FREE
Sheffield Youth Service	Tuesday 7-8pm	11-19	FREE
Sheffield Utd Community Foundation	Tuesday 8-9pm	11-19	FREE
FURD Belonging Group Football	Wednesday 11am-12.30pm	Adults	FREE
FURD Football Coaching (2 age groups)	Wednesday 4:30-6pm	9-12 / 13-18	FREE
FURD Minds Over Football	Thursday 11am-1pm	Adults	£1
FURD Junior Football Coaching	Thursday 4-5pm	6-11	£2
Sheffield Utd Community Foundation	Thursdays 6-7pm	11-19	FREE
Sheffield Youth Service	Thursday 7-8pm	11-19	FREE
FURD Women's Walking Football	Friday 6-7pm	16+	£1
FURD Belonging Group Football	Friday 7-8pm	Adult	FREE
Junior Football Coaching	Saturday 12pm-1pm	6-10	£4.50
FURD Girls' Football	Saturday 1-2pm	6-15	FREE
FURD Coaching (2 age groups)	Saturday 2-4pm	6-12 / 12-19	£1
FURD Coaching (2 age groups)	Sunday 2-4pm	6-12 / 12-19	£1



We at FURD-Belonging Together project would like to pay tribute to one of our friends, Kamal Abu, who is no longer with us. We are still coming to terms with the news of his passing away.

He was an enthusiastic person with a great laugh, he loved football and his football coach. One of his favourite words was Habibi, which he often used while playing football.

Our love and support to his grieving family and friends.





REST IN PEACE

PELÉ

1940-2022



FURD

A MEMORY TO CHERISH



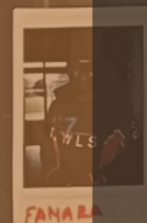
The world's greatest ever footballer, Pele, gave his full support to FURD during a visit to Sheffield United on 8th November 2007. He joined FURD and Sheffield United staff at the Legends of the Lane museum to officially unveil the new exhibition about Laurie Cunningham and the history of black footballers in Sheffield. We presented him with gifts including a Football Unites, Racism Divides t-shirt and a copy of the book 'The First Black Footballer: Arthur Wharton 1865-1930'.

The Brazilian legend said: "This is an important moment not just for me, or the club, but for everyone, and I thank God that I can be here."

"In 1958 I was 17 when I went to Sweden with Brazil for the World Cup. At that time I met the England team, and the Sweden team, and lots of other teams, and there were no black players. I could not understand that - I asked why but no one had an answer for me."

"But after '58 I started to notice a change and we started to have players from all over the world. Today's event shows how football brings people together and I am proud to be part of that."

Pele was in Sheffield to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Sheffield Football Club and to promote a new development partnership between Sheffield United and former World Club champions, Brazilian club Sao Paulo.



Contact us

Football Unites, Racism Divides Educational Trust

**The U-Mix Centre
17 Asline Road, Lowfield
Sheffield S2 4UJ**

0114 2587787 or 2589601

**www.furd.org
enquiries@furd.org**

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@furdsheffield



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