



HIMAYA HAVEN
Empowering Communities

BAME Families of Prisoners

Annual Report

April 2020 – March 2021

April 2021 - March 2022

We believe that families should be able to access appropriate and timely support at every stage of the Criminal Justice System – from point of arrest to point of release.

By Zobia Hadait



By Zobia Hadait, Himaya Haven Director/Secretary and Website & Social Media Manager.

HIMAYA HAVEN

Empowering Communities

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Himaya Haven CIC, Women's Enterprise Hub, 249a Ladypool Road, Sparkbrook, B12 8LF.

Himaya Haven CIC

Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Report Launch: "BAME Families of Prisoners"

Funded by the Community Fund (Reaching Communities)

Thursday 27th October 2022 11.00am – 4.00 pm

Highfield Hall, Highfield Road, Birmingham, B11 1AR

11.00 – 11.15	Arrival – Refreshments, Guests to be Seated
11.15 – 11.25	Welcome the arrival of the West Midlands Deputy Lieutenant Chris Loughran and Birmingham Lord Mayor Maureen Cornish
11.25 – 11.30	Host Opening the Event: Zobia Hadait Himaya Haven's Director/Secretary and Website and Social Media Manager
11.30 – 11.35	Deputy Lieutenant West Midlands Chris Loughran
11.35 – 11.40	Lord Mayor Birmingham Maureen Cornish
11.40 – 11.45	Introduction - To the work of Himaya Haven by Razia Hadait MBE – CEO/Founder/Managing Director
11.45 – 11.50	Financial Statement Razia Hadait
11.50 – 12.05	Report on the "BAME" Families of Prisoners by Somia.R.Bibi Family Engagement and Outreach Worker
12.05 – 12.10	Q&A
12.10 – 12.25	Break and Lord Mayor's Departure
12.25 - 12.35	Keynote Speaker: Imam Jahangir Miah Managing Chaplain of HMP/YOI Swinfen Hall <i>"Impact of the Ramadan Packs within prison & Himaya Haven's Broader Engagement"</i>
12.35 – 12.40	<i>Video: Experiences of "BAME" Prisoner Families</i>
12.40 – 12.45	<i>Case Study: Experiences of "BAME" Prisoner Families</i>
12.45 – 12.50	Tom McNeil Deputy Police Crime Commissioner
12.50 – 12.55	Keynote Speaker: Imam Haroon Shafiq Chaplaincy Manager of HMP/Oakwood <i>"Needs of long-term offenders and their families & Himaya Haven's Broader Engagement"</i>
12.55 – 13.00.	<i>Case Study: Experiences of "BAME" Prisoner Families</i>
13.00 - 13.15	Keynote Speaker: Michelle Kelly BACP Accredited Trained Integrative Therapist, A Father's Child CEO and Director of Adult Services <i>"Impact on families and prisoners with mental health"</i>
13.15 – 13.20	<i>Case Study Experiences of "BAME" Prisoner Families</i>
13.20 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00– 14.10	<i>Video: Experiences of "BAME" Prisoner Families</i>
14.10 –14.25	Keynote Speaker: Mohammed Ashfaq Managing Director of Kikit: Pathways to Recovery <i>"Impact on Families: Addiction, Prison, and Rehabilitation"</i>
14.25 – 14.35	<i>Case Study: Experiences of "BAME" Prisoner Families</i>
14.35 – 14.40	Kahoot! Interactive Quiz/Game
14.40 – 14.45	Poem
14.45 – 14.55	Evaluation
14:55 – 15.10	Q&A
15.10 – 16.00	Thank you <i>"closing and networking"</i>



HIMAYA HAVEN

Empowering Communities

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As the CEO and Founding Director of Himaya Haven CIC, I am proud to have seen the company grow from strength to strength over the last five years whilst continuing to make an impact.

The year 2020 started with a renewed enthusiasm as our next five-year plan had been made possible due to successfully securing funding from Community Fund (Reaching Communities). We were keen to put into practice our learning from our early project work.

By March 2020 it was clear that our plans would need to be modified as Covid-19 put the whole country into lockdown, which presented many challenges to the plans we had made for our first year of operation.

Covid-19 saw two of our Directors in lockdown in Pakistan amongst receiving the new and constant emerging information of Covid-19's danger, whilst also facing the challenges of returning home to the UK, so that our work could continue.

Our work was delayed by two months due to the lockdown and government guidelines. Taking everything into consideration and putting our Directors safety first, we made the decision to open our office and start recruiting staff.

During this year we have had to adapt our practices so we can protect ourselves and our clients. Some of our planned activities needed to be modified or put on hold because of the pandemic and the restrictions that have been imposed on large events, training and on prison visits.

The heightened pressure and strain on prisoner families, put enormous pressure on our Directors knowing that our work to support families was more crucial than ever before.

We continue to be immensely proud of what we have managed to achieve this year and are grateful for the support of our directors, funders, volunteers, and staff members. We continue to strive to advocate for and support our service users – "the silent victims on the outside".



Razia T Hadait MBE
CEO & Managing Director
Himaya Haven CIC

Zobia's Foreword

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I have been involved with Himaya Haven from the onset and volunteered for 2 years until a part-time post saw me undertaking the role of managing the website and social media accounts. In addition to designing and planning media promotions and advertising for projects and events.

I have supported Razia (mum) from the beginning and I am also involved in the day-to day tasks of Himaya Haven. I am so proud of what we have achieved in the last five years. We had secured funding from Community Fund and were ready to set up our office in April 2020, when we suddenly found ourselves caught in Pakistan during the first lockdown of Covid-19.

Our planned office opening was delayed for 2 months, but once we came back from Pakistan and set up our office we didn't look back as we knew, more work needed to be done and how our families needed our support more than ever before. Furthermore, I found myself in the unexpected position of completing the remaining assignments and dissertation for my Masters in Cyberpsychology, while simultaneously helping manage Himaya Haven and cope with the everchanging Covid-19 rules. Having to adapt and change the way we worked in supporting our families was a learning curve for us all at Himaya Haven, enabling me to implement key digital initiatives and further build the foundations of our social media. We saw families really struggling throughout the period of 2020 to 2022 and during Christmas we successfully applied for funding to support many families with Christmas Hampers. Both the Christmas and Ramadan Hampers were met with a great deal of gratitude from the families giving them comfort that they could provide for their families at least on two occasions without struggling to purchase it themselves.

However, the families of prisoners we support continue to ask when they will be next provided, highlighting the financial strain that coincides with a loved one's sentence (especially when they are the breadwinner).

I am honoured to have been awarded the UK Community Hero Award for all the hard work to improve our local area and help people within our community. I was also proud to receive special recognition for going above and beyond to promote mental health and wellbeing in the West Midlands Combined Authority Areas, resulting in a special mention in the Mental Health Star Awards under the Young Person Aged 16-25 category. Moreover, it was great to be appreciated for my work through the nominations for Police and Crime Commissioner's Outstanding Citizen Award 2021 Nominee (March) and New Leaf CIC Employee of the Year Award/Shortlisted (December 2021).

I am looking forward to continuing my work within Himaya Haven, and supporting its growth going forward. I remain passionate about our cause and love the ethos and work environment we have created for Himaya Haven.



Zobia Hadait

**Director/Secretary &
Website & Social Media Manager**
Himaya Haven CIC

Somia's Foreword

I first came to Himaya Haven as a volunteer at the onset of the Covid-19 crisis and during the first lockdown, and the rest as they say is history. From the onset; the energy, focus and determination rippling through the foundations of the organisation through Directors Razia Hadait MBE and Zobia Hadait (who are involved in the day-to-day tasks of Himaya Haven) was clear to see. Himaya Haven holds a unique position within the West Midlands, in its role as a non-profit organisation working to support and advocate for the silent victims on the outside – prisoner/offender families. In addition to working to maintain, facilitate and build strong bonds between offenders and their families, to reduce reoffending and support rehabilitation.

In my role as the Family Engagement and Outreach Worker I have seen and been involved in providing frontline emotional and practical support to families and individuals who often feel isolated, judged, and bewildered as they navigate new and uncertain terrain. Through Himaya Haven they gain a non-judgemental and culturally nuanced support framework. We have found even where the person/family reaching out to us have family and friends ready to help them, they do not wish to 'burden' their loved ones and feel more comfortable letting their emotional barriers down with the Himaya Haven team. In addition to seeking assistance on an assortment of practical matters such as understanding how to; pay utility bills, apply for benefits, use digital services platforms and arrange prison visits.

The focus is not only on supporting and advocating for the service users who come to us, but also helping them develop the skills and confidence to navigate the new realities of their every day and family dynamics. Indeed, I have been fortunate to see many of our service users (often female) grow in confidence and knowledge as they undertake new roles and responsibilities within their family and life more broadly.

In my role as the Family Engagement and Outreach Worker I was honoured to be awarded the UK Community Hero award in 2021 and shortlisted for the New Leaf CIC Employee of the Year. The comradeship, support, and energy within the Himaya Haven team ensure it is a team I am proud to be a part of.



Somia R Bibi, BA Hons & MA
**Family Engagement &
Outreach Worker**
Volunteer Co-Ordinator
Himaya Haven CIC

Endorsement ⁶

I became aware of Himaya Haven (HH) a few years ago and have been really struck by the impact such an organisation can make. Our key function as an organisation is to address the Mental Health and well-being issues and concerns, and we see the impact through various different lenses within the community; gangs, crime and imprisonment are just a few.

Himaya Haven have supported A Father's Child Services CIC by providing support around language when we have wanted to meet the needs of service users where there has been a language barrier in the past. But I do not think that society or funders in general rarely consider the positive impact an organisation such as Himaya Haven can have in alleviating the stress and impact of loss, change and imprisonment. Just, by acknowledging a person as a victim, someone who is impacted by a loved one being imprisoned.

HH recognise that if a loved one is incarcerated there will be many victims, not just those that have had a crime perpetrated against them but, the shame that culture and communities can manifest for families and loved ones on the outside. The impact of mental health from maybe having a loved one imprisoned might also mean that your family's income has now gone, the children will need to make an adjustment to losing a parent or sibling and the implications on their Mental Health alongside the ripple effects it all has on families and communities.

Funding organisations such as HH that think outside of the box, is vital to serving the whole community, and making the invisible community members visible whilst giving them a voice. The work that they do is very varied but unique and fits a niche in our community that has to be addressed; so that we can respond to the needs of the community as a whole.



Michelle Kelly
**Integrative Therapist,
CEO & Director**
A Fathers Child Services CIC
Adult Services CIC

Team Members ⁷

Directors



Razia Hadait
**CEO & Managing
Director**



Zobia Hadait
**Director/Secretary
& Website and Social
Media Manager**



Tahmeena Suhail
Director



Selina Baig
Director

Staff



Somia R Bibi
**Family Engagement &
Outreach Worker**



Rehna Sharif
**Administrator
(2020-2021)**



Ismael Ali
**Mentor & Youth
Engagement**



Dually Hashimi
**Admin & Finance
Assistant**

Volunteers



David Arroyo
**Finance
Volunteer**



Paris Noel
**Admin &
Finance
Volunteer**



Ikponmwonsa Amadin
**Admin &
Finance
Volunteer**



Adnan Thakur
**Events Coordinator
Volunteer**



Jonathon McCarthy
**Digital Marketing
Volunteer**

Volunteer Experiences

Paris Noel

"The period I volunteered at Himaya Haven was June 2021 to August 2021 as an Administrative/Financial Volunteer.

During my time, the sort of tasks I did consisted of;

- Carrying out administrative tasks such as, checking and sending out emails, organising files and updating clients' details wherever needed.
- The financial tasks I carried out were updating the financial report spreadsheet and ensuring the spreadsheet matches the bank statements.
- Creating case studies to demonstrate and to bring light to the different types of work Himaya Haven have done and have faced while creating further awareness to their purpose as a charity.

During my experience I learnt a variety of different things such as not only gaining new skill sets but more knowledge about the inner challenges families and individuals go through within the criminal justice system. I was given time to observe and learn a bit more about the different areas within the charity alongside my volunteer tasks. I was given the opportunity to conduct a few training programmes as well during my time which I enjoyed and found very informative. The Himaya Haven Team were **very welcoming** and made my short experience **very valuable** where if an opportunity ever arose again, I would work with them."

Ikponmwonsa Amadin

"I volunteered as a Finance Assistant here at Himaya Haven from the 17th of June 2021 to the 30th of October 2022.

Majority of my time here was spent helping Zobia with recording and organising invoices on physical folders, Excel files and QuickBooks. I also assisted in recording bank statements, completing client data on the spreadsheets and filing documents.

Volunteering here gave me the opportunity to complete the Adverse Childhood Experience course as well as the e-learning training on Prevent duty. These courses have enlightened me on the negative experiences that can impact a child's development and on the practical ways of safeguarding vulnerable young people from radicalisation. Overall, my experience working here was **fun**. I got a **better understanding** of the finance for a small company and I **received support** from everyone when needed. I look forward to working here again in the future."



Volunteer Experiences

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Dualle Elmi

"I joined Himaya Haven on the 8th January 2022 to the 30th June 2022 as an Admin and Finance Assistant via the Kickstart Programme.

When I first started working for Himaya Haven in January I did not know what to expect. Having my start date delayed due to me having Covid didn't help with how nervous I was at the time. Yet regardless of that, all those nervous and anxious feelings I had all disappeared quickly when I got to know Zobia, Razia and Somia. Three lovely individuals who were a **joy** to work with for all of those months. The balance of professionalism and joyful behaviour at the office made it a **comfortable** and an **amazing environment to learn new skills**; whether it was communication skills, work-related skills or other skills.



Would I recommend someone to work at Himaya Haven? **Absolutely!** I would even personally let them know that this is an opportunity that they would **regret** missing out on. The events you get to attend, the great work they do to comfort those going through hardships in need of support; working with Zobia, Razia and Somia is an **opportunity not everyone is blessed to have**. **I could go on and on** about my experience and about the great personalities you all have. I wish you all happiness and more success in the future."

Adnan Thakur

"I started my college placement as a Volunteer Events Coordinator on the 24th of January to the 22nd of March 2021.

