



**HIMAYA HAVEN**  
Empowering Communities



---

We believe that families should be able to access appropriate and timely support at every stage of the criminal justice system.

---

## **SILENT VICTIMS ON THE OUTSIDE**

ANNUAL REPORT & STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS  
2017/2018



# CONTENTS

1.	Foreword	1
2.	Author's Introduction	2
3.	Endorsements	3
4.	Introduction	5
5.	Background	6
6.	Funding Partners	6
7.	Workshops	7
8.	Launch and Open Day	9
9.	Responding to Community Needs	12
10.	Our Learning So Far	15
11.	Findings	18
12.	Conclusion	23
13.	Recommendations	24
14.	Appendix	25
15.	Financial Statement	29

# Foreword

Prison affects thousands of families and children in England and Wales. According to the Ministry of Justice, Prison population dated 19th October 2018, there is over 83,232 prisoners of which males make 79,365 and women 3,867. This report aims to increase our understanding of the effects that prison has on families and children who are named the “Silent Victims on the Outside”, thus improving our response – this is vital if we are to support these families in need.

The work we have undertaken is huge. Criminal behaviour/activity, domestic abuse, gangs and violence, are just a few of the issues facing families and the wider community. For every individual processed in the criminal justice system, there are another three or four people who are also affected within the immediate family. In addition; given the extended family system, where many of the individuals come from, there are at times dozens of people affected.

It is often said by third parties, that we are a unique organisation in the respect that we have achieved a lot since our inception. Himaya Haven have been welcomed by the wider community, as well as receiving a warm and supportive engagement from the West Midlands Police, the Probation Service, the Prison Service, and others working within the criminal justice system.

The issues we have identified, initially have been reciprocated. This process has been a learning opportunity for us. We have ascertained the gaps in the service provision that our communities have been crying out for a very long time.

The impact of a family member being arrested can be far reaching and affects the extended family network as for aforementioned. It can be devastating when a family member is arrested, questioned and sentenced to prison.

We champion social issues and assist in resolving unmet needs. We support families to cope with the anxieties of arrest, sentencing, imprisonment and release; alongside tackling taboo subjects which carry with them stigma, shame and dishonour.

This report not only emphasises the need to support families and children within the prison service; but also the need to promote a more sensitive approach to processing people in the system. Such support could ultimately prevent some of the vulnerabilities that can lead to further offending behaviour.

I believe that collaboration is a catalyst for progress. We at Himaya Haven will reach out to the Police, Prisons and Local Authorities, to join forces in order to seek support for the implementation of the recommendations contained in this report. I am confident that the results achieved as a result of joint working will prove to be invaluable, not only to the service users, but to the organisations themselves.



**Razia Hadait**  
Founder and Director

## Author's Introduction

I am an activist-researcher. I have undertaken extensive work on the evolving needs of British Asian and other minority communities.

I was consulted by Razia Hadait in early 2017 as she was carrying out field research for her innovative idea to provide a service to the community. She had heard me speak on a related topic previously, at the launch of my book 'Dear Birmingham – A Conversation With My Hometown'.

Razia explained the gaps in the provision of services to families who had a member in police custody or prison. She had identified the pain and trauma suffered by the family members left behind to cope with the complexities of the criminal justice system. It became apparent to me that an organisation such as Himaya Haven was crucial for this section of the community.

It has given me great pleasure to write this annual report and to learn of all the progress that has been made in the first year of a grassroots organisation.

**Dr Karamat Iqbal**

## Director's



**Razia Tariq Hadait**  
Founder & Managing  
Director



**Zobia Hadait**  
Director/Secretary



**Aaliyah Qureshi**  
Director



**Selina Baig**  
Director

## Honorary Officers

**Zahid Khan - Solicitor**  
Janson Solicitors

**Farooq Khan - Accountant**  
FK Accountants

# Endorsements

I have known Razia Hadait for over 10 years. She is a very strong, passionate, hardworking and amazing lady. Throughout the years she has supported many organisations with much needed causes, whilst receiving multiple awards and honours for her commitment towards her community and her dedication in supporting families. Most recently she has continued her great work through her organisation Himaya Haven where she promotes a strong voice working with the authorities for the silent victims on the outside. I have seen first-hand her work and watched her grow over the years guiding families with issues and listening to the families affected by imprisonment and by providing them the confidential support and advice, hence improving their outcomes for the families and their children. Razia's organisation has helped to raise awareness of the needs of the families and improved the knowledge as to what kind of support is available to them.

Razia has organised many workshops and seminars and through mentoring and coaching, Himaya Haven encourage open channels of communication for many families giving them a voice and promoting social inclusion and secured positive outcomes for families within the community.

**Rana Nazir**

**Founder & Chair for  
British Kashmiri Women Council**

Himaya Haven provide families who are impacted by imprisonment with crucial support at a time when they may be at their most vulnerable. These families can face a wide range of difficulties and challenges, including financial difficulties, social stigma, emotional hardships and practical problems. Despite these circumstances there is generally very little recognition and support available for prisoners' families who are often identified as secondary victims of crime. Himaya Haven provide families with information and support to alleviate the challenges they face and remove some of their isolation. Furthermore, Himaya Haven's local connection and expertise enables them to offer culturally specific support to families from minority communities who are disproportionately impacted by imprisonment.

**Tahir Abass**

**Researcher, University of Leeds**



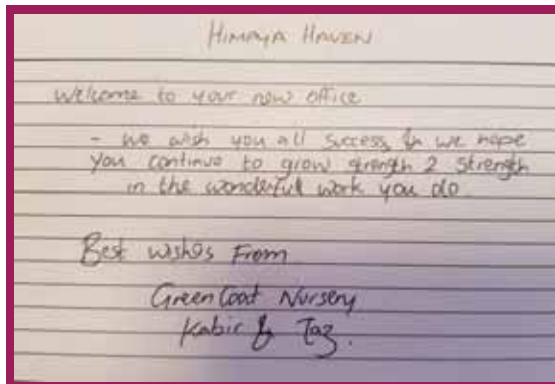
Greencoat Nursery CIC has had the pleasure of supporting Himaya Haven. As part of our social impact initiative and as a CIC, we know how difficult it can be to start up your vision with limited funding and constant costs of networking. Working day and night to keep your mission alive, supporting families and vulnerable people of our community and working tirelessly from space to space with paperwork mounting in our homes. We found ourselves in a position to offer a charity a great opportunity to have a permanent base, an office to operate from. We reached out to as many charities through networks and charity sites, advertising a free furnished office inclusive of all bills.

