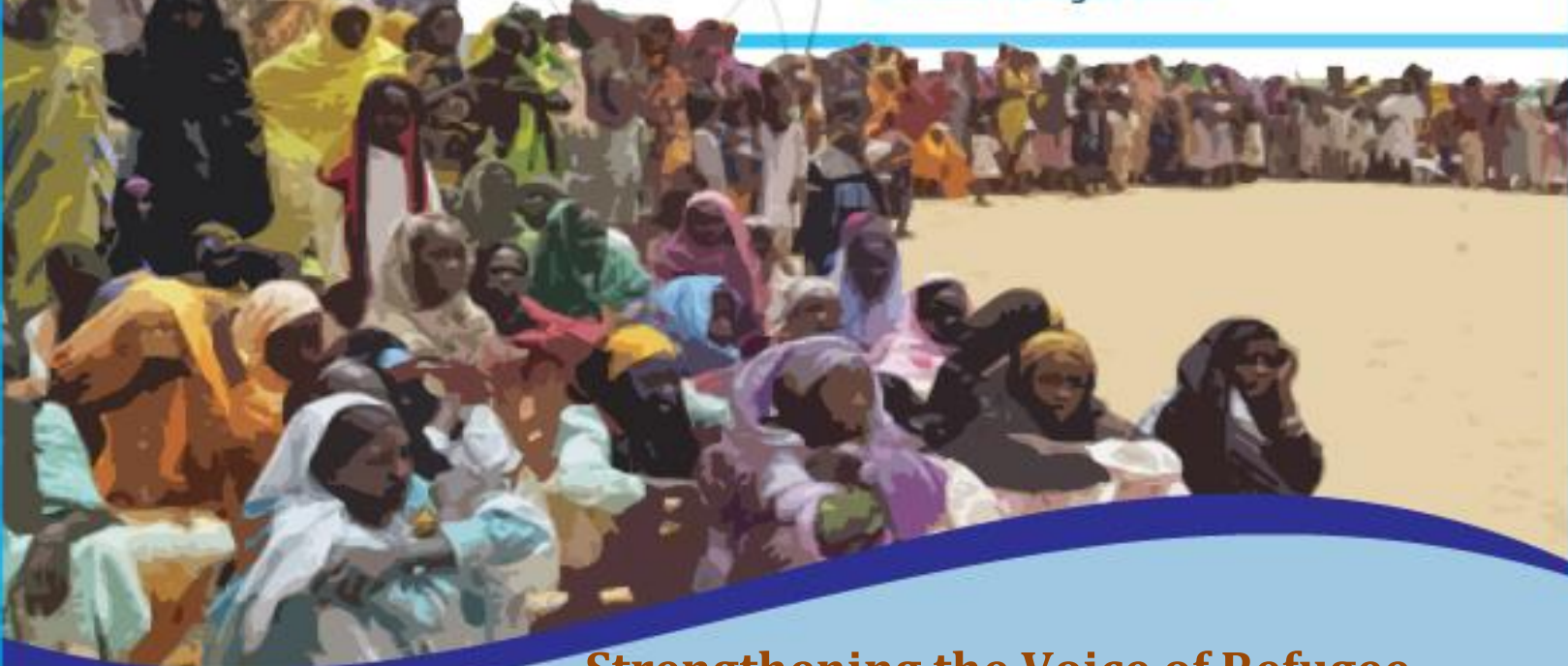


YOUR VOICE



ICE

London Refugee Voice



Strengthening the Voice of Refugee Community Organisations

21st May 2009

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Immigration & Citizenship NEWS

Most asylum seekers who come to the UK are temporarily housed by the Home Office and are banned from working to prevent the system being abused for economic migration. Under these rules, officials can withdraw this support from some of those who are refused asylum to encourage people who have no legal right to be in the UK to go home.

According to a BBC report, a research carried out by the Asylum Support Partnership which is a consortium of charities contracted by the UK Border Agency to support asylum seekers while their applications are considered shows that policies to force failed asylum seekers to go home by removing their support are not working. The research found that a count in just one month identified almost 1,200 refused applicants with no support or secure housing.

See: <http://www2.newsbbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8047910.stm>

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Immigration Simplification Bill - draft Protection Rules

The Immigration Simplification Bill seeks to simplify the current complex legal framework for immigration and asylum.

In April 2009, the UK Border Agency (UKBA) published a revised draft of the proposed Protection Rules that will accompany the Immigration Simplification Bill.

The Refugee Council has responded jointly with Refugee and Migrant Justice to the consultation on the Protection Rules.

See:
http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/policy/responses/2009/protection_rules.htm

Funding Opportunities

The Equality and Human Rights Commission has announced a £10m grant programme for voluntary and community sector organisations.

The Commission is said to be particularly keen to fund activities that directly serves and involves individuals and local communities, that meets an unmet need, and that has the potential to inspire and inform longer-term activity that helps promote the Commission's objectives.

Applications to the Strategic Funding Programme must be made by 12 June.

See:
<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/aboutus/grants/pages/grantsandfunding.aspx>

Meetings and Outreach

Strengthening the Voice of Refugee Community Organisations: Barriers and Opportunities'

Thursday 4th June 2009
10.30am - 1.00pm
Palingswick House

LRV is joining Hammersmith and Fulham Refugee Forum for a meeting to take our commissioned report '**Strengthening the Voice of Refugee Community Organisations: Barriers and Opportunities'** to RCOs in West London. The aim of the meeting is to look at the recommendations in the report and identify current areas of concern for **LRV** to take action. To download the report See: http://www.lrv.org.uk/downloads/Strenghening_the_Voice_report.pdf

We hope you will all be able to join us and give your recommendations, as your views and opinions are crucial!



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" CHANGING FACES "

Date: Friday 21st May

Venue: RIVERSIDE STUDIOS, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, London, W6 9RL

Time: 7pm

Tickets for £10 at the door

A play written, directed, acted and choreographed by young people from The Horn of Africa Community Group in Shepherds Bush.

The story is about how families arriving in the U.K. and what they have to face to make it in the U.K. The importance of learning fast on how to survive and network and learn a new language, new culture and the loss they also experience along the way.

FOR FURTHER INFO CONTACT **SUAAD** 07931565 649 **HELENA** 0208 743 8733

See: <http://www.lrv.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/changing-faces-poster-a34.jpg>

**Don't miss this thought provoking play!!
We hope to see you all there**

LRV will be holding a member meeting on **Integration: Training and Employment** in June/July. Look out for more information on future newsletter.

* **To join London Refugee Voice for free or to renew your membership to ensure that you get your Voice heard please go to <http://www.lrv.org.uk/join-lrv/> Or email info@lrvo.org.uk**



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