My experience at Himaya Haven was second to none. A great working environment that was only filled with **good vibes**, banter and **love** for the work that they do. I'm glad to say I was able to work with the **most welcoming people I've ever met**. It genuinely didn't even feel like I was coming into "placement" but rather a fun place to help out. I do recall proudly saying to Maxine (placement tutor) "it's the **best placement** I could've ever asked for" and I definitely meant that. I was able to **learn** many things from everyone in the office, Somia was able to teach me how to write up a proper email and Zobia helped me to tap into my creative side when making posters and leaflets, Razia taught me the history of the local area as well as help me to **build** my networking skills when we went to an exhibition and Dualle was able to teach me some admin skills when it came to Microsoft Excel. All in all, I was able to **learn so many different skills** in different areas. In terms of what I did, I did a bit of everything: answering emails, making project posters, networking, initial planning for the AGM and one of the International Women's Day events we attended and helping Dualle with organising the filing system and client spreadsheets. Some of the skills were not just office based, I did gambling training, a community street clean up, helped to move heavy boxes up the stairs and much more.



If my career path aligned with a job role Himaya Haven has to offer, then **I would definitely work with them again** because they treat you like you are part of their little Himaya Haven **family** and not a person there to get some work done."

Volunteer Experiences

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Ismael Ali

'I came to Himaya Haven as a Mentor & Youth Engagement Volunteer in January 2021 to April 2021. Within this period, I had the opportunity to undertake this as a paid part-time role.



I was involved in creating a niche project set up in the area of Sparkbrook/ Balsall Heath, identifying a need for the where the youth were misguided and influenced by their own negative surroundings that would potentially involve them in anti-social behaviour as well as a risk of being influenced by drug dealers as well as armed weapons.

Tasks I undertook:

- Developed a mentoring project which would instill discipline through boxing
- Outreaching within the local community
- Developing relationships with local partners as well as beneficiaries
- 1 to 1 mentoring with young people who are looking for employment and at risk of crime

The working environment was **positive** as everyone **helped one another**. The role I achieved really gave an insight to how some single parent families struggled with multiple young people within the family highlighting various issues such as mental health, anti-social behaviour, issues with where these young people were living and giving them additional support to meet their needs.

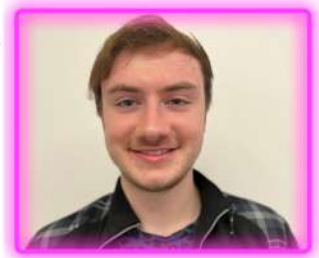
Himaya Haven is definitely a charity to **watch out for** in the coming years as their objectives as an organisation are to **bring unity to divided homes**. I would personally recommend volunteering or working here as this organisation **have a belief that they can change lives by what they promise to deliver and deliver every time**. The Ramadan project delivery allowed me to visit and meet the prison imams, which was an experience I will **never forget**. Working with Razia, Zobia and Somia was **great and filled with laughter** even on the days we were exhausted from projects, especially during the incident where I forget about closing the boot "properly" during the Ramadan project.

Jonathan McCarthy

"I volunteered as a Digital Marketer at Himaya Haven from January 2022 to May 2022.

This volunteer role complimented my marketing degree really well. I gained some **valuable** knowledge and practical experience, especially in areas such as website development and Search Engine Optimisation (SEO). Prior to my time at Himaya Haven I had no previous experience in such areas, so it was **really beneficial** for my development. A typical day at the office consisted of uploading photos/videos onto the website and creating and planning new posts to help boost their social media presence. Some other skills I learned included changing the images on each website post to an automatic slideshow with timings, how to add and build a new website page, changing the structure of and updating the donation page plus editing any audio files to upload to the website.

The team at Himaya Haven have kept in touch with me ever since I left the office in April and I am **grateful** for the opportunity they provided for me."



Client Testimonials

“When I was feeling very **desperate** and **alone** not having anyone to talk to about my situation **I found your support team most helpful**...Very much needed service. I think what you're offering is a **great lifeline**.”

“This organisation helps me a lot. It also helps me **gain confidence and support**. At times I felt so **upset** and **depressed** I could talk to the members of staff.”

“I would just like to say having Himaya Haven's support has helped me and my son a lot as she has made phone calls for me to the prison which **I wouldn't have been able to** due to my mental health, she has also supported me **emotionally** when I **don't understand** things, I look forward to her phone calls and she **never lets me or my son down**, I would like to say her ongoing support is **amazing**.”

“When you have someone who **understands**, and **helps** you it really matters. **Himaya Haven is a place that cares, it's brilliant. I feel a load is lifted** when I've talked to Razia.”

“**I don't know what I'd do** without their help. Somia and Himaya Haven listen and help, **they do what they say**. A lot of others don't. When I'm **stressed** and about to wreak things, **I know** I can call and get help.”

“Himaya Haven's support was **immense**, really thankful that I have them. Them talking to the prisoners, finding out information, and helping me reach my son, checking he's ok, **helped more than you can imagine**. When I was **stressing**, the **support was there** and stopped me being a **mess, anxious and panicking**.”

Team Awards

Himaya Haven and staff, have been nominees and winners for multiple awards this year.

UK Community Heroes Award 2021

On the 19th March 2021, Razia, Zobia and Somia all received an award as winners of the UK Community Heroes Award 2021 for their hard work and dedication during the Coronavirus Pandemic.



Let's honour our Community Heroes...

We all know people who helped the vulnerable during the pandemic and others who have been doing a lot for their community over the years whether it is picking up litter on their local beach, fundraising for a charity or feeding the homeless.

Thank you for nominating your Community Heroes and telling the whole world about them to recognise their efforts and inspire others.

Criminal Justice Alliance Awards 2021

On the 30th November 2021, Razia received a runner-up in the Criminal Justice Alliance Awards 2021 for Outstanding Individual.



New Leaf Criminal Justice Awards 2021

On the 16th December 2021, Razia received an award as the winner of the New Leaf Criminal Justice Awards 2021 for Entrepreneur of the Year. This award recognises individuals who have changed their own lives and developed services to support others.

Also, Zobia and Somia were shortlisted for New Leaf Employee of the Year.



West Midlands Mental Health Star Awards 2022

On the 25th of May 2022, Himaya Haven received an award as the winner of the West Midlands Health Star Awards 2022 for Team/Service/Organisation Award for targeted support for communities.

Zobia was also shortlisted for the West Midlands Mental Health Star Awards 2022 under the Young Person Award aged 16-25.



Introduction

Background

Himaya Haven CIC was founded in 2017 by the Managing Director, Razia Hadait after supporting a family whose son was remanded into custody for a serious offence. It was then recognised that families and individuals who experience a loved one going into custody and prison are often left isolated, disenfranchised, and forgotten by the rest of society. Quite often they do not gain the essential support they need, nor are they aware of what avenues to undertake. Further research into the matter highlighted that families of prisoners require both practical and emotional support when navigating the Criminal Justice System (CJS); especially those from the Black Asian Minority Ethnicity (BAME) community. This is because they experience both system-based exclusion and feel isolated, ashamed, and guilty within their own community for having a family member arrested and imprisoned.

Who We Are

Himaya Haven CIC is a leading Birmingham based organisation that concentrates on working with Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Communities (BAME) and specialise in supporting families of loved ones in custody and prison.

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide a range of culturally-sensitive services to meet individuals' 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. We believe that families should be able to access appropriate and timely support at every stage of the Criminal Justice System – from point of arrest to point of release.

Our Aim

Our aim is to speak up on behalf of the "Silent victims on the outside" by offering a variety of culturally nuanced services to support families of men and women who have a link with someone in custody or prison. We also aim to champion their needs and problems by 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.

The Difference We Are Making

Himaya Haven's based within the heart of Birmingham communities, local networks, connections, and culturally nuanced expertise is invaluable. Indeed, it enables Himaya Haven to offer multidimensional and well-rounded support to families, especially BAME families.

Himaya Haven aims to:

Increase the resilience and knowledge of BAME families when a close relative is arrested and imprisoned so that the family unit remains stable. The goal is to help ensure the family does not find itself in a downward spiral socio-culturally, economically and regarding their mental health and wellbeing. In addition, Himaya Haven works to make sure links are maintained with the imprisoned family member.

Introduction

The support/services offered by Himaya Haven during 2021/2022:

- **One to One practical support** – providing information about and guidance through the criminal justice system (procedures, laws, structure and so forth).
- **One-to-one emotional support** – supporting individuals/families through the emotional impact of having someone arrested and imprisoned.
- **Supporting families to contact family members in custody/prison** using, for example, the Purple Visits programmes, emails, and postal service.
- **Supporting families to understand and stay updated** on changing prison policies and procedures for visits, sending items and general prison life.
- **Attending court** to support family members and explain what is taking place.
- **Mentoring for young people** – those at risk of offending and those struggling to cope with a loved one being arrested and in prison.
- **Providing signposting**, information (including prison travel costs), and referrals to other agencies.
- **Fundraising** and provision of welfare packs for prisoners and their families.
- **Coffee mornings** took place to facilitate a sense of belonging and community and give families/individuals a safe space to relax, share and engage.



Reflecting on the Term 'BAME'

As discussed, and highlighted in Himaya Haven's 2022 evaluation report, 'since BAME is embedded within the title and heart of this project, reflection was needed on the usage of BAME' (Bibi, 2022). Such consideration was important especially given the growing criticism it has faced, for example, the government's heavily criticised 2021 Sewell Report and the 2020 global Black Lives Matter protests.

BAME is an umbrella category (Bibi and Chikwira, 2020) that is not used within the everyday lives of Himaya Haven service users. They do not utilise it as a category of identity or belonging. However, the category remains vital in funding applications, and is the category used by funders to identify the groups requiring Himaya Haven's support – marginalised communities, racial/ethnic minorities in the UK.

Indeed, as CEO and Managing Director of Himaya Haven Razia T Hadait MBE, states:

"On the frontline, very few use the word BAME in daily activities and conversations, but we need something when it comes to funding bids and talking to different stakeholders. We don't use BAME with clients, and they don't use it as an identity category, but some category is important when applying for funding to support marginalised communities and advocate for them to organisations. We are forced to use it and will be forced to use its replacement."

Nevertheless, using the category of BAME has also been valuable in highlighting to different stakeholders and researchers the need for nuanced consideration of the impact of arrest and imprisonment on families along racial and gender lines. Reviewer feedback for a book chapter Himaya Haven' have written reflects this:

"Written from the perspective of a practitioner organisation working with families of prisoners this offers a different perspective. While existing literature has started to consider gendered aspects of the experiences of families of prisoners it does not consider further aspects of race or ethnicity in the same way. Particularly here this consideration of BAME families provides new and interesting insights in terms of the UK prison population, and specifically in terms of Kashmiri and Pakistani families, which is different to much of the work exploring race that comes from the US in this field, and even the focus on "black" prisoners and their families in the UK. The inclusion of service user voices as well as practitioner reflections shows multiple aspects of this intersectionality and the impact it has on families' experiences which is a novel contribution. The chapter also considers children's experiences of a family member's imprisonment, again in terms of BAME families which is a neglected area in existing familial imprisonment research, particularly outside of the US."

Himaya Haven produced this book chapter after being invited by Dr Natalie Booth, senior criminology lecturer and one of the editors of an academic book looking at women, crime, and justice.

Himaya Haven's theory of change; an active document used to observe and measure impact and is used when analysing our data. The Theory of Change is used to assess the project's short- and long-term effects in a structured manner. The Theory of Change is an active document. It thus requires ongoing review and, where needed, amendment.

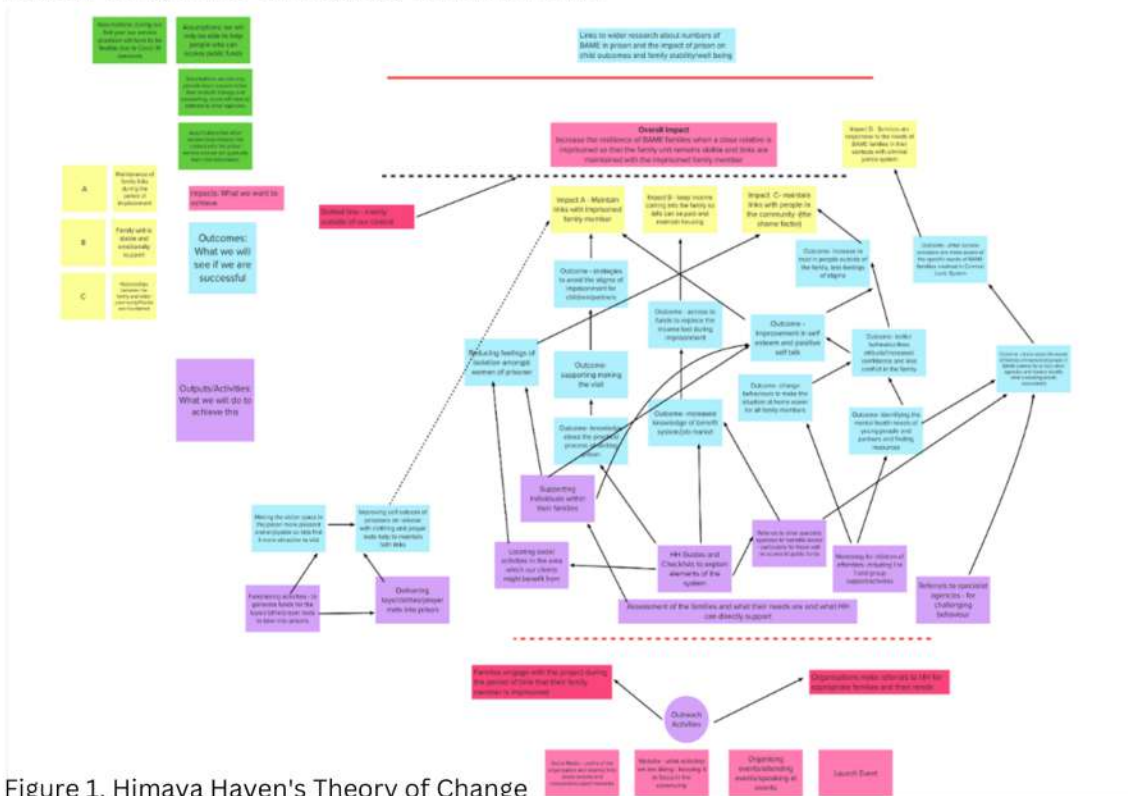


Figure 1. Himaya Haven's Theory of Change

Theory of Change & Impact Assessment

The Himaya Haven team identified priority impact areas from the Theory of Change. Three related directly to the casework, and the fourth outcome is associated with outreach activities conducted by the team. In turn, for this year, each case has been assessed to identify the most significant impacts on the family following the intervention of the Himaya Haven team.