We received a number of expression of interest and ended up selecting Himaya Haven CIC.

Our reasons were that they were a organisation involved in local grassroots programmes and actually serving the local community.

We also felt their objectives were unique and it's been our pleasure to see them grow from strength to strength and the office space has helped them achieve a number of their objectives.

This welcome card to our new office was presented to us by our landlord, of Green Coat Nursery, Mr Kabir and Mr Tabraiz. They acknowledged our start up as a new charity and the challenges we were facing in securing suitable office accommodation . Without delay or fuss both of these gentlemen offered us office space. We are eternally grateful for all that they have done and their continuous support for our charity. Thank You.



**Best wishes  
GREENCOAT NURSERY CIC TEAM.**



# Introduction

## Who We Are:

Himaya Haven CIC is a leading organisation who work with Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic Communities (BAME) and who specialise in supporting families of loved ones in custody and prison.

## Our Mission

Our mission is to provide a range of services to meet individual and family members' needs whilst they progress through the criminal justice system by offering holistic support, advice, guidance, information, coping therapies and access to mainstream services.

## Our Aim

Our aim is to speak up on behalf of the "Silent Victims on the Outside" by offering a variety of services to support families of men and women who have a connection with someone in custody or prison. It is to champion their needs and problems, assisting these groups to cope with the anxieties of arrest, sentencing, imprisonment and release; alongside tackling taboo subjects which carry with them stigma, shame and dishonour.

## What We Do

- Provide guidance and information to family members of those in police custody and prison
- Support families with emotional and practical issues
- Encourage them to continue functioning as a family
- Develop support groups of those in similar circumstances
- Where needed, signpost them to relevant organisations

## Services We Provide

- Group support
- One to one support
- Understanding the relevant aspects of the criminal justice system
- Preparation for attending court and understanding possible charges & sentencing
- Working with schools
- Signposting
- Information
- Guidance
- Workshops
- Coffee mornings



# Background

The organisation evolved after an encounter with a family in the community who experienced the harrowing events of their son being remanded in custody for a serious offence, carrying a possible life sentence. His devastated mother did not know where to turn to for help. She and the rest of the family felt isolated and distraught and unable to approach their wider family and community.

This prompted Razia to lead discussions in the local community with those who had experienced similar situations. These discussions directed her towards organisations involved in the criminal justice system. It then became apparent that help was needed as there were gaps in the services available to those in need.

As the discussions continued with individuals affected, it became clear that they suffered from isolation, shame and guilt, as if they had failed in some way. They were unable to understand the processes they were now involved in, from the simplest thing of how to speak to the person in remand or custody or even how to arrange visits to see them.

Families concerned indicated that they would have greatly benefited from an organisation that would have supported and guided them through the whole process and offered them emotional and practical support. It became apparent that many became anxious and depressed leading to periods of non-activity and removal from everyday life.

Early on in the Himaya Haven journey it was ascertained that when individuals returned home following a period in custody, they felt disoriented and isolated from the family. The family find it difficult to support the individual and could not understand why things simply were not how they were before the arrest and prison. People explained that this caused friction and disharmony in the family and led to periods of anxiety and depression for those involved.

# Funding Partners

Himaya Haven has been supported by a number of organisations, without which, it would have been difficult to undertake its work thus far. We are grateful for the support our funders have shown us and are very appreciative. These have included:

- Awards for All – National Lottery Funding
- The Allen Lane Foundation
- Active Citizens

# Workshops

The funding was utilised to set up a number of workshops to raise awareness of the work of Himaya Haven. These were held in a number of locations across Birmingham and the surrounding areas.

No	Date	Workshops	Location	Attendance
1	02/05/2017	Coffee Morning/Awareness Raising	Odara	25
2	11/07/2017	Coffee Morning/ Neuro - Linguistic Programme	MECC Trust	15
3	17/10/2017	Awareness Raising	MECC Trust	10
4	21/11/2017	Awareness Raising	MECC Trust	10
5	05/12/2017	Awareness Raising	Dery Foundation	15
6	15/01/2018	Awareness Raising	Court Road	28
7	24/01/2018	Awareness Raising	St Peters College	10
8	02/02/2018	Awareness Raising	Marlborough School	7
9	06/03/2018	Women's International Day	Blakeland Community Centre	9
10	13/03/2018	Oakwood Prison	HMP Oakwood	12
11	27/03/2018	Drake Hall Prison	HMP Drake Hall	15
13	26/04/2018	Launch & Open Day	Greencoat House	35
14	28/06/2018	Celebrate Eid-UI-Fitr	Greencoat House	25
15	10/07/2018	Gangs & Violence	Greencoat House	30
16	12/07/2018	Domestic Abuse	Greencoat House	12
17	18/07/2018	Steering Group	Human Appeal	15

The following activities highlight some of the events that we participated in, taking the opportunity to promote Himaya Haven and raise awareness of its work.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
1	04/2017	Home Secretary Amber Rudd Visits	Deaf Cultural Centre
2	24/05/2017	Sajid Javid Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government	Highfield Hall
3	02/08/2017	Tell Mama Conference (Hate Crime)	St. Marys Church
4	14/10/2017	Youth World Café	South and City College
5	20/10/2017	Emergency to Urgency Youth Crime Challenges	New Testament Church of God Brookfield
6	31/10/2017	WMP Cyber Summit	Edgbaston Cricket Ground
7	28/11/2017	WMP Victims Summit	Tally Ho
8	8/12/2017	WMP Commission on Gangs and Violence	Edgbaston Cricket Ground
9	15/12/2017	WMP Drugs Policy Summit	Edgbaston Cricket Ground
10	04/02/2018	Community Engagement Meeting	Nechells Police Station
11	26/03/2018	Birmingham Council House Meeting with Sara Khan	Council House
12	28/03/2018	WMP Sentinel Talking Stalking	Tally Ho
14	22/06/2018	Ladypool School Diversity Event	Ladypool School