Himaya Haven's Four Impact Categories

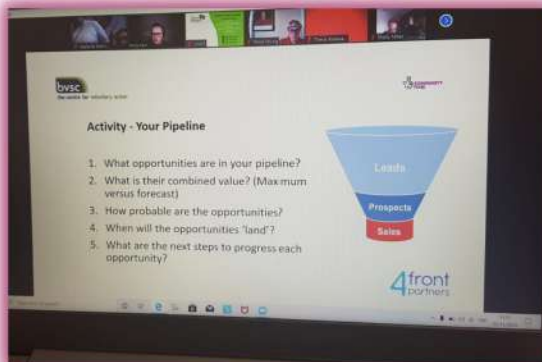
Impact A, B, and C relate to work undertaken with clients. While Impact D reflects the team's wish to measure the impact of their outreach work and contact with service providers within the CJS:

- **Impact A** – Maintain links with the family member(s) and within their wider family
- **Impact B** – Keep income coming into the family so bills can be paid, and housing can be maintained
- **Impact C** – Maintain links with people in their community (overcoming the shame and stigma associated with having a loved one arrested and in prison and avoid becoming socially isolated/disenfranchised)
- **Impact D** – Service providers involved in the CJS are responsive to the needs of BAME families.

Training

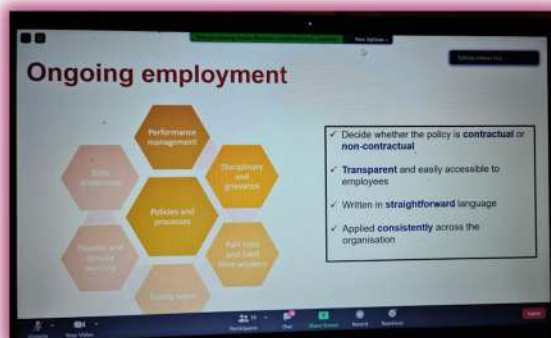
Business Development Training - 26th October 2020 - 14th December 2020

CEO Razia and Family Engagement and Outreach worker Somia partook in an eight-week business development training via Zoom. The training was hosted by Tony Carr through BVSC, and was every Monday.



Safeguarding and GDPR Training - 23rd January 2021

The team at Himaya Haven successfully completed Safeguarding and GDPR training delivered by Michelle Kelly from A Fathers Child Services CIC.

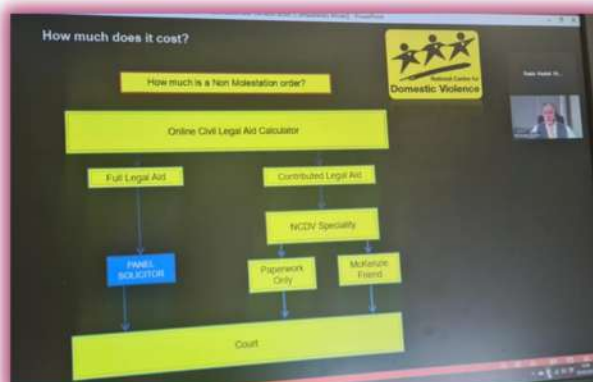


Employment Law Training - 23rd January 2021

This was online training attended by Razia.

Domestic Violence Training - 2nd February 2021

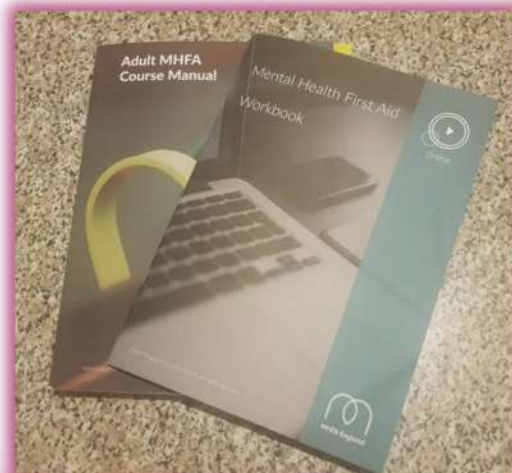
Himaya Haven staff completed online training with the National Centre for Domestic Violence.



Training

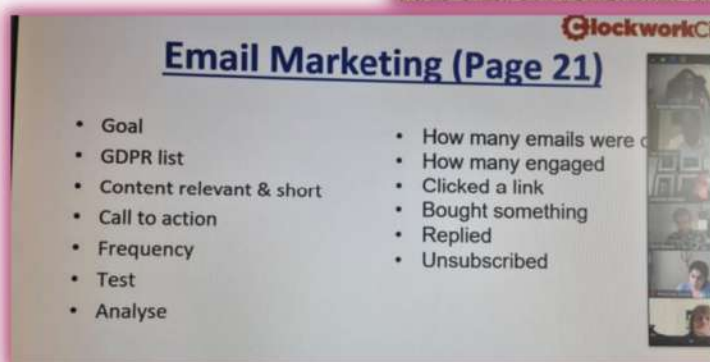
Adult Mental Health First Aid Training - 16th February 2021

Staff member Somia completed an Adult Mental Health First Aid training course delivered by Michelle Kelly from A Fathers Child Services CIC.



Digital Training - 4th March 2021 - 18th March 2021

CEO Razia undertook online digital training for business to enhance her skills to help better promote Himaya Haven online.



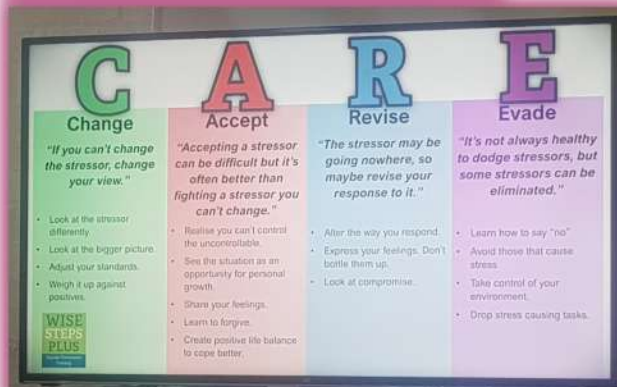
Suicide Prevention Training - 9th November 2021

The team at Himaya Haven attended a Suicide Prevention Training carried out by Common Unity and Forward 4 Life. This was a refresher for two of the Directors who had previously completed it, and a new training for another Director and Outreach worker.



Suicide Prevention Plus Training - 11th January 2021

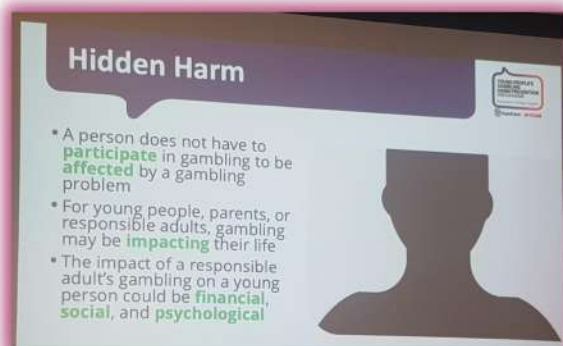
The Himaya Haven team attended the second part of the suicide prevention training – suicide prevention plus training. Razia was also involved in recording a video for Common Unity about community approaches to preventing suicide. You can watch this here.



Training

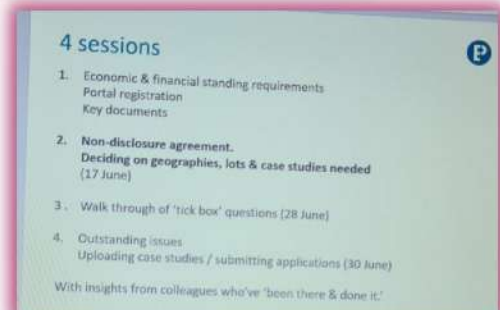
Gambling Harm Prevention Training - 25th January 2021

The team at Himaya Haven completed a Gambling Harm Prevention Training for Youth-Facing Professionals, which will allow them to increase their knowledge, identify any hidden issues with their community members and provide them with the correct support. The training was delivered by Dan Packe and Sadika Begum from Aquarius Charity which helps individuals and families overcome the harms caused by drugs, alcohol and gambling.



Clinks Capacity Building Training - 17th June 2021

A 4-week capacity building programme via Zoom, attended by CEO Razia.



HH Projects & Events ²⁰

All events and projects that have both been attended and held across the two years, will be split into each financial year.

1st April 2020 - 31st March 2021

New Office - 7th May 2020

Himaya Haven secured their brand-new office at the Women's Enterprise Hub on Ladypool Road. They also appointed a new member of staff for the role of administrator and an independent evaluator.



Report and Office Launch Preparations - 24th July 2020

Staff were hard at work during the first month back after COVID-19 making preparations for the launch of the report 'Who Cares? You Care' and the new office space.



Mentoring Packs - 24th July 2020

Through the mentoring programme that Himaya Haven was providing for families affected by imprisonment; their volunteer Nasreen created extra support packs to help the children in their academia.

Launch, AGM and Conference - 13th August 2020

Himaya Haven was very thrilled to celebrate the opening of their new office, launch of their latest report 'Who Cares? You Care', and securing five-year funding from Reaching Communities. The day was hosted by Razia Hadait and Somia Bibi and split into groups with 40 attendees from the police, communities, and other agencies whilst exercising social distancing rules. Each session also included a live video via Facebook and a Zoom video session for those who wanted to attend but were not able to. The event also involved critical discussions encompassing the criminal justice system (CJS).



HH Projects & Events

New Leaf Initiative CIC Collaboration - 23rd October 2020

This collaboration was to support New Leaf CIC in translation of a leaflet for an organisation working with prisoners. This leaflet was made to engage with the prisoner families at HMP Birmingham to join in a counsel group to raise any concerns and voice any changes needed within the institute affecting prisoners. This was done in three different languages – Romanian, Hindi and Urdu.



Book Chapter Collaboration- 3rd November 2020

Himaya Haven was approached to contribute a written chapter to an edited book by Dr. Natalie Booth on their experiences, findings and reflections from working on the frontlines supporting families of prisoners.



Kals Community Project Collaboration - 4th November 2020

A meeting was held with Khalid from Kals Community Project to collaborate on supporting young people to avoid the involvement in crime and antisocial behaviour. The initial discussion with the team meant that the Himaya Haven team have been able to refer young men to this service for mentoring.



Toy Donation - 25th November 2020

Toys and educational resources that were collected for their care packages were donated to the foodbank that operates in the Women's Enterprise Hub. Leaflets were also distributed in each individual bag of food to let further people know about the organisation.



HH Projects & Events ²²

Kals Community Project Collaboration - 9th December 2020

Kals Community Project had approached Himaya Haven to collaborate with them on their documentary project surrounding the topic of gang violence and affiliation. The video will include experiences of frontline community workers, (ex) gang members, and young people etc to provide a balanced and community-based overview of why people may join gangs.



Client Court Assist - 26th November 2020

Himaya Haven had attended Magistrates Youth Court to assist their client's son. They supported him throughout his trial, with Himaya Haven's engagement with the young boy to reduce risk of offending, resulting in a Youth Referral Order.

Youth Support - School Meeting - 15th December 2020

Razia attended a key school meeting to support a child and client through an appeal and a managed move once appeal was rejected. Razia was advocating for a young boy who had been excluded and who was at risk of a lifetime of crime though county lines.



University Placements Meeting - 15th February 2021

Himaya Haven had a meeting with Senior Research Fellow & Project Lead for Birmingham 2029 from Birmingham City University, to discuss the possibility of placements for university students with us, and a collaboration in ethnographic research.

Client Court Assist - 16th February 2021

Himaya Haven had attended Magistrates Youth Court to assist their client's son. They supported him throughout his trial, helped him gain a solicitor which led to the case being dismissed.



Catalyst for Change CIC Meeting - 22nd February 2021

Himaya Haven had a meeting with Catalyst 4 Change to discuss collaborative future group work regarding a programme to support released prisoners.

HH Projects & Events ²³

University Placements Meeting 2 - 23rd February 2021

Himaya Haven had a second meeting with Kushminder Chahal (Senior Research Fellow & Project Lead for Birmingham 2029) from Birmingham City University to discuss the possibility of placements for university students with us, and a collaboration in ethnographic research.

Say No to Prison and Yes to Success - 13th March 2021

Himaya Haven's mentoring youth project named 'Say no to prison and yes to success', had its first session with youth that were identified as 'at risk'. This was led by mentor Ismael and had very good engagement.



1st April 2021 - 31st March 2022

Book Donation to TAW Society - 18th May 2021

Himaya Haven's second book donation to Sally from the TAW Society book project that aims to facilitate reading and creating book boxes across the community.



Meeting at Bourneville Police Station - 9th June 2021

The team had a collaborative meeting with Chief Inspector Imran Mirza and DCI John Askew to discuss how we can help support young people at risk of crime and anti-social behaviour.



HH Projects & Events 24

H.M.P Swinfen Hall Eid Lunch - 14th July 2021

Some members of the Himaya Haven team were invited to HMP Swinfen Hall to attend their Eid-UL-Adha lunch alongside staff, prison governors and other professionals within the Criminal Justice System. This was also an opportunity to celebrate Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. They had a great time and received some lovely feedback (forms) from those who received the Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs.



Get Grants Mentoring and Support - 26th July 2021

The first session of mentoring and support with CEO Razia from Get Grants.