## Our work with Women’s Prison (HMP Drake Hall Muslim Women, Prison Visit)

Following communication with local prisons; Himaya Haven was approached by a women’s prison to carry out some work with Muslim inmates. The women were supplied prayer mats and reading materials as this was requested by their Chaplin. The visit was carried out to make the women aware of the support that Himaya Haven could offer to them and their families. After the visit the following letter was received by Himaya Haven, via the office of the Reverend Prebendary Sarah Morris, Managing Chaplain on behalf of the prisoners:

“

**Dear Razia,  
HMP Drake Hall Muslim Women**

*“We would like to say a massive thank you to the 3 ladies that came in from Himaya Haven. We feel that it was very helpful and very interesting in what you women was saying, and the support and advice that was given on the day to us Muslim women in Drake Hall and what support you have on offer on the outside. We were very amazed that we had ladies on the outside to support and believing in us and slowly the stigma will go in the near future. It was a brilliant outcome for us women in prison.”*

”

## Launch and Open Day

An Open day was held to introduce Himaya Haven to relevant organisations, individuals and the wider community. Over 30 people attended, including Birmingham Youth Service, police, statutory, local voluntary organisations, parents and faith leaders. The agenda for the event is given below:



# Our Launch and Open Day

Thursday 26/04/2018

12.00 - 3.00pm

## **Agenda**

- 12.00 pm till 1.00 pm Registration, Teas and Coffees and Networking
- 1.00 pm till 1.10 pm Introduction  
**Razia Hadait Director**
- 1.10 pm till 1.15 pm Case Study
- 1.15 pm till 1.20 pm **Dr Karamat Iqbal**  
Consultant at Forward Partnership. Author: 'Dear Birmingham'
- 1.20 pm till 1.30 pm **Alison Cope**  
Mother of Joshua Ribera (AKA) Rapper Depzman who was fatally stabbed
- 1.30 pm till 1.40 pm **Reverend Dr Desmond Jadoo**  
Talking about the silent victims in the community
- 1.40 pm till 1.50 pm **Pretesh Chouhan**  
Pretesh Chauhan JD Spicer Zeb Solicitor
- 1.50 pm till 2.00 pm **Raja Halim**  
A former prisoner and now successful business man
- 2.00 pm till 2.05 pm Case Study
- 2.05 pm till 2.15 pm Official Opening
- 2.15 pm till 3.00 pm Lunch, Networking and Comments time

The following are comments from some of the attendees at the open day:

*".... Himaya Haven was a name on a website until today... It has been a **positive experience** for me and I would like to remain in contact with the service and will promote the work it does. Thank you Razia and team for the wonderful service you provide so relevant in todays society!! **Keep the faith!**"*

*Andrew Best, STR Worker Criminal Justice Liaison and Diversion Outreach Team.*

*"**A very worthwhile organisation.** The launch was fantastic, and I wish you all the best for the future. Please contact me for any help or support, I would be delighted to help. Thanks." Pretesh Chauhan Partner, JD Spicer Zeb Solicitors Crime and Fraud Specialist*

*"**Razia and team, super work,** you are brave person to start this work with offender families. This is topic Muslim leaders don't want to touch or talk about it. Well done to you and keep up the noble work." Let us have a Partnership. Maqsood Ahmed Muslim Hands*

*"**This is going to be a great project** and I feel that there will be many clients I can refer to you. The ... Directors have made a great step towards being equipped to run the programme by coming on to my course at the university. I will do everything I can to help them succeed." Ricky Dehaney, CEO Prison Link.*

*"**A great event.** Well organised. This kind of organisation is really needed. Himaya Haven has taken up a task which is difficult but needed in society. I wish the management all the best in the world." Raja Amin JP, MBE, Senior Magistrate.*

*"**Thank you** for the invitation to attend the Open Day. It was a very positive and enlightening day for me and reminded me of why I work in this environment." (Probation Worker)*

*"Personally, I have encountered the trauma caused by **both knife and gun crime.** The speeches made by Alison Cope and Desmond Jadoo had a profound impact on me and triggered flashbacks to my own experiences"*  
Anonymous

*"Thank you again for the invitation, it was a very positive day"* Anonymous



# Responding to Community Needs

Although Himaya Haven's main focus is on supporting families with a member in custody or prison, the organisation is alive to related issues that affect the community and will respond accordingly. There were several incidents of unprecedented gang violence leading to deaths of two young people during the holy month of Ramadan which sparked huge unrest amongst families. A number of workshops and meetings were organised in order to explore this particular problem facing the community.



To begin with; several general themes, concerns and issues have been explored. Therefore, it is intended to explore specific issues at subsequent sessions, such as gangs what attracts people to gangs, impact of gangs and violence on families and communities; practical solutions, community cohesion, interagency work and policy development.

Of the above list, so far, a range of issues have been raised and discussed, including:

- Enabling young people to have a voice and encouraging them to be a part of the solution and not just seen as a problem.
- Encouraging local people to have a greater say as they are most effective given they are recognised by the community.

## Comments from the Gang and Violence Workshop

*"The workshop on Gangs and Violence reinforced what we already know about the stereotype about young people from **broken homes and inner-city areas**. ... The workshop reinforce how we need to make time for the isolated young people who need **guidance and support**"* Kalsoom Khan Area Youth Office West and Central

*"The workshop around gangs and reducing violence was a refreshing look at the **harsh realities** of gangs and presented by Raymond someone who understands the science behind gangs and youth violence. **Fascinating insight** at looking at community-based solutions"* Adil Hadi Senior Youth Worker

*"Thank you for invite, **really good input**, in terms of the next step, could you do a case study and ask the attendees what they could have done to prevent it. This could form basis of proactive approach for future? Thanks again"* Chief inspector Phil Cape (West Midlands Police).



## Domestic Violence Workshop

After supporting a distraught female client whose husband was imprisoned due to violence towards her; Himaya Haven held a domestic violence workshop. This workshop was held as the organisation recognised the need for this support for women who were both related to someone in prison and victims of domestic violence. This was advertised through social media. The purpose of the workshop was to support victims of domestic violence in that context and also to raise awareness of the issue. This was so that older women in the community could identify signs of abuse and protect women in the family who may be going through it, this would allow younger victims to feel brave enough to seek help.

This workshop brought together women, several of whom had been the victims of years of domestic violence. The feedback from the event was as follows:

*"The workshop was **extremely enlightening** and very informative. I heard stories from other women which gave me an insight into domestic and mental abuse. I also learnt how domestic violence and abuse can happen to anyone."*

*"I met many strong and brave women. It was good to know **I am not alone**"*

*"The workshop has taught me to recognise the signs of abuse. Also gave me an insight into the lives of women going through it"*

*"Informative workshop on all forms of abuse. Shared experiences allowed us to put into context different forms of abuse. Allowed me to see the different sections of **where abuse lies** and how simple the behaviour may seem but in fact it is abusive"*

*"I learnt a lot about honour-based violence and found it enlightening. I admire the **courage demonstrated** by H (speaker). Please continue with this work"*



## Eid Celebration Workshop For Women of the Community

We organised an Eid celebration event to encourage women to socialise with one another and to raise awareness of our work. The event was a success and we could see women supporting one another and feeling confident whilst building trust with us. We put on a pampering session which included massage, makeup, mendhi, raffle, tombola and food.

The feedback from the event was as follows:

*"This was my first experience of a group gathering at Himaya Haven. It was a lovely day. I met many strong and brave women. It was good to talk, eat, have henna put on my hands. It was good to know I'm not alone. Thank you Razia for inviting me."*

*"A lovely event really well thought through and organised. A brilliant attempt at uniting the community well done to organiser." (Parent)*

*"Great work being carried out by a wonderful team. Had an enjoyable time with lovely food, make up artists, henna, and company." (Domestic Violence client)*

*"The event was amazing, fun and very entertaining, met a lot of people and we all had a lot in common. Well organised." (Parent)*

*"This was my first time here at Himaya Haven and I have loved being here! It's an amazing support group that empowers women and those affected by a variety of life crisis, whilst also specialising in a niche area. Everyone has been so kind and welcoming! I hope to come again in the future. God bless you and the work you do." (Parent)*



## Our learning so far

The organisation has worked with numerous people affected by a family member being arrested and/or imprisoned. The process has been a learning opportunity about the needs that have been articulated by the community over a long period of time.

The impact of a family member being arrested can be far reaching and affect the whole family. It can be devastating when a law-abiding respectable family member is arrested, questioned and sentenced to prison. The whole experience, including a raid on the house, impacts other members of the family, in particular younger people.

We found that families faced a wide range of difficulties and challenges, including financial difficulties, social stigma, emotional hardships and practical problems. Despite these circumstances there is generally very little recognition and support available for prisoners' families who are often identified as secondary victims of crime.

There are a number of case studies in Appendix One. The following transcriptions of two interviews and one case study identify the core themes that we have discovered that are common to the BAME community.

### **Interview One**

*"My family is made up of respectable people; majors, generals, colonels. All our family is properly educated..... The police have never come to our house before. In our family, cousins, relatives, close family... nobody's ever been to jail. This is the first time. My youngest sister is a barrister. My other sister is a pharmacist. We are a good family. We are a family of professionals. My oldest brother is a chartered accountant. Another works for Land Rover. One sister is a social worker. Another is a teacher.*

*What has happened to my son has had a big impact on the whole family. It has really affected my elderly mum. Since this has happened I have not spoken to anyone. There is no support here. I don't know who to go to. Obviously, if you keep it on your chest, it mentally affects to leading to depression and anxiety. I had a nervous breakdown when our son was arrested. If you can speak to someone, confidentially, then it can help you feel better. You feel lighter. You feel as if you've opened up to somebody. You feel better. Having group sessions. Individual sessions.*

*At first it was, really hard, I had a nervous breakdown. (She began to cry). I needed counselling; someone to talk to, maybe with someone who had been through that experience. But there was nothing there. There are a lot of people out there (affected by prison) but there is no help, no support. Even financially. It's not easy. To go to visit three or four times a week. Driving all the way to Wolverhampton. Then the food you buy there. £20. Then giving him money inside.*

*I make meals and think of my son. When I am in the kitchen I have a cry. 'Oh my son used to love this meal; boiled rice or whatever'. All his clothes are packed up because I can't see his clothes around. Then I give myself tassalli, (reassure myself) that he is at least alive.....*

*My mum cries everyday for my son. (She began to cry). This incident has had a big impact on my other boys. They've become hard work for me. They need support; they won't talk to me. My youngest is 11. So many people have spoken to him about his brother being in prison. Like the word gets out. What can I do; it's one of those things I have to face now. It has started to impact on the children in another way. When they want to see their friends, we say they are not allowed. After all look what happened to him because of his friends. 'You don't need friends,' we say. My husband says to the younger sons: you are also going to end up in prison, like your brother. What impact does that have on them? Maybe they will grow up thinking there is nothing wrong with being in prison.*