Client Home Visit - 12th August 2021

Himaya Haven were glad to be safely returning back to a crucial part of Himaya Haven's work which is home visits. The first visit back was to support a self-referred client.

Client Support - 23rd August 2021

Himaya Haven were in attendance of a conference call, in support of one of our clients.



HH Projects & Events

25

KFC Decision Makers Pilot - 26th August 2021

Himaya Haven participated in a short pilot programme for KFC Foundation. This required 3-6 young people aged 11-25 to partake in evaluating 6 project applications submitted to KFC. Four young people volunteered their time with us to help in the decision making pilot. Their opinion of the projects holds 50% weighting in KFC's final decision of which projects to provide funding to. This was lead by Zobia and our volunteer Ikponmwonsa.



Introductory Meeting with Pak Pashtoon Association UK - 21st September 2021

Razia attended a private introductory meeting with Pak Pashtoon Association UK at their premises. This was a networking opportunity for her to engage with another community organisation, raise awareness of what Himaya Haven do and also learn about what Pak Pashtoon offer to the community. Razia was left very impressed with the amount of work this organisation does to support the Pashtoon community.



Book Chapter Meeting - 28th September 2021

A virtual meeting (via Google Meets) with Natalie Booth who is an editor of the book the team were writing a chapter for. This meeting was to go through the edits and any main last changes.



Ghamkol Sharif Mosque Meeting- 13th October 2021

A private meeting with CEO of Ghamkol Sharif and Himaya Haven to discuss partnership work in the near future.



HH Projects & Events

Himaya Haven Away Day - 14th October 2021

An away day was held for all members of staff to help develop our future plans for Himaya Haven.



Himaya Haven Away Day 2 - 28th October 2021

The second part of the Away Day.



West Midlands Police - 13th December 2021

We had a visit from West Midlands Police officers in our local area, where we discussed our new projects in the new year.



Youth Work Meeting - 15th December 2021

A meeting was held with Kalsoom Khan discussing youth work.

Computers for our Community - 16th December 2021

Thank you to Birmingham City Council for these computers which are very much appreciated by our families. Digital poverty has been a significant hurdle and barrier for many, especially since the emergency of covid-19 & the closing of spaces like libraries.



HH Projects & Events

Donation for Christmas Presents - 23rd December 2021

This Christmas, the team donated £500 from Arnold Clark Community Fund, in collaboration with Homeless Support UK to support a wide range of children who are struggling, with Christmas Presents. Their smiles say it all!



End of year Dinner - 24th December 2021

Himaya Haven had an incredible year, whilst achieving so much, and continuing to help our clients/families through another year (impacted by Covid-19). We celebrated the end of the year with a dinner for staff, directors and volunteers.



HH Projects & Events 28

BBC Radio WM Interview - 26th January 2022

Both Directors Razia and Zobia were invited onto BBC Radio WM to discuss Himaya Haven's new prison project; Heritage Behind Closed Doors, which is funded by the Heritage Lottery. This project plans to look at the history behind HMP & YOI Swinfen Hall which will be in next years report.



New Furniture - 1st February 2022

Thank you to The Clothworkers Foundation for funding us. We were able to purchase new furniture for our office. It is great knowing we now own our office furniture. Well done to our strong staff; Zobia, Adnan and Dualle for carrying all of the heavy boxes upstairs.



New Furniture Set Up - 7th February 2022

The new furniture was set up and the office was given a new, spacious look. Well done to all of the team for helping to clear up the following day and providing input into reorganising the layout. Teamwork makes the dreamwork! A special thank you to the CEO's husband and cousin for helping to fit the furniture together.



HH Projects & Events ²⁹

Meeting at Nechelles Police Station - 10th February 2022

Razia and Somia represented Himaya Haven at a meeting at Nechelles police station to look at referral pathways to continue to support families who have a loved one in prison and custody in our target areas.



Other Projects & Events ³⁰

1st April 2020 - 31st March 2021

Neema Women Coffee Morning - 23rd October 2020

Both directors, Razia and Zobia attended Neema Women's coffee morning where they enjoyed a French breakfast with other female community members. Leaflets were handed out to the women in attendance to raise awareness of Himaya Haven.



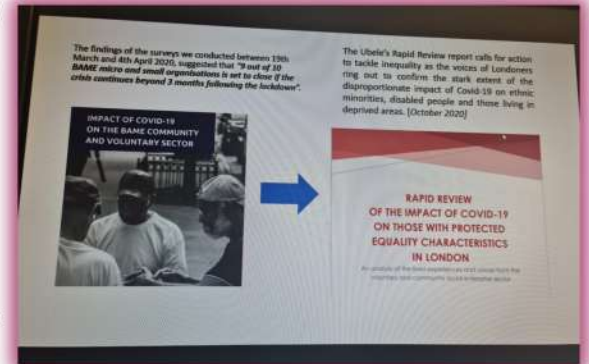
Criminal Justice Roundtable Discussion - 26th November 2020

Razia joined the Criminal Justice Roundtable discussion online. This was a lively and much needed critical discussion on issues that cannot be ignored for prisoners or society.



National Grieve Week - 3rd December 2020

The National Grieve Week saw Ubele's Launch their BAME Bereavement Services. This touched on the impact of Covid-19 on bereavement and grief and the importance of having a culturally competent bereavement service provision.



Learning in Action Groups - 7th December 2020

Outreach worker Somia joined a Learning in Action group of 40 members, through the Learning Hub. This group allows for members who received the Covid19 fund to come together on a specific theme to share and discuss issues and solutions in more depth and provides support as we respond to challenges presented by Covid19 and plan for the future.



Zoom Event - Roundtable Discussion -26th January 2021

A roundtable discussion via Zoom providing an opportunity to connect with BAME-led and BAME-specialist organisations, looking at ways to support BAME prisoners.



Zoom Meeting with Birmingham City University - 11th February 2021

A meeting looking at the role and benefits of a publicly engaged university.


Other Projects & Events

Zoom Event - A Justice System Fit for the Future - 4th March 2021


A zoom event on a justice system fit for the future: leaving prison, reoffending and COVID-19.

23 hours 

prisoners have spent in cells every day for almost 12 months

126 prisons 

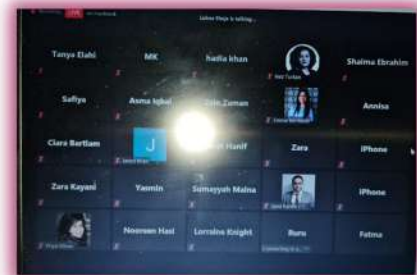
or youth custody sites have had positive cases of COVID-19

36 deaths 

of HMPPS staff having tested positive for COVID-19 within 28 days

International Women's Day - 4th March 2021

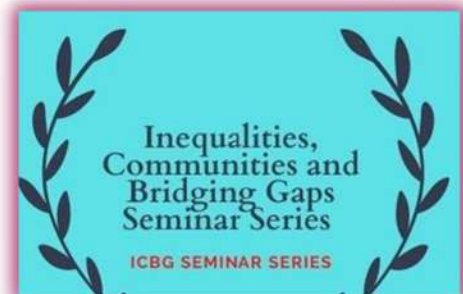
A zoom event hosted by the Association of Muslim Lawyers and Leeds Youth Forum for International Women's Day.



1st April 2021 - 31st March 2022

B.A.M.E as a Buzzword: The Third Sector and Frontline Seminar - 9th April 2021

The CEO Razia was invited as a speaker for the online seminar B.A.M.E as a buzzword: the third sector and frontline; to talk about the categorisation of B.A.M.E, how it affects funding opportunities and the general use of the word in the third sector and frontline.



Racial Inequality in Covid Recovery Webinar - 28th April 2021

A webinar on Collaboratives on Addressing Racial Inequality in Covid Recovery. A great discussion in the breakout rooms where our CEO mentioned prisons and prisoners who were overlooked during the Covid crisis.



MITIGATING THE MENTAL HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN COVID-19 AND BEYOND

The Key Messages are:

1. There are mental health inequalities between Black and ethnic minority and white groups, and between different ethnic minority groups.
2. The complex interplay of deprivation, environmental, physiological, behavioural and cultural factors all have persisted before and during the pandemic which threaten to escalate and entrench inequalities in mental health even further.
3. There is overwhelming evidence that existing inequalities compounded by structural racism and discrimination at the face of accessing and utilising services have played a key role in the exacerbation of these inequalities.
4. It is time for a full recognition of the causes of persistent mental health inequalities and a need for open, honest and transparent leadership and resources

UNDERSTANDING RACIAL DISPARITIES IN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- Racism can exist in many forms including personal, situational, cultural and institutional.
- Dissatisfaction with the mainstream mental health care, including secure mental health services compared to community mental health services and voluntary organisations.
- The bridge between lived experiences, policy and sector expertise are essential in addressing mental health inequality

Zoom Event - Roundtable Discussion - 4th May 2021

Himaya Haven's CEO took part in an engaging and thoughtful roundtable discussion with the leadership team at @BWC_NHS and a groups community activists from across Birmingham.



Other Projects & Events

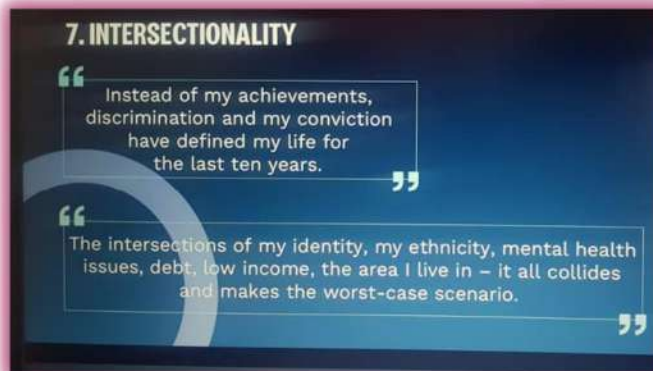
All Ways Network Workshop - 26th May 2021

A Zoom facilitated workshop held by All Ways Network about how to apply for Cloth Works funding. Very informative and a great workshop.



Worst Case Scenario Launch - 30th June 2021

The launch of Worst Case Scenario Research, attended via Zoom.



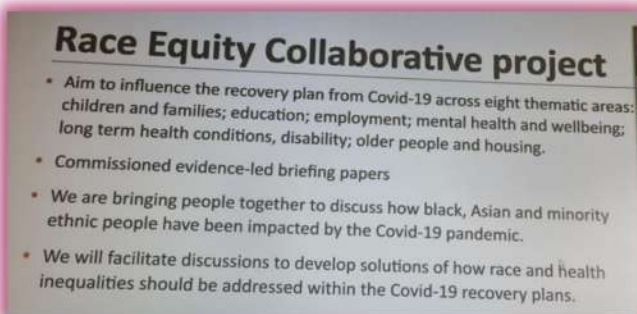
Barrow Cadbury Trust Roundtable Discussion - 30th June 2021

Briefing and Roundtable discussion via Zoom to explore if, and what type of support there is available for those that identify as criminal justice leaders from Black, Asian, Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities.



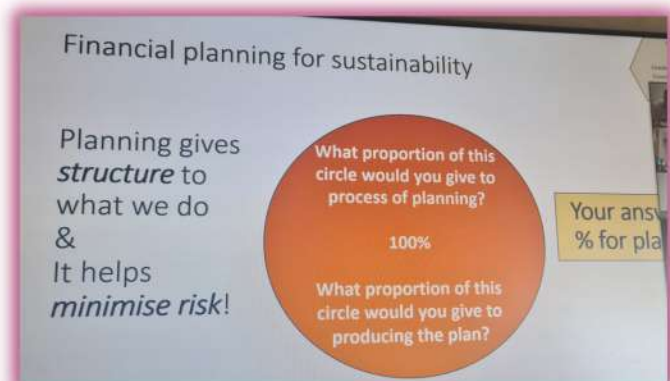
Race Equity Collaborative Project - 7th July 2021

Race Equity Collaborative Project event attended via zoom, to address the inequality in Covid19 recovery plans for mental health and wellbeing.



Financial Planning Part 1 - 3rd August 2021

A Zoom event on how to financially plan for project costings.



Financial Planning Part 2 - 10th August 2021

A Zoom event on how to financially plan for budgeting and forecast.

Other Projects & Events

Zoom Event - Making the Most of your Website - 19th August 2021

A Zoom event on how to have a beneficial website.

Outreach Engagement - 20th September 2021

Outreach engagement at a women's coffee morning where Himaya Haven leaflets were handed out and an introduction to Himaya Haven was made. The women were mainly from Arab and Yemeni descent. Three self-referrals were made for housing in which referrals were made to appropriate services, as this is unfortunately not our remit.

Stronger Voice - Introduction to Reframing - 21st September 2021

Part 1 of Stronger Voice's Introduction to Reframing zoom event attended by Zobia, This focused on reframing how to communicate about those involved in the criminal justice system to those outside the field, by using simplified language. It also discussed societal attitudes towards prison, offending behaviour and rehabilitation.

Label	Alternatives
Offender	• Person who committed a crime • Person leaving prison • Prisoner
Victim	• Person who is harmed
Criminal	Person who committed a crime
Addict	Person living with an addiction
• Young offender • Youth • Juvenile	• Child • Young person • Teenager

Birmingham East Muslim Faith Forum - 22nd September 2021

A useful discussion surrounding issues facing the local communities with introductions to other community organisations and members, and the terms of reference focusing on youth, crime etc. This was beneficial for Himaya Haven as we were able to extend our police network helping us to gain more referrals and support more people who are in need of our help. The meeting took place at the Muath Trust.

B.I.G Mental Health Event- 8th October 2021

The team were invited to the B.I.G Community Mental Health Event for World Mental Health Day 2021. This was the first large event post Covid. Staff had a great time networking with other organisations and enjoying live performances.



Other Projects & Events

Get Grants Networking Event -26th October 2021

The CEO attended an engaging Get Grants network meeting.



BCU Networking Event - 1st November 2021

Himaya Haven attended the Youth Work and Communities Networking Event at Birmingham City University.



Menopause in the Workplace - 2nd November 2021

Razia attended an event discussing the impact of menopause in the workplace, and policy changing.