*Our extended family and the wider community cannot be relied on. They would make the situation worse. They would gossip; talk about it behind your back; exaggerate everything. I tried to keep it from my family. Then the family were told. They wanted to know why he was hanging out with the boys who were his accomplices. They said we didn't control our son; we gave him too much freedom. It's so embarrassing. You meet people during the visit. You don't want to show your face to them. They don't want to show their face to you. They don't want to tell you what their son is in for. I have friends who've heard about my son being in prison. They've texted me. To this day I haven't replied because I don't know what to say to them. It's not an easy subject to open up and talk about. Because everybody has such negative views about prison. So, I definitely think there should be some kind of support out there. Group chats. Coffee mornings. So, people who have been through this they can talk about it."*

*In our society mums get the blame. Its mum's responsibility. She does everything for the children. When the children do good it's the father who is praised but when they do bad it's the mother who is blamed. In Asian families, we haven't got that support from our partners. My husband hasn't supported me. He is there. He goes to prison.... But the blame is always on the mother. I find that difficult as well."*

*"I feel so much better now that I have spoken about my situation. I will be willing to help others in a similar situation. I don't want nobody to go through what I went through."*

*"I've come, and I've spoke how I feel and I've let my feelings out. And inshallah this will help other people. I'm the type of person who will always help other people. I don't want other people to suffer the way I have suffered.*

*There have been times when I've just wanted to run away; going on a mountain and scream. I can't even go away on holiday. How can I go away when my son's in prison. Even sometimes when I eat I can't swallow. I'm thinking: 'what has my son eaten?' Your children never grow old in your parents' eyes.*

*There are many who suffer even more than I do. Some mums have their boys in for much worse and longer. And it's all young, young mothers as well who are suffering, like younger than I am. Young age who's had children and the children have got mixed up with wrong friends or done something wrong or haven't done something wrong, but they are there."*

## Interview Two

*"I grew up in a family where the boys were constantly getting into trouble with the police. At one point when I was about 12 my brother ended up in juvenile custody for a minor offence. My mother was devastated- it was like a funeral in the house. She stopped cooking the lovely Sunday roast dinner, she didn't want to eat anything 'special' because her 'special' son was not home to eat it. We weren't even allowed to hire video films, I think in those days you had to hire the video player as well! Seeing your mother in this state has a profound and silent impact on a young child. The child cannot seek help as the child does not know the damage that is being done to him or her at the time but it is long lasting and affects you in adulthood as it makes you paranoid about raising your own children."*

## Case Study One

*We were contacted by a female from Derby, was informed about Himaya Haven through a WhatsApp group. She had an autistic son in prison and was struggling emotionally and financially, to get help with prison visits and travel costs. She did not know the procedures to claim for prison visits, travel costs and the route of getting there, and was unaware of sending money and clothes to her son. We have provided regular support to her on the telephone. Whilst our support continued, other issues came to light, where she needed extra emotional support. Her son was moved to a secure unit, due to being bullied by fellow inmates, which led to him self-harming. On his subsequent release on a Tagging System, we assessed her counselling needs as acute, therefore, she would benefit from face to face therapy. Through our networking. We were able to identify and provide her support in Derby with an appropriate person who had experienced a similar situation. Through this contact her son was advised to peruse education and training, which would improve his life chances. We have maintained regular contact with her.*



# Findings

## Statistics in their context

Himaya Haven has directly supported numerous individuals and families affected by the criminal justice system. It has now begun to help address the underlying problems and issues. The charts below provide an insight into the work delivered.

- Majority of the people helped were under the age of 49. About half of whom were under the age of 25, with the rest between the ages of 25-49. (figure 2)
- In terms of the nature of offences, witness intimidation and motoring, affected the largest number of clients. (figure 6)
- Overall 36 individuals were supported. Of those people supported, 26 were women and the remainder men. (figure 1)
- The impact of offending was far reaching, for example, for every 28 people in prison, we estimated that over 90 members of their families are the victims on the outside who are affected.
- Although the majority of enquires were information and one to one support; prison enquiries and courts were also asked about. (figure 4)
- Majority of the clients were from the Pakistani and Kashmiri communities. (figure 3)
- There is a clear link between educational underachievement and prevalence of offending. In the Birmingham area, research by Dr Karamat Iqbal has shown that since 2000, some 15000 Pakistani children (mainly boys) underachieved at school i.e. they left school without achieving the benchmark qualifications of 5 A\*-C at GCSE. It is likely that some of them will have gone on to participate in offending and antisocial behaviour.
- According to the most recent government data Muslims make up 4% of the overall UK population. Yet they have a very disproportionate presence in the prison population currently 15%. This means that in areas such as Birmingham, where a third of the population are Muslims, there are many families likely to be affected.
- The families we supported, the highest offender age ranged from 25 - 49 (figure 5)

<sup>1</sup> British Pakistani boys, education and the role of religion: In the land of the Trojan Horse, Routledge, 2018.

<sup>2</sup> <http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN04334/SN04334.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> See book by Iqbal (2013: Dear Birmingham). According to the Head of Equalities at Birmingham City Council, Muslims comprised one third of the city's population.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.thinknpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Improving-prisoners-family-ties.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.barnardos.org.uk/what\\_we\\_do/our\\_work/children\\_of\\_prisoners.htm](https://www.barnardos.org.uk/what_we_do/our_work/children_of_prisoners.htm) <http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN04334/SN04334.pdf>

- According to New Philanthropy Capital's report "Improving prisoner's families ties" (2011) "families are important to us, but for prisoners, families can make all the difference to rehabilitation. Good relationships can help increase employment, improve the well-being of children, reduce homelessness and reduce re-offending. Prisoners who are visited by a relative are 39% less likely to re-offend within a year of release than those who do not receive visits."
- According to a report from the charity Barnardo's, "On the Outside" , it is estimated that 200,000 children are affected by parental imprisonment across England and Wales. It is well known that children with a parent in prison can feel isolated and ashamed – unable to talk about their situation because they are scared of being bullied and judged. These children are left in the shadows; their needs are often forgotten with devastating impact. Despite their situation, they are locked out of the support they needed to give a better chance in life.

The above findings as discussed in this report confirm the critical nature of our work, that affects so many families.