Menopause in the Workplace 2 - 2nd December 2021

The second workshop on Menopause in the workplace attended by Razia.



Other Projects & Events

Entrepreneurial Celebratory Dinner - 2nd December 2021

Himaya Haven CEO was invited to an event Celebrating Entrepreneurial Success in Britain's Diverse Communities.



Social Enterprise Networking Event - 8th December 2021

A networking event for social enterprises.



Unity Fair - 10th December 2021

Himaya Haven attended the Unity Fair by the ISE Women's Enterprise Hub.



Commercial Contracts Workshop - 17th February 2022

CEO Razia attended a workshop (one of six sessions) on commercial contracts with the ISE Hub.



GDPR Workshop - 10th March 2022

Somia and Dualle had attended a workshop on GDPR ran by the ISE Hub in partnership with Gowling WLG



Bid Writing Workshop - 17th March 2022

A bid writing workshop ran by the ISE and Gowling WLG and attended by Somia.



Mentoring

Himaya Haven received funding to mentor children of prisoners and/or 'at risk' children. As it is known, the impact of imprisonment on a child is grave, with 10,000 children per week, entering prison facilities to visit a loved one (NICCO, 2022). When going through difficulties as a child and not knowing how to manage them, having some extra help by a friendly face can be enough to steer children back onto a safe path.

Mentoring at Ark Victoria Academy - 6th July 2021

Mentoring was given to three children who we are working with at Ark Victoria Academy by Somia and Razia.



Mentoring at Ark Victoria Academy Session 2 - 13th July 2021

The second session of providing mentoring services at Ark Victoria Academy, with Somia.



Mentoring Session 3 - 2nd August 2021

The third session of mentoring for a family of 5. This was carried out at the office due to the closure of schools for summer holidays.



Mentoring Session 4 - 9th August 2021

The fourth session of mentoring was provided to the children currently being supported.



Mentoring

Mentoring Session 5 - 16th August 2021

Another great three sessions of mentoring carried out by Somia today.



Mentoring Session 5- 17th August 2021

A session of mentoring for a 16-year-old we are supporting. She was given help with her CV, cover letter and future planning. She subsequently obtained a part-time job.



Mentoring Session 6 - 9th August 2021

A follow up mentoring session 6 for two primary age children we are supporting. Since the schools reopened after the Summer break, these sessions took place at Ark Victoria Academy.



Mentoring Session 6 - 9th August 2021

A sixth session of mentoring support was provided for a secondary age student who is now preparing for her GCSE's. Again this was conducted at Ark Victoria Academy.



Mentoring Session 6 - 14th September 2021

Mentoring session 6 with a 16-year-old girl we are supporting. The session consisted of helping her to write a personal statement and learning the skills and techniques to edit this and to highlight her skills and values.



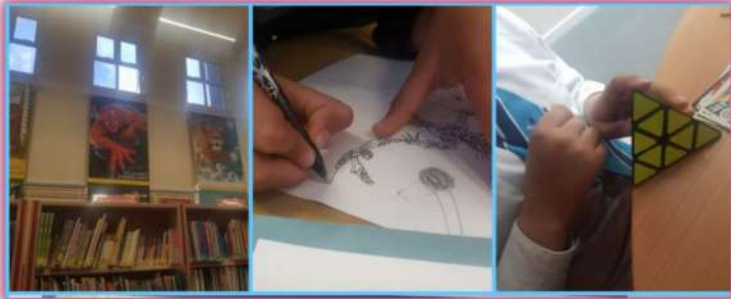
Mentoring

Mentoring Session 7 - 16th September 2021

Mentoring session 7 continued for the two primary aged children and one secondary aged. In total 3 sessions were conducted on this day.

Mentoring Session 8 - 23rd September 2021

Three sessions of mentoring carried out today at Ark Victoria Academy, providing both emotional and practical support.



Mentoring Session - 30th September 2021

The college student that was being supported received her seventh session to complete a personal statement for her university application thus, helping her to develop her writing and editing skills.

Mentoring Session 9 - 19th October 2021

A WhatsApp video mentoring session provided emotional and practical support to one of the young girls being supported. A safe space for her to think through her feelings.

Mentoring Session - 25th October 2021

Another session was had with a 16 year old girl we are supporting. The session consisted of helping her further, to write a personal statement and learning the skills and techniques to edit this whilst highlighting her skills and values.

Mentoring Session 10 - 9th November 2021

The 10th mentoring session this week providing emotional support and advice on techniques to deal with conflict. The session was via WhatsApp video.

Final Session - 16th November 2021

The final session of mentoring, providing emotional support and a safe space for a teenage girl to process the anniversary of her grandfathers death.



Fundraising & Supporting Causes

This section of the report will take a brief look into how Himaya Haven support the community in other ways that may sometimes veer slightly away from their core focus. This could include sharing/raising awareness of other important services or fundraising for small causes.

Care Package Donations - 2nd November 2020

Himaya Haven were looking for donations so they could continue to build care packages for families within the community, as a second lockdown was approaching. This was to help to support their mental health and wellbeing and to remind them that they were not alone which was key.



Money Management Debt Advice - 2nd November 2020

With the impact of Covid-19 on people's financial situations, one-to-one advice sessions for those who have financial/debt worries was essential to share with others. This was ran at the iSE Hub.



Big Feed Project - 17th November 2020

Himaya Haven believe everyone in the city should have access to nutritious, tasty cooked meals. The Big Feed Project is offering free cooked meals to collect from its community cafes across Birmingham. This poster was quickly designed by Zobia to share across socials.

Facebook: @theaws
Twitter: @TAWsociety
Instagram: @TAWsociety

Big Feed Project

We believe everyone in our city should have access to nutritious, tasty cooked meals. The Big Feed Project is offering free cooked meals to collect from its community cafes across Birmingham.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 11:30am – 1pm Manningford Hall, Manningford Road, Druids Heath, B14 5TJ		Monday to Friday, 12 – 1:30pm All Saints, Herbert Road, Small Heath, B10 0PR
	Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 12 – 1:30pm Balsall Heath Farm, Malvern Street, Balsall Heath, B12 8NN	Facebook: @himayahaven Twitter: @himayahaven Instagram: @himayahaven

Islamophobia Research - 23rd November 2020

With the majority of the client base and staff being Muslim, Islamophobia affects them all which is why this research was promoted by Himaya Haven. The University of Birmingham were looking for Muslim women who experienced Islamophobia and hate crimes, for a research project.





Christmas Hamper's Project

December 2020



Christmas Hampers 2020



Himaya Haven received funding in 2020 from Heart of England's Festive Fund. This funding was secured to provide food hampers for the families they support and some individuals from the community, who were in need of some extra help during the winter. Covid-19 had a considerable financial impact on these families as well as increasing the isolation faced by families of prisoners. The year 2020 had taken everyone away from their families and stopped the visiting of loved ones. Yet, what made it more difficult for prisoner families was the knowledge that as restrictions were somewhat easing, they could not call their loved one(s) 24/7 as and when they pleased, they could not see/visit them in their gardens or in a public place (eg parks), and not all prisons were offering a videocall service either. Where visits were in place families could not hug or touch their loved ones, even though a negative Covid test would have been provided. This situation added to their feelings of distress.

Most of the families supported by Himaya Haven are single parent families with children who face incredible barriers, struggling to make ends meet. With Christmas coming up it was expressed a lot of the families were feeling disheartened this time around, as well as not being able to spend a Christmas visit with their loved ones, which is generally the closest feeling they can get to spending Christmas day with them. Therefore, Himaya Haven felt it was essential to bring a sense of community, happiness and Christmas spirit, during a very difficult period. Since HH had started, they have always made an effort to donate some toys to prisons (for children of prisoners) and with prisons being closed due to Covid-19; they wanted to continue to help the families.



Christmas Hampers 2020

On the 15th December 2020, Razia and Somia visited Edgbaston Cricket Ground to collect several toys to add into their Christmas hampers, that were donated by Hall Green Communities. They also received many flat packed boxes, which were taken to the office with the idea of recycling them to use as the hamper boxes, rather than purchasing new ones.

On the 16th December 2020 the boxes were being taped back together by Zobia and prepared for the hampers. A donation of Cadbury's chocolate selection was also given to us to add into the hampers.



During this project another donation was received by Highfield Hall Community Centre on the 21st December 2020.



The Himaya Haven team had volunteered their time on the 22nd December to purchase all items, organise the items for each family and pack them accordingly. Items purchased were, a bag each of potatoes, carrots, onions, parsnips, brussel sprouts, swede and Yorkshire puddings alongside, sage and onion stuffing mix, gravy, cheese and cracker selection, mint sauce, fresh meat (1 full chicken and 1 kilo of mutton), chocolate lollies, mince pies, chocolate logs, a box of teabags and sugar and two bottles of fizzy drink.

All boxes were individually wrapped with wrapping paper by Zobia and volunteer Nasrin.

Christmas Hampers 2020

When Christmas Eve arrived, the staff and volunteers had arrived in the morning and paired up to deliver the Christmas hampers. Each pair had a designated list of families which were organised by areas, so that no one was crossing over the same boundaries, making an efficient delivery process. This was all organised by Zobia.

This project would not have been successful if it wasn't for the volunteers and staff who dedicated their day from the morning up until the evening (7pm) to help ensure families received their deliveries. This included persevering through the pouring rain, on an already cold winters day. A total of 30 hampers were given to the clients of Himaya Haven and 5 were given to members of the community who were identified as needing extra support.



Christmas Hampers 2020

To encourage spirits even more, the team had held a mini competition via a WhatsApp group of all the clients who received a food hamper, to see who could make the 'best' dinner. This had brought a sense of fun and excitement for the women and was something they were then looking forward to.



Hello ladies my name is i am new to the group usually busy with work to engage Your pics are lovely Hope you all have a good day and enjoy with your families May allah keep you all safe and happy ❤️

10:40



Attempting Roast Dinner with a broken little fryer

😊😊 21:55



Thank you ❤️ 18:39
Mashallah all you food is looking really nice 18:39



Browning the chicken 😊



I gone my chicken twomorree My daughter cooking for us today 🍴🍴🍴 10:55
Sorry I ment to say I am cooking the chicken Insallah twomorree 10:56



Wassalaam Thank you for all that you have done for me. This is a bonus, I'm touched. Although I believe it is yourselves who deserve all the goodies! See you then :) ❤️

😊😊😊

'I was surprised having received the Christmas shopping voucher. This really cheered me up and having hit an all-time low on Christmas day, I was motivated to join in the challenge of preparing a meal to share photos with our weekly chit chat group. It was lovely seeing everyone's creations and knowing that we all have similar challenges just made it that much enjoyable.'



HIMAYA HAVEN
Empowering Communities

Supporting prisoner families, the silent victims on the outside.

This time of year is all about family love. We appreciate how difficult this year has been for you...
So we hope you enjoy your gift/food hamper and create a delicious family meal together!

From the team at Himaya Haven

Be sure to send us a picture of what you make!

HAPPY FESTIVE SEASON AND NEW YEAR!

Mob: 07578370992, @himayahaven

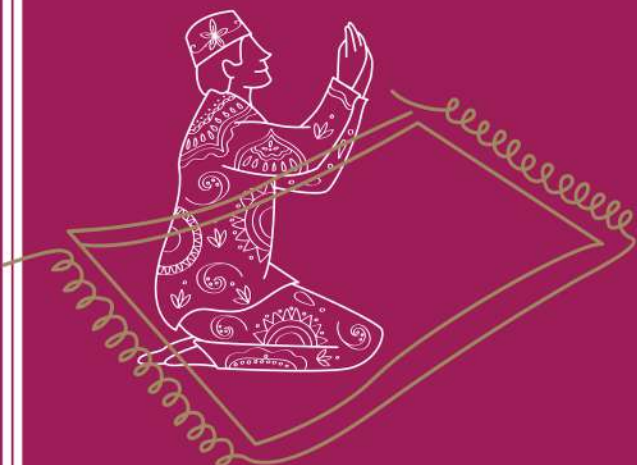
That is very nice of you thank you



Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs (RPWP) Project



April 2021

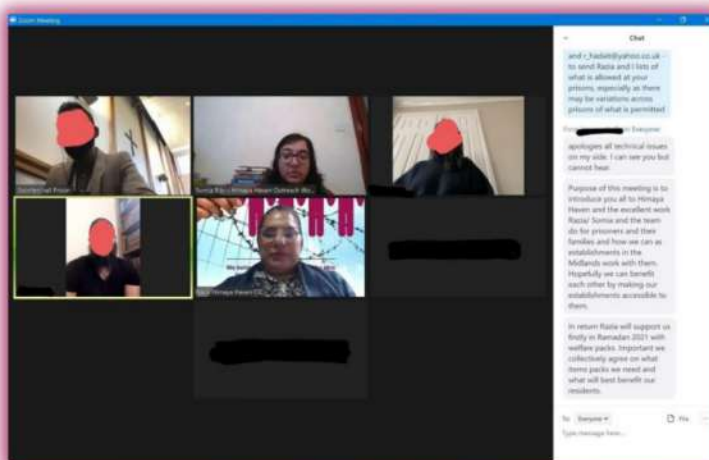


RPWP 2021

The Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Pack Project was an idea created by the CEO, Razia Hadait. This idea had been circulating within the team for some time but after Razia's father had passed away in October of 2020, it was something she wanted to do in his honour as a form of charity. After building the reputation of Himaya Haven amongst the prisons through their outreach work at H.M.P Birmingham, Featherstone and Y.O.I Brinsford and with the sudden impact of Covid-19, the project idea was now best placed to begin.

Meeting with H.M.P Imam's - 5th February 2021

A meeting was set up by Imam Haroon from HMP Oakwood, with Imam's from West Midlands' prisons to formally introduce Himaya Haven, create a working relationship and to discuss their interest in the Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Project. The idea was to introduce this project with one willing prison initially however, the meeting was such a success with Imam's from eight prisons confirming their interest in receiving the packs.



Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs Project- 12th February 2021

The project idea had now grown in size, far beyond than what the team had expected. This meant that the number of Muslim prisoners were counted for as future recipients of the RPWP's across the eight prisons H.M.P; Birmingham, Oakwood, Featherstone, Stafford, Drake Hall and H.M.P/Y.O.I Brinsford, Swinfen Hall and Stoke Heath. The project idea was finalised with prison Imam's - taking into account what they recommended as useful, what items were allowed and the project deadline.

The total length of the project from official conception to final delivery date was three months. Across the three months, the cost of the items was researched, the marketing poster was made, potential sponsors were approached, fundraising began, donations were collected and items were also collected, organised and delivered to the prisons.

Himaya Haven's Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs (2021)

This Ramadan, Himaya Haven are creating welfare packs to show those in West Midland's prisons that they have not been forgotten and abandoned nor viewed as lost and unwanted.

WHY?

The UK Muslim population is 4% and yet the Muslim prison population has increased from 8% in 2002 to 16% in 2018.

- Face 23 hrs locked up in their cells due to Covid-19
- Unable to see their families in person

More isolated from the world than before Covid-19 appeared, they continue to struggle. And those who are tested positive for the virus find themselves wholly secluded. Their struggle in turn brings heartache to their families & the many other people connected to them.

Our Prophet (SAW) said:

“Be kind, for whenever kindness becomes a part of something, it beautifies it. Whenever it is taken from something, it leaves it tarnished.”



We will be collecting for:

- Eid cards to send to their families.
- Itr/Attar (perfume).
- Miswak (used for dental hygiene).
- Dates.
- Zamzam water.
- Soothing Nasheed CDs (to tackle mental health and long hours of isolation).
- Abayas for female prisoners (for Eid).
- Hijabs for female prisoners.
- Mitai (for Eid).

The prisons we are working with: HMP; Featherstone, Drake Hall, Oakwood, Swinfen Hall, and HMP/YOI Stoke Heath (more prisons to be added)

It is part of all our responsibility to try and facilitate a sense of community, for those locked away, in a manner that will later help with their rehabilitation into their families and communities - our communities. The prisoners and families need to know they matter.

PLEASE JOIN US IN RAISING FUNDS FOR SUCH A MEANINGFUL PROJECT

Please donate via our bank account:

Use the reference 'Ramadan WP' and your name if you wish to.



Himaya Haven CIC
Lloyds Bank
30 99 08
22652168

Contact info:

Mob: 07578370992

Email: info@himayahaven.co.uk

Website: www.himayahaven.co.uk

Social Media: @himayahaven

In loving memory of departed Abdul Haq (CEO's Father)



RPWP 2021

Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs (RPWP) - 8th March 2021 (£1088.00)

Muslim Women's Network UK was the sponsor of the items being sent to the Muslim female prisoners at H.M.P Drake Hall. They were approached by Himaya Haven for this project due to their specialism of supporting Muslim Women, to which they agreed to sponsor this part of the project in support of 28 women. Upon receiving their donation, the start of purchases for the project included items such as hijabs, prayer mats and abayas/long dresses for them to wear on Eid.



Muslim women in prison are more often than not isolated, neglected and disowned by their family members due to the heavy negative stigma surrounding them. This means they do not receive much, if any, external support.

Donation - 10th March 2021

Montgomery Primary Academy's staff and parents had donated many items to support the RPWP project such as tasbeehs (prayer beads), prayer hats, scarves and abayas.



Donation - 16th March 2021

A donation was received for the Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs by a young female who wanted to remain anonymous. The donation included prayer mats and tasbeehs.



Donation - 22nd March 2021

Another donation was received from two separate people of four Tajweed Quran's & tasbeehs.



RPWP 2021

Donation - 30th March 2021

The young woman who donated prayer mats previously had returned after herself, family and friends had purchased numerous brand-new prayer mats to add into the collection.



Preparations for the RPWP Deliveries - 1st April 2021

Across the previous couple of months, many items had been donated to Himaya Haven and many items were purchased using donation money for this project. The team at Himaya Haven were very busy on this day preparing and organising all of the items for delivery to each individual prison. These included but were not limited to; prayer mats, Qurans, Islamic literature, attar bottles, tasbeehs, and packs of dates. Qurans, books and attar were manually labelled and/or stamped. It was an extremely tiresome day for all members of the team, who worked incredibly hard from the morning till 7pm. They were also paid a visit by the Deputy Lieutenant of West Midlands to share his support and encouragement of their work.



RPWP 2021

Delivery 1 & 2 of RPWP - 6th April 2021

First deliveries for the RPWP were at HMP & YOI Swinfen Hall and HMP Drakehall.



Delivery 3 & 4 of RPWP - 7th April 2021

The next delivery of the Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs was for HMP Birmingham and HMP Stoke Heath.



RPWP 2021

Delivery 5, 6 & 7 of RPWP - 8th April 2021

The largest delivery of the RPWP was for HMP Oakwood, HMP & YOI Brinsford, and HMP Stafford. The team were assisted by the Deputy Lieutenant of the West Midlands, who volunteered his time to support us in the delivery of our packs. Upon arrival at H.M.P Oakwood they were asked to create a short video about what they do and the Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs, which would've been aired on Oakwood's own prison tv channel for the prisoners to see. A short meeting and discussion was had with Imam's from HMP Oakwood, HMP Stafford and H.M.P/YOI Brinsford about Himaya Haven's work alongside how COVID-19 has impacted the prisons and residents, the change in day to day life, the issues facing the Muslim community and future collaborative work.



RPWP 2021

Daily Prayer Books Delivery - 15th April 2021

The Daily Prayers and Zikr books were delivered to Himaya Haven as part of the Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs. These were sponsored by Al-Imdaad Foundation, and designed, printed and bound by Light-on-Light Media. Both organisations are from Blackburn and supported this project hugely. They had no prior knowledge of Himaya Haven yet had faith in this new project. Al-Imdaad Foundation and Al-Noor Publications were the biggest sponsor of the Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Pack Project. Their supportive efforts were very much appreciated for allowing the provision of Islamic therapeutic prayer books and aiding in the project's success.



AL-IMDAAD FOUNDATION

www.alimdaad.co.uk

Eid Cards Delivery - 16th April 2021

Another addition to the Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs, was Eid cards that were designed by Director Zobia. The purpose of these Eid cards was for prisoners to send them to their loved ones in time for Eid day, as Eid cards must be purchased by prisoners themselves if they choose to send them out. Some prisoners may not have enough money to purchase them. The Eid cards were sponsored by family members of Al-Noor Publication who had previously been impacted by imprisonment and printed by Light-on-Light Media. Another example of the great support and help received from both organisations. The day was spent counting and organising the Zikr books, Eid cards, and 30 Hadith books donated by HHUGS for each prisoner and prison we are supporting.



Final Pick-up - 22nd April 2021

This was the last day of the RPWP for Himaya Haven. Imam's from two prisons were kind enough to travel to Birmingham to collect the remaining items for the 8 prisons and distribute on Himaya Haven's behalf.



The project was very successful, with both Imam's, prisoners and the team left feeling joyful, humbled and fulfilled. The three months of planning, organising and execution had paid off with the Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs providing support to 1298 Muslim prisoners across eight West Midlands' prisons. It is important to recognise the level of support that was received for this project by other members of the community, who helped to share and raise awareness of this project, fundraise and for those who donated items or money towards the project. This project would not have been a success if it was not for those who sponsored the project, the team at Himaya Haven are incredibly grateful to; Muslim Women's Network UK, Al-Imdaad Foundation, Light on Light Media, Al-Noor Publications, Rail Maritime Transport (RMT) and Qadria Trust (whose congregations donated during Friday Jummah Prayers).

The number of donations received were in total of £5136.00 and the project total cost was £6136.00. In addition, Himaya Haven contributed £1000. Last but not least, a huge thanks and appreciation for the staff at Himaya Haven and the wonderful volunteers who gave their valuable time on this project in their input and packing and organising of items.

Some challenges that were faced during this project:

One of the biggest challenges faced across the project was ensuring that all items were enough for each prisoner. This was quite challenging as once all of the numbers had been finalised, towards the end of the project some prisons had an increase in Muslim prisoners. Whilst some may argue that it would not matter because they were not there when the numbers were accounted and agreed for, it is actually very important. The prison ruling surrounding this is that all prisoners must receive each item, even if it was just one prisoner not accounted for, otherwise none of the items received by the prisons can be distributed at all. This was overcome as we thankfully received more donations. With an increase in the number of prisoners being something that is unpredictable, this was noted as something to account for in the future; especially as the courts were starting to open up after being closed during Covid19, meaning a further influx of prisoners.

Another challenge was having to purchase over a thousand new dates on the morning of one of the scheduled deliveries. This was because the original dates were not bought to Himaya Haven until the morning of the delivery however, the team wanted dates of better quality and taste, and this was of key importance to them. It was lucky enough that the supermarket had enough stock of the chosen dates and were kind enough to give them to us at a cost price, being it was for charity. A special thanks to Azad Supermarket on Stoney Lane, Sparkbrook for helping locate the dates and delivery support. One small stumble that occurred was on delivery day 5,6 & 7 to Wolverhampton. Two vehicles were initially going to be taken, but upon loading it was realised that another vehicle was greatly needed. After quickly brainstorming who could be available, we contacted Ismael who thankfully, was at hand and available for the day. This was a great relief. On this day, upon approaching the prisons there was a diversion due to an accident. The Deputy Lieutenant was confident that he knew the route around, which consisted of some country roads however, due to Razia and Ismael's unfamiliarity with the roads, both cars had been lost behind Chris. Everyone was soon reunited but this was a funny story about the little challenges that come along the way.

RPWP 2021

1. What did you think of the items included in the Himaya Haven Ramadan packs? (please include as much detail as you wish)

We feel the items which you have given is of quality and our prisoners really appreciated this. The dates which the prison provided is not the best quality. The ones you have given went down really well. One prisoner said the taste made him remember and appreciate the times when he used to have Iftaar with his family. The Itr will be given on Eid day. We have no doubt this will be a very popular item and well appreciated. You went through the trouble to personally label them with 'Eid Mubarak' on them which was a nice touch. The mussalaha were of high quality too.

2. What was the response from prisoners on receiving items from Himaya Haven?

They were really pleased upon receiving the items, and we have seen many happy faces which brings us so much joy.

3. Would you welcome Himaya Haven providing such packs in the future for the Ramadan period? Why?

We feel provision such as this would be welcomed by prisoners. Ramadan is a very challenging time and prisoners miss the community feel and appreciate the family time which they are missing. Initiatives such as this reminds prisoners that there are people outside of these walls who really care.

4. Are there any items not included in the packs this year that would be welcomed next year? Why?

The items we received this year were really well thought and appropriate. The communication and responsiveness from the staff at HH was exceptional. I feel if prisoners got Mitai on the day of Eid that would be really welcomed, from experience this is a really popular item.

5. Are there any other occasions (such as Christmas) where welfare/care packs are needed? Why?

I think we can always expand to other religions but this will depend on how your budget is. One or two possible things that comes to mind is maybe having something for our family engagement initiatives. We run a dads course in Chaplaincy, participants could be rewarded or a comfort pack for those who have been bereaved.

Thank you so much for all you have done and we hope your team have a wonderful Eid 😊

Feedback from HMP/YOI Swinfen Hall Imam

I was very grateful and almost felt privileged that someone was still out there thinking about us, because we're not all bad people.

4) How did you feel receiving the Himaya Haven packs?
Happy and grateful. Inshallah good will receive your place in Jannah for this and the rest of good tidings you do.

5) What was your favourite item from the packs?
The perfume, it gave me a sense of home and normality.

1) Did you know about Himaya Haven before this Ramadan? (please tick)
YES NO

2) a. Would you tell your family about Himaya Haven?
YES NO

b. Why did you select what you have for question 2a?
Mainly because Himaya Haven are a leading organisation that work with British prisoners and support their families. Everyone wants their families supported while their in custody. So thank you.

3) What did you think about the items included in your Himaya Haven Ramadan pack?
Thank you for the items, the Itr and dates were really good, I really appreciate it.

4) How did you feel receiving the Himaya Haven packs?
Felt grateful knowing there's people still out there who remember us and take care of us.

5) What was your favourite item from the packs?
The Itr and Ajwa kaizer.

RPWP 2021

1. **What did you think of the items included in the Himaya Haven Ramadan packs?** (please include as much detail as you wish)

The items prepared by the organisation for men in custody were very much appreciated and welcomed. The prayer mats were very much liked as it was of high quality and foam like. As we have elderly population, it was comfortable and helped them whilst in qiyam/sujood. So too the perfume, good quality and good fragrance. Lastly the Eid cards, the design and quality, speaks volume.

Dates were much liked and the quality/quantity were very valued.

Thank you.

2. **What was the response from prisoners on receiving items from Himaya Haven?**

Very appreciative and pleased that though they are in difficulty, there are people/organisations who are willing to help and bring a sense of community ethos. The residents termed it as 'we are not forgotten.'

For foreign national residents, who have no family or anyone in the country and have no means to purchase these items as what little they get from working whilst in custody, they purchase the basics, the packs were very much cherished.

3. **Would you welcome Himaya Haven providing such packs in the future for the Ramadan period? Why?**

Yes very much so. As for some of the reasons mentioned. Also because of the quality, I think the organisation has gone the extra mile.

4. **Are there any items not included in the packs this year that would be welcomed next year? Why?**

If at all possible, if the following could be considered.

- Soothing Nasheed's in Arabic/English
- Tasbeeh digital which one can put on the finger
- Mithai/baklavas for the occasions of Eid-ul-Fitr/Eid-ul-Adha.

5. **Are there any other occasions (such as Christmas) where welfare/care packs are needed? Why?**

We have on the occasions of mother's day, father's day and Christmas, where Prison Fellowship do get in touch about providing on behalf of those in custody, small presents to their love ones on the out. Perhaps, you can get in touch with them.

Feedback from HMP Stafford Imam

Did you know about Himaya Haven before this Ramadan? (please tick)

YES NO

2) a. Would you tell your family about Himaya Haven?

YES NO

b. Why did you select what you have for question 2a?

They have been very supportive during this Ramadhan even in difficult circumstances and definitely need more recognition for the work they do.

3) What did you think about the items included in your Himaya Haven Ramadan pack?