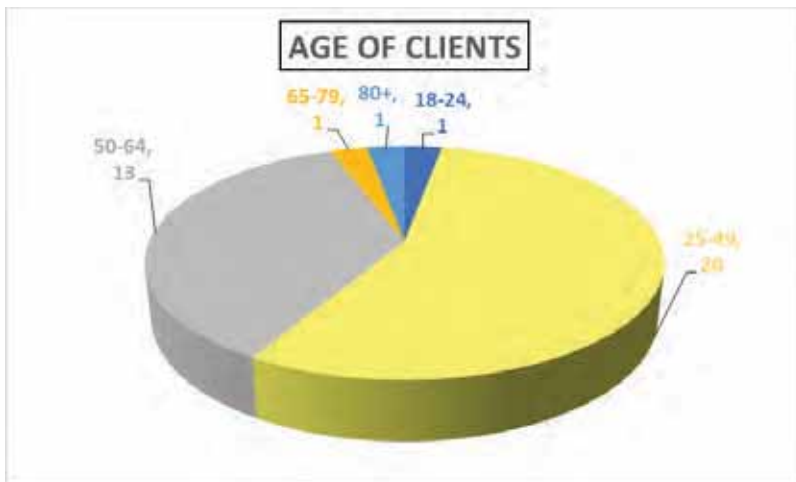
We have structures in place that allow us to meet on a regular basis, informally and formally, to raise issues we are supporting with the relevant authorities.



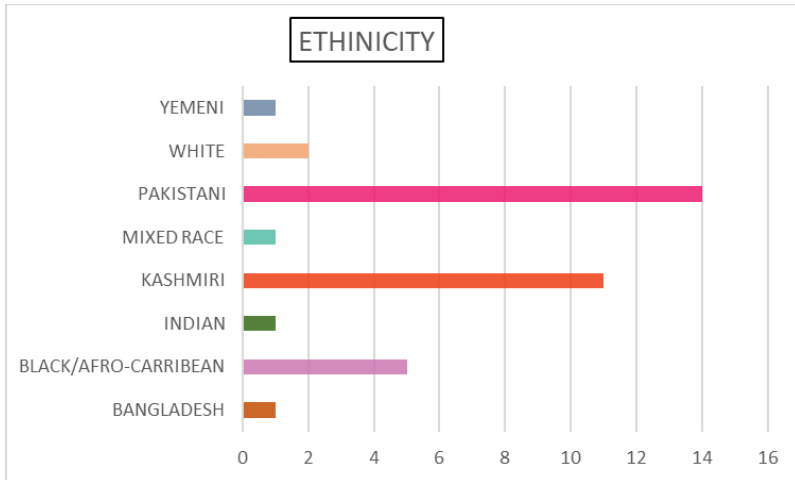




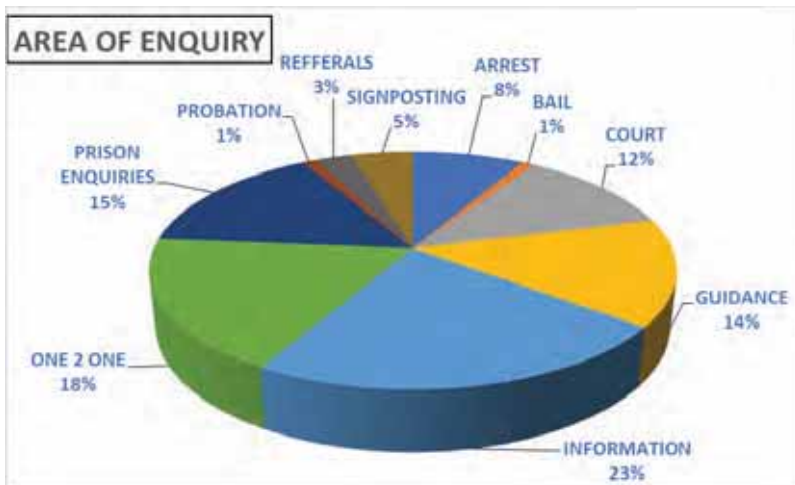
(figure 1) A bar chart to show the gender of clients supported by Himaya Haven.



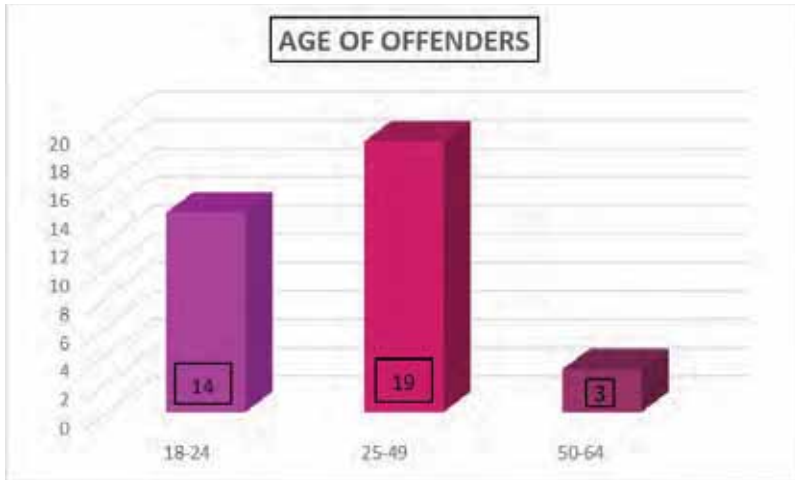
(figure 2) A pie chart shows the age of clients supported by Himaya Haven.