They were great and really helped boost morale during Ramadhan and Eid and gave me some home comforts.

4) How did you feel receiving the Himaya Haven packs?

I felt good and was good to know that even in prison other Muslims were still thinking about us.

5) What was your favourite item from the packs?

The 1qr. Was good to put some beautiful 1qr on and just before visas too. Jazaakallah.



Ramadan Food Hampers for Families

April 2021



Ramadan Food Hampers

57



Himaya Haven received funding in April 2021 from Asda Foundation's Supporting Communities Fund. This funding was secured to provide Ramadan food hampers for 30 of the families they support. On average the number of people that would have benefitted from this is 120 people, 60 adults and 70 children. The items included in each hamper were a box of dates, 1Kg of gram flour, 5Kg of chapatti flour, orange juice bottle, Tilda rice packet (250g), pasta, chickpea tins, peeled plum tomato tins, vegetable cooking oil (1L), Tetley tea bags (box of 80), 1Kg sugar bag, Asda coffee jars, Celebrations chocolate box, 2 packs of lentils, beans, salt and garam masala.

On the 20th April 2021 Himaya Haven received the funding from Asda Foundation. The day was spent picking up the food items, loading them into the office and sorting and organising all items into individual groups and then splitting them equally to put into each individual hamper.



Hamper Food Collection from Active Wellbeing - 23rd April 2021

Active Wellbeing donated food which was collected by Razia to add into the Ramadan food hampers.



Ramadan Food Hampers

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Ramadan Food Hampers Delivery - 29th April 2021

The food hampers were delivered to families by CEO Razia. Some food hampers were donated to Roshni's clients (domestic violence victims/survivors) which were collected by their staff.



Ramadan Food Hamper Donation - 4th May 2021

Himaya Haven donated some food hampers to Sister's Care Project and Roshni on their request.



Ramadan Food Hampers

59

Ramadan Food Hamper Donation - 6th May 2021

Another final donation of food hampers was given to Sister's Care Project.



The Ramadan Food Hamper project was directly after the Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Pack project, with the RPWP finishing on the 22nd of April, and this project starting on the 20th of April 2021. This was a very challenging time having to be on the go, sorting and delivering without a break in-between, due to staff members also starting their fasting month. However, the Himaya Haven team thrives on challenges big or small. The team may be small, but they are mighty therefore, a special recognition is given to the staff at Himaya Haven for allowing project ideas to become successful because of their determination and support.



Virtual Coffee Mornings ⁶⁰

Virtual Coffee Morning - 16th November 2020

Due to the many Covid-19 changes in rules and regulations, also affecting prisoner visits, it was decided hosting virtual coffee mornings for clients would provide a space for them to communicate and confide to others with similar experiences. Himaya Haven Chit Chat group would also aid in positive mental health and wellbeing and would use WhatsApp video call to enable this.

The first session ran from 11am -12:08pm and had six attendees in total. Clients engaged in conversation with a lot of laughs and smiles too.



Virtual Coffee Morning Session 2 - 23rd November 2020

The second virtual session ran from 11am -11:45 with five attendees in total. A few women in the WhatsApp Group Chat have started to talk to each other and share their struggles and thoughts. There is a sense of solidarity and support that emerged, which was the purpose of this group. The group was working as a safe space for them to share, talk and discuss etc. It also helped to stop them feeling so isolated during lockdown and the uncertain times. Many had expressed being happy about the group and looking forward to meeting face to face.

Virtual Coffee Morning Session 3 - 30th November 2020

The third virtual session ran from 11am - 11:54am with five people in attendance. Participants discussed shared experiences and offered support and advice to one another on finding work. Staff had noticed clients had started befriending one another which was their aim.

Virtual Coffee Morning Session 4 - 7th December 2020

This session ran from 11am - 11:45am with four people in attendance.

Virtual Coffee Morning Session 5 - 14th December 2020

Our fifth virtual session ran from 11am - 11:15am with three people in attendance.

Virtual Coffee Morning Session 6 - 11th January 2021

The sixth session of virtual coffee mornings ran after the Christmas break from 11am - 11:28am with two people in attendance.

Virtual Coffee Morning Session 7 - 18th January 2021

The seventh virtual session ran from 11am - 11:28am with three members in attendance.



Himaya Haven Chit Chat



"I felt as if I was not the only one who was going through problems with my son, I could share my worries and problems with other mothers facing the same problems. It also helps me gain confidence and support. At times I felt so upset and depressed I could talk to the members of staff."

(Text message from client)

Virtual Coffee Mornings ⁶¹

However, the virtual format proved challenging, because clients were unable to see all the group members on their phones and this often resulted in people talking over each other. There was also a difference in language preferences with some preferring to speak in Urdu or Punjabi and others in English. However, the experiment helped the clients to feel connected even if the conversations were not always as good as it would have been in a face-to-face situation.

Another issue that became prominent was the impact of digital illiteracy. Initially, it was planned that the software Zoom, would be used either on a laptop/tablet or their mobile phones however the majority of women were unfamiliar with this and found it difficult to install the app and use it proficiently, even with our guidance. Here, it was decided that WhatsApp video calls would be more efficient and an easier method of communication for these ladies as this was something they were using regularly.

Sharing Caring Project

As Covid-19 restrictions were removed and things started to get back to normality, Himaya Haven commenced face to face coffee mornings that were open to community members. This was funded by the Heart of England Foundation.

Coffee Morning Session 1 - 18th October 2021

Our first coffee morning of 6 sessions. These are being run every Monday in the coming weeks.



Coffee Morning Session 2 - 25th October 2021

A morning filled with laughter whilst learning sign language due to the skills of one of the members of the community in attendance. We also learnt some relaxation techniques as well as gaining a volunteer as well.

Virtual Coffee Mornings

Coffee Morning Session 3 - 1st November 2021

The third coffee morning at the Women's Enterprise Hub.

Coffee Morning Session 4 - 25th November 2021

Our fourth coffee morning at the Women's Enterprise Hub.



Coffee Mornings took a short break over Christmas and the new year. They returned in March and at a new venue.

Coffee Morning Session 1 - 9th February 2022

The first start up coffee morning was a great time at The GAP. Coffee mornings were running every Wednesday from 10:30am - 12:30pm.



FREE AND OPEN TO ALL
9th - 30th March, every
Wednesday 10:30am - 12:30pm



HIMAYA HAVEN
Empowering Communities

Coffee Mornings

The day begins after coffee

VENUE
The GAP, 498 Moseley Road,
B12 9AH

Contact
Razia Hadad
07866496142
Razia@HimayaHaven.co.uk



ROAD PARKING AVAILABLE

Coffee Morning Session 2 - 16th March 2022

The second coffee morning of the month! A visit was received from BBC Community Affairs Correspondent Adina Campbell to talk to about institutional racism after the Governments' racial disparity Inclusive Britain action plan.

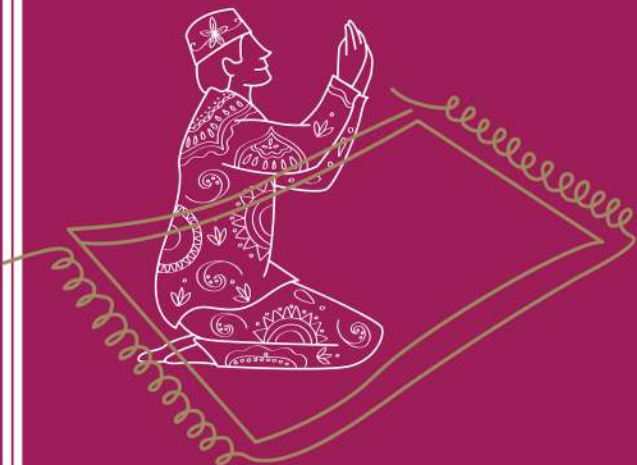




Ramadan Prisoner Welfare Packs (RPWP) Project



March 2022



RPWP 2022

As it may or may not be known, the fasting month of Ramadan moves backwards in the calendar by ten days each year, making its onset earlier in the year in comparison to the previous year. For example, in 2022 Ramadan fell at the beginning of April meaning the Himaya Haven team had to prepare and have everything ready for the Imam's by the end of March in order to accommodate the start of the fasting period.

With all of the eight prisons registering their interest again - this time including HMP Hewell and not HMP Drakehall, the team knew they had to start fundraising earlier, given the RPWP's in 2021 took three months of planning and execution.

The start of fundraising initiatives began towards the end of 2021, given the three month timeline. This time around the team found difficulty in raising enough money to meet the Imam's and (growing) prisoners' needs. One of the main factors we found for this was the outbreak of the Covid-19 variant, Omicron. This had a large impact on businesses and community members, who were set further back financially, from the initial impact of the first wave of Covid-19. In addition to this, the Christmas period also made it difficult for people to donate as their priorities drastically shifted due to the economic downturn.

Due to this, the team decided to scale back the project and focus on HMP Birmingham, HMP/YOI Swinfen Hall and HMP Hewell. With dates being one of the biggest costs in the RPWP it was unfortunate that they had to be removed from the packs, alongside many other items. However, the requirements given by the Imam's for this year were minimal and manageable by the team, so it was in their and the team's best interest to still go forth with this.

Fortunately, the team did receive a generous donation from sponsor's Qadria Trust on behalf of their congregation at Friday prayers. Alongside this Himaya Haven set aside some money in order to purchase attar bottles for HMP Swinfen Hall, prayer mats for HMP Birmingham and HMP Hewell. As HMP Hewell were not able to receive the RPWP purchased for them last year, a lot of the Islamic literature books, the Dua books and Eid cards were also provided to them this time around.



In this section of the report the findings and evaluations of the last two years are delved into, looking at the challenges of Covid-19, impact on families, learning insights, reflections and case studies.

The Challenge of Covid-19

The implementation of governmental Covid-19 policies has required the team to make modifications to the project. One of the most significant issues has been the swift change of contact with clients, which has been maintained by phone rather than the usual face to face contact. Monthly outreach work within some West Midlands prisons’ external visiting centres was also affected. Events and meetings to raise awareness of the project have been organised using virtual formats. Fundraising campaigns have been used to raise awareness of the project in BAME communities and the funds have been used to deliver parcels to prisoners’ and their families during Christmas and/or Ramadan. As Covid restrictions were lifted the team had been able to restore some face-to-face contact to support mentoring of younger family members.

In 2020/2021 in 69% of cases the team identified a link to one of the three identified impacts. In the remaining 31% of cases there was either limited impact data or it was not applicable currently because the contact was a short transactional process.

	%
Impact A: Family Contacts	69%
Impact B: Finance	16%
Impact C: Community Support	9%
Impact A and B	6%
<i>Total cases where impact assessment made</i>	

- From the analysis of cases Impact A is the most frequently mentioned area of impact during 2020/21, with **69%** of cases assessed as having an impact on family contacts. A common theme in the case work is of family members who feel overwhelmed by the situation. Family relationships become strained and there is a high level of blame and guilt about the situation from all members of the family. Engagement with the CJS can be very confusing initially for family members and they often feel isolated from others in their community, a situation made worse during the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- The intention was that the intervention of Himaya Haven helps to stabilise these fraught situations and provide clarity about how to navigate the CJS. It was hoped that this would help to provide space for family members to communicate more clearly with each other.

A significant issue during the Covid-19 Pandemic has been the suspension of prison visits from family members. In response to these restrictions the Prison Service had implemented a system of “Purple Visits” These are 30-minute video calls between the prisoner and up to four members of their family. The team has provided advice and support to families about how to make use of this facility.

- **16%** of the cases were supporting families to maintain their income. This was done mainly through referrals to other agencies who have a specialism in this areas.
- It was found that for a male relative who is in prison and where a woman is making contact, it will usually be a mother or wife who makes the contact. **87%** of the clients contacting Himaya Haven were women. **95%** of the cases (where the gender of the offender was recorded) related to men or boys involved in the criminal justice system.
- Furthermore, **79%** of clients making contact were either married to (**44%**) or were the mother (**35%**) of the offender.
- It was found that when a member of a family becomes involved in the criminal justice system the impact goes beyond their experience and will have an impact in different ways on other members of their family. See the figure below:



Figure 2. Graph showing the number of family members affected when 1 loved one is imprisoned.

The graph shows:

- There was an impact on **2 or more** family members in 30 cases. 16 of the remaining cases have no data about family impact. The total number of family members affected by the 47 cases is **114**. This works out at an average of **2.42** family members impacted by **each case**.
- **73%** of the clients contacting Himaya Haven were from South Asian backgrounds - mainly Pakistani (**56%**) and including people from Bangladeshi, Kashmiri, and Indian backgrounds.
- Financial support was significant in **16%** of cases and **9%** of cases had an impact on building relationships with the wider community.
- A total of **33** referrals were made to other agencies, and for some clients there were referrals made to more than one agency.



Case Study 1: Bushra and Yusef

Bushra's son, Yusef, was enmeshed in "county drugs lines" and charged with theft and assault. This put a strain on Bushra's relationship with him and on her own mental health as she attempted to help Yusef, navigate interactions with her ex-spouse/in-laws and understand the judicial system. With no immediate family around to support Bushra she felt isolated and overwhelmed. Yusef had already been expelled from his previous school due to his violent behaviour and his behaviour at his new school was causing significant concern.

Himaya Haven were able to support the family by:

- Providing support to Bushra so she can easily engage with and navigate the judicial system.
- Providing translation services to help her better understand formal communication.
- Accompanying Bushra and Yusef to the court hearing – the relationship with Himaya Haven helped prevent the imposition of a custodial sentence and a lower tariff of a youth referral order was used due to the support that could be provided to the family.
- Attending and advocating for Yusef at the School Governors Discipline Committee – although he was expelled from the school, he was subsequently accepted at an education centre.
- Providing mentoring sessions for Yusef so that he could be open about his issues.
- Referring Bushra to other organisations that could help her with practical support.
- Giving access to the Chit Chat group for Bushra so she could connect with other families and feel less isolated.