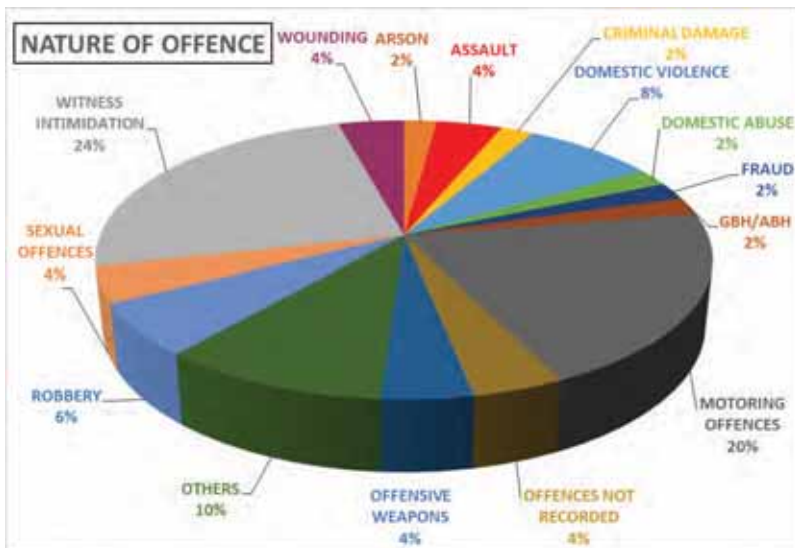
(figure 3) A bar chart to show the ethnicity of clients supported by Himaya Haven. As mentioned before the most prominent ethnicities are those from Pakistani and Kashmiri background.



(figure 4) The following pie chart shows the areas that Himaya Haven's clients enquired about in their first meeting.



(figure 5) A bar chart to show the age of offenders of the clients supported by Himaya Haven.



(figure 6) A pie chart to show the nature of offences committed by the offenders of the clients supported by Himaya Haven.

## Conclusion

The UK is witnessing a growing prison population. There are reports of disturbances within prisons and lack of sufficient resources for our criminal justice system, despite the governments continued funding. We receive daily reports of criminality and anti-social behaviour across our neighbourhoods. As an organisation, we will continue to champion issues affecting our clients and communities; always prioritising to work with others for improved services.

Our work is guided by working with individuals and families reporting their experiences to us, we name these people, "Silent Victims on the Outside". We strive to support those individuals and families in need of our professional input and engage our partners where required.

From the outset, Himaya Haven, has reached out to establish purposeful working relationships with those working within the criminal justice system. We have not been disappointed by the collaboration and trust offered to us.

As Tahir Abass, of Leeds University states in his endorsement of Himaya Haven, "provide families with information and support to alleviate the challenges they face and remove some of their isolation. Furthermore, Himaya Haven's local connection and expertise enables them to offer culturally specific support to families from minority communities who are disproportionately impacted by imprisonment".

We will continue to seek funding to expand our services. So far, we have received small grants to fund pockets of our work. We anticipate bidding for core funding and project specific funds to enable us to support those in need.



# Recommendations

Himaya Haven has established itself and has earned the trust of organisations and the wider community. We are prepared to grow and develop in order to reach even more families affected by the criminal justice system. We are confident that Himaya Haven will continue to flourish in meeting the needs of the communities it serves, and assist in sensitising key players in the delivery of our practices. This is where grant giving, and funding bodies can play a crucial role in helping Himaya Haven to grow and build on its early work in order to respond to the many unmet needs that exist in the areas we work in.

## **NEXT STEPS**

1. To secure the funds to employ:
  - Manager
  - Development worker
  - Outreach worker
  - Administration
2. In partnership with the West Midlands Police, we will establish a Restorative Justice Hub in the community, providing a referral pathway for the police to pass on referrals to us.
3. We work in partnership with the West Midlands Police to establish a young person's referral scheme, reaching out to the family to offer support, friendship and advice.
4. To extend our geographical reach across Birmingham, to facilitate services to a wider constituency.
5. To recruit volunteers to generate additional social capital in the community.
6. Undertake research and publish reports on the problems and issues faced by our target communities.

# Appendix

The following case studies highlight the depth of our work and the diversity of issues we have assisted with. No two cases are the same, as each individual and family come with their own complex needs.

## **Case 2**

We have supported a 19-year-old and his family, since his arrest (aged 18 at the time) and alongside his court trial and recent long-term prison sentence. This has impacted both immediate and extended family. We have supported them in attending court and prison visits, dealing with the media and generally guiding them through the process. Our support is ongoing.

## **Case 3**

We have supported a prolific offender, who came out of prison, and was attempting to break the cycle of re-offending. We have attended meetings with him and offered other services to maintain support for him. We have supported his elderly parents, this has had a negative impact on both their health and wellbeing, due to the offender being restricted from visiting their house, by a Multi-agency Public Protection arrangements. Frequent visits are maintained.

## **Case 4**

We have supported a family in which an 18-year-old was arrested and sentenced. We referred them for counselling and have supported them on a daily basis via phone calls. The mother has attended our coffee mornings, where we offer emotional support.

## **Case 5**

We supported an 18-year-old female who was pregnant. Her partner was in remand for six months, who was subsequently sentenced. The client gave birth to twins. We supported her through the difficult procedure of arranging a visit with her twins to see their father. As the mother didn't have a birth certificate for her twins. We advised her on how to obtain a birth certificate.

## **Case 6**

A mother asked for assistance, as her youngest child was arrested after a serious road traffic accident, which became a police incident resulting in her son being held in custody and then remanded. We supported her through the process from the time of arrest to sentencing and attending every court date. We also helped arrange prison visits and helped her cope and understand the prison system and the process of booking visits. This has helped her take responsibility and become more independent.

## **Case 7**

A father came to us for support when his son was sentenced to prison. He suffers with severe bipolar disorder, and was struggling to cope. We have sought counselling for the father.

**Case 8**

Two brothers came to us for help as their younger brother was sentenced to prison. They were struggling with the sense of helplessness, as they were unable to help their brother who was bullied in prison. To overcome this, we got in touch with the authorities and the Chaplain Service for support.

**Case 9**

A family member contacted us as unfortunately their loved one had committed suicide in prison. We have supported and guided his family members through this tragic time.

**Case 10**

A first-time offender on release from prison, was left homeless and had lost everything (flat, clothes, possessions) including his family who disowned him. We helped him get back in touch with his young son and partner, helped him to find temporary housing and introduced him to a support group. He now volunteers by helping refugees.

**Case 11**

A female whose brother was imprisoned, revisited us as she separated from her husband due to domestic violence. We assisted her in the family court and obtained court orders. We accompanied her to her solicitors appointments and court dates.

**Case 12**

A family of an 18-year-old male contacted us. He had been remanded and refused bail, awaiting trial and sentencing. We have supported the family by offering advice and guidance. After serving six months on remand, at trial the jury found him not guilty.

**Case 13**

A young female contacted us, as both of her parents were arrested, and their house was raided by the police. This left her traumatised. We helped her find the police station they had been taken to and supported her until both parents were released on bail. After 6 months both parents were found not guilty by a jury. We supported her and her parents who found it difficult to face the community.

**Case 14**

A female whose 19-year-old son was arrested and held in custody. He was released on bail. We supported our client whilst waiting for trial, which was around 6-7 months. The mother who was a solicitor was traumatised about the stigma of her son going to prison and how this would affect her work. In court he was given a suspended sentence and placed on tagged for 8 months. We continue to support our client, as and when she needs it.

**Case 15**

A female was referred to us. She had been living in a one bed hostel for 2 years with her 18-year-old son. She had fled a domestic violence situation and was in serious debt. We helped this lady re-house to a two-bedroom home. The support we have offered has helped deal with her mental health issues.



Razia Hadait would like to say a special thank you to her family and relatives for their support, patience, resilience and encouragement throughout the year.

Himaya Haven would like to give special thanks to the following businesses and community members who donated funds to help with the cost of literature for HMP Drake Hall Women and the Annual Genral Meeting

Donations

Evolve Net/Big Print Birmingham

Crystal Plaza

Manzoor Hussain

Raja Amin JP MBE

Cllr Zafar Iqbal

Shamraiz Haq – B.C. Blinds

Hakim Bibi

Rhouf Jewellers

Raja Brothers

Abda Khan - Khan Solicitors

Khalid Mahmood MP

Abid Hussain- Smethwick Pakistani Muslims Association

FK Accountants

Najam Begum

We Do Any Drop LTD

RMT Union

Zahid Khan Janson Solicitors

**We would like to give further thanks to the following people for their constant support throughout our first year**

MECC Trust  
Inspector Imran Mirza  
Inspector Matt Crowley  
Inspector Neil Kilpatrick  
Inspector Hanif Ullah  
Sergeant Haroon Chughtai  
PC Marina Dain  
Arif Chohan  
Suraiya Isaac  
Dr Karamat Iqbal  
Birmingham City Council  
West Midlands Police  
Alison Cope  
Reverend Dr Desmond Jaddo  
Pretesh Chouhan

**Due to the increase of violent crime from the start of this year and following on from the gangs and violence workshop; Himaya Haven set up a steering group consisting of statutory/communities organisations, police, Birmingham City Council and residents. This was to continue to respond to ongoing community needs. Therefore, we would like to thank the following members of the steering group who have made a considerable contribution**

Himaya Haven Steering Group  
Arif Chohan  
Adil Hadi  
Arfan Khan  
Arisha Naz  
Kalsoom Khan  
Maz Iqbal  
Rahila Mann  
Sanu Ullah  
Rashid Campbell  
Imam Shahed Tameez  
Shahid Butt  
Shazia Hussain  
Tahmina Suhail  
Inspector Matt Crowley  
Inspector Imran Mirza

Special Thanks to S M Irfan World News - For the media coverage throughout the year

# Financial Statement

## HIMAYA HAVEN COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY

Company Number 10690686

### Donations Received

Lottery Grant	9567
The Allen Lane Foundation	1000
Work Shop	150
Public Donations	548
Donations by Directors	70
Total Income	11335

As of year end 31 March 2018 total donations received £11,335.00 out of £5,282.00 to be used for Financial year end 31 March 2018 and £6,053.00 allocated to be used in the financial year 2018/19 official breakdown shown in income and expenditure account.

FK Accountancy Services  
22 Ashcroft Grove  
Birmingham  
B20 3JW

**We would like to thank all those who have supported our work.  
This years funders included:**



# Night one in a cell

*Secured in a room with no light,  
On your own, and you cannot fight,  
You're behind bars for a crime,  
Innocent of guilty, the system will decide,  
No one cares, because someone has to pay the price,  
For one split second you don't think,  
Putting your life and others' at risk,  
From the breaking of the door, to the handcuffs,  
Your rights being read,  
Now you're under arrest,  
Family are shocked and shattered,  
Their emotions – mentally, physically they are battered,  
Can't come to terms with what's happened,  
Don't know what door to knock,  
Sense the stigma, the shame, splashed around the house and in the  
neighbourhood,  
Life's just not fair,  
But it's a price you have to pay for being there,  
Wrong time, wrong place,  
No one knows,  
Who cares.*

*by Miriam Qadir*

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry, no matter how small, should be recorded to ensure the integrity of the financial data. This includes not only sales and purchases but also expenses, income, and any other financial activities. The document provides a detailed guide on how to set up a ledger and how to enter data correctly, including instructions on how to handle corrections and adjustments. It also discusses the importance of regular reconciliation and how to identify and resolve discrepancies. The second part of the document focuses on the analysis of the financial data. It explains how to calculate key financial ratios and how to interpret them to assess the company's financial health. It also discusses the importance of budgeting and how to use financial data to make informed decisions about the company's future. The document concludes with a summary of the key points and a final note on the importance of financial record-keeping.

**Greencoat House**  
(Second Floor)  
261-271 Stratford Road  
Birmingham  
B11 1QS

**Contact Us**

0121 448 1825  
07866496142

[info@himayahaven.co.uk](mailto:info@himayahaven.co.uk)  
[www.himayahaven.co.uk](http://www.himayahaven.co.uk)

Company number 10690686