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- **14** referrals were made to organisations that could help with queries relating to either housing or benefits. These included the Asian Resource Centre, AK Centre and MECC Trust. Many of these organisations offer specialist language services.
- **9** of the referrals related to **domestic abuse** with referrals mainly being made to Roshni - an organisation that supports women with domestic abuse issues or to the National Centre for Domestic Violence who supported two clients with non-molestation orders.

Himaya Haven have overall seen a rise in clients seeking support concerning with Domestic violence/abuse.

(One case is recorded as above 5 family members, so we have excluded this from this analysis)

Learning Insights 2021 (April 2020 - March 2021)

2021 was challenging for Himaya Haven as the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic had a direct impact on how the team could achieve their project objectives. The team had previously provided support to family members through home visits, face to face sessions at the office or group activities. The team had planned to physically attend events or to organise events in the community to raise awareness of the project. These activities could not be continued during the pandemic and the team needed to find different ways of supporting clients and making an impact.

These challenges also presented new opportunities to experiment with different formats and to think creatively; both about how to connect with and support clients and about how to spread the word about the work of Himaya Haven to key people working in the criminal justice system.

The team have been actively promoting the project with a current website which features all of their activities. Social media is used by the team, and they have 355 followers on Twitter, 124 followers on Facebook and 113 followers on Instagram.

"Working at Himaya Haven has helped me develop my skills. I have been taken out of my comfort zone, but it was within an encouraging and supportive atmosphere. Even when we have a stressful day, we always have a special energy in the team"

Outreach Worker

Achievements

- The team has established an office base, sourced equipment, and set up administrative procedures and systems. This has helped the team to keep a better track record of the work of the project and provided a base for the team and for resources. Having an administrative assistant has meant that they can respond quickly to phone calls and email enquiries and are reminded to keep case recording and data collection up to date.
- Although the team have not been able to conduct home visits due to the Covid-19 restrictions, contact with clients has been made using the phone or video conferencing. Whilst this has limited some interventions it has been a more effective use of time for shorter interventions.
- Himaya Haven have successfully built up effective working relationships with 8 prisons (Oakwood, Birmingham, Swinfen Hall, Stoke Heath, Featherstone, Brinsford, Stafford and Drake Hall) using a network of Imams based within the prisons. This has been done using telephone and video calling methods and has helped to develop the skills within the team for using these types of platforms to support collaboration. Having tried for many years to make an impact on the prison service this has been a significant step forward for the team, using the power of virtual network building and the offer of providing free resources to support the Imams in their work during the holy month of Ramadan.
- The appointment of an outreach worker in September 2020 has helped the Project Director to move away from direct client work and focus more on strategy and organisational effectiveness. The outreach worker reported that clients seem to be making contact earlier than previously as the reputation of Himaya Haven extends. This means that the outreach worker is seen as their first contact point and can help them to navigate the complexities of the criminal justice system.

Reflections (April 2020 - March 2021)

- Establishing clear boundaries with some clients has been challenging. The issues that a family may need to address will include complex advice on benefits, housing rights, immigration rights or domestic violence. The outreach worker discovered that she needed to be very assertive with some clients to keep the focus on areas that she was able to support and to signpost or refer them to other agencies where more appropriate.
- The issue of boundaries has also been a challenge when working with other agencies and the team have had to highlight their specialist skills and turn down opportunities which are not relevant to their core impact areas.
- Both clients and the team have adapted to using phone-based contact and it has been possible to support clients adequately without having to physically be in the same place.

- Some clients have struggled with digital access because they do not have the skills, equipment, or internet access. Some are embarrassed to ask for help and it has been more difficult to help from a remote location, whilst some clients need more support so they can make use of digital platforms e.g. to book and participate in a Purple Visit. Digital literacy is not in the remit for Himaya Haven but has been a significant need for many in their client group.
- The lack of family visits to prisoners due to Covid-19 restrictions has caused high levels of distress and anxiety for all involved. This has been particularly true in the first week of the sentence, where previously a prison visit would be arranged within 72 hours to help the prisoner and family to adapt.
- Administrative systems have evolved in this period and there are different skills and approaches. One of the adjustments that need to be made going forward is ensuring that all access key files and documents are in the central hub Dropbox to ensure the most updated material is accessed. Developing a consistent system for case recording, finance, and monitoring compliance with it will be vital for the team as they continue to grow.

Case Study 2: Taiyaba

Taiyaba was a returning Himaya Haven client, who made contact again with the team in October 2020 and remained actively engaged until April 2021 with a series of queries about benefits, finances, and wider support for her and four children. Her husband has been in prison for over two years, and she has been struggling to learn and understand changes in her child benefit, policies such as those concerning council tax and how to manage her money. She does not speak English fluently so finds it difficult to fully understand the information that is sent to her.

Himaya Haven were able to support the family by:

- Making a successful application to the Covid-19 Resilience Fund for the family.
- Arranging for Taiyaba to attend ESOL and IT courses to help her develop her English and digital literacy. Therefore, facilitating her independence.
- Reviewing her housing and council tax benefit entitlement and made a referral to a specialist benefits charity.
- Supporting the family to apply for Free School Meal vouchers which involved corresponding with the school on Taiyaba's behalf.
- Aiding Taiyaba in investigating and disputing her water bills debt. This saved her and her family over £2000.
- Making applications for two children at university to be exempt from council tax.
- Helping Taiyaba create online accounts such as with the local council.
- Assisting Taiyaba in making a successful application for the Job Seekers.
- Mentoring her two young children and helping them learn skills such as how to communicate via letters with their father. As the father could not read the children were taught how to communicate through drawings. They were also taught how to use stamps and post letters.
- Providing food hampers via our Christmas and Ramadan projects, also arranging weekly food bank deliveries.

Findings & Evaluation 2022

Overall, the Himaya Haven team found that of the 38 client cases, **37%** of clients had a link to **one of the four** identified impacts, as seen in Figure 3 below. In turn, **57%** of clients are situated within Impact B, thus needing support to sustain the daily cost of living. Moreover, **23%** of clients were located within Impact C, requiring Himaya Haven's help maintaining ties with people in their community. This percentage illustrates that **shame and stigma remain two significant barriers** for those with a loved one who has been arrested and is/has been in prison.

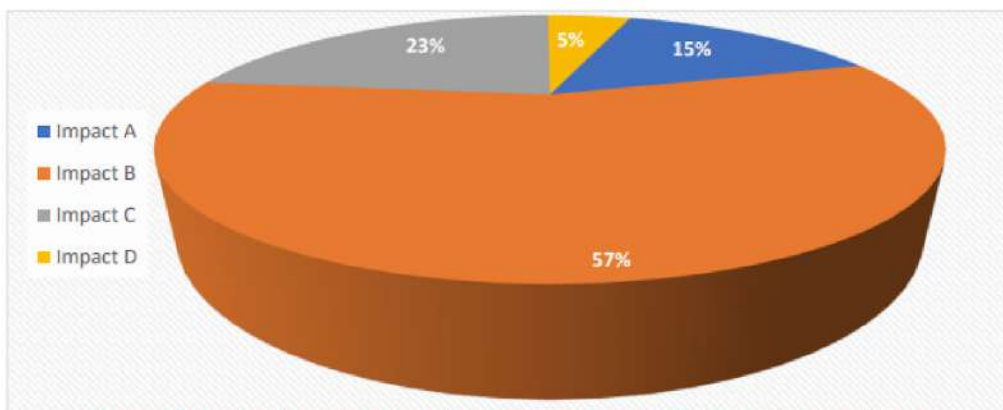


Figure 3. A pie chart showing the impact stages of Himaya Haven clients

The pie chart also shows that **15%** of cases fit in **Impact A**: Maintaining family links (from HH's Theory of Change), sharply contrasting with the 2020/2021 evaluation findings. Indeed, in 2020/2021, this was the most frequently mentioned impact area, with **69%** of cases assessed as impacting family contact. In **57%** of the cases assessed, the interventions by Himaya Haven supported families to maintain their income. A dominant assumption still held within the organisation is that it will be a male family member arrested and sent to prison, which results in a female (often the mother, wife, daughter, or sister) requiring help and seeking the support of Himaya Haven. Overall, this is an assumption supported by the data as shown in Figure 3 below; **82%** of clients this year were **women**.



Figure 4. A graph to show the gender of service users

In **79%** of the cases (where the gender of the offender was recorded), the offender was male (often husbands, partners, and sons of clients). Only **29%** of offenders were female. Conversations with service users continue to indicate that when a male loved one is arrested and imprisoned, the burden to deal with practical and emotional matters falls heavily on a female family member. Such a burden can lead to substantial stress and strain.

Himaya Haven's large proportion of BAME service users/families mirrors the excessive density of BAME prisoners, with many clients coming from Pakistani and Kashmiri backgrounds as seen in Figure 5 below:

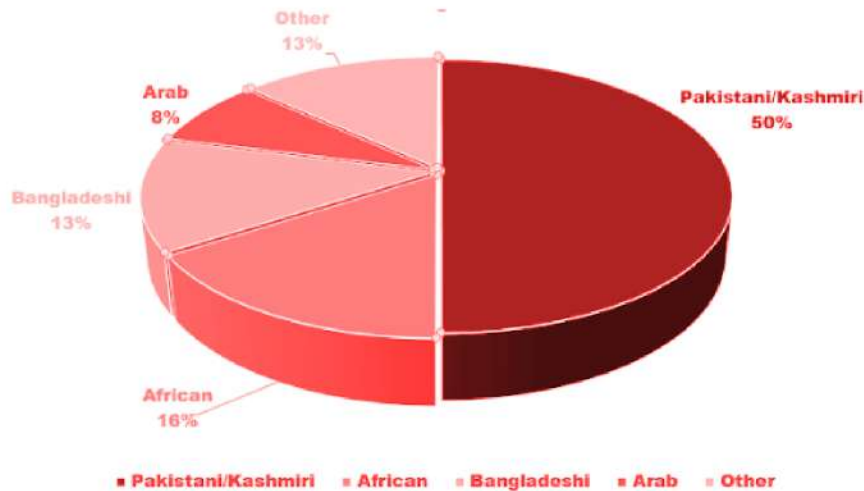


Figure 5. A pie chart showing the ethnicity of service users

As demonstrated in the chart above, **50%** of Himaya Haven's clients come from Pakistani and Kashmiri communities and from Birmingham/West Midlands. A lack of English in speaking and reading can substantially hinder their ability to understand the information disclosed through the CJS and other organisations. Therefore, Himaya Haven's culturally nuanced work and the ability of staff to speak and relay information in Urdu, Mirpuri, and Punjabi are key in helping clients to navigate this barrier.

Learning Insights and Reflections 2022 (April 2021 - March 2022)

- The Family Engagement/Outreach worker remains pivotal to providing client with effective frontline practical and emotional support.
- Himaya Haven's support for families and young people has highlighted those young boys between the ages of **12-15** are at most risk of offending, knife crime, drugs, grooming, and anti-social behaviour which are negatively impacting on education and everyday life (both theirs and their families).
- The working relationships and collaborations that have been formed across the West Midlands prison and police, now must be utilised to recommence outreach work within prisons and custody suites.
- Himaya Haven have distributed referrals cards across several West Midlands police stations. However, Himaya Haven have not seen an improvement in police referrals, this is problematic and requires active engagement from the police.
- The team have emailed all schools in the East Midlands introducing Himaya Haven and attaching the organisations leaflet, the team need to build on this initial contact to engage with schools and deliver workshops to students.
- Ensure engagement with stakeholders and the community via digital platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. The team have sustained active promotion of the project on social media, with 544 followers on Twitter, 135 followers on Facebook and 143 followers on Instagram. They also highlight their work and activities through the organisational website.

Himaya Haven needs to look at how they, with some of their collaborative partners, can encourage prisoners/offenders to signpost their loved ones to Himaya Haven; this has already started to occur and needs to be built upon. In turn, the referral cards and leaflets also need to be shared and disseminated within more spaces in the CJS and community, such as courts, prison visiting centres and community centres.

Going forward, Himaya Haven needs to start planning and implementing multi-model support for post-release. Himaya Haven's work to rehabilitate and resettle individuals once they are out of prison, can play a vital role in helping reduce the cost of offenders on the UK economy and society. Across England and Wales, the average overall cost per prisoner was £42,700 in 2019-20, an increase of **3.7%** on the year before. In turn, young offender institutions (YOI) for boys aged 15 to 17 had the highest costs on average, at £144,700, while male open prisons spent the least – £34,800 per inmate (MacLeod, 2020; GOV.UK, 2020).

Himaya Haven, as a frontline grassroots organisation, are undertaking services and continuously gaining more knowledge and expertise, which means the organisation can be at the forefront of research. Furthermore, two experienced researchers are on staff, and their skills need to be used. Resulting in HH being able to influence policy and judicial change and adaptation.



Case Study 3: Simran



Simran's son is in prison for accessory to kidnapping and drugs, which has caused a significant degree of stress and emotional strain for her and her family. Simran has found it challenging to communicate with prison staff and has been deeply concerned about the physical and mental wellbeing of her son. This has led to a negative impact on her own mental health and wellbeing. What's more, Simran has found it challenging to navigate and engage with the CJS, feeling that her concerns are not paid attention to, creating a somewhat fraught relationship with prison services/staff.

Himaya Haven were able to support Simran by:

- Providing emotional support and a safe space for her to share and reflect on her feelings.
- Providing regular telephone support to check in on her, so she feels she has additional support.
- Communicating with prison staff on Simran's behalf. Himaya Haven acting as an intermediary has helped alleviate the anxiety Simran felt when it came to engaging with prison services.
- Explaining judicial procedures and policies to her.



Case Study 4: Aliyah (Mentoring)



Aliyah is 15 years old and has begun to prepare for her GCSE exams. She has found herself deeply impacted by the tensions in her parents' relationship and requires significant emotional support. Aliyah is one of five siblings; as the second oldest, she plays an essential role in caring for the younger children. Aliyah's mother, Maya is a client of Himaya Haven who initially required support with applying for a non-molestation order against her abusive spouse. She felt that Aliyah needed mentoring due to the family issues that have occurred over the years and the domestic violence Maya experienced at the hands of Aliyah's father.

Aliyah was assessed as requiring mentoring due to the risks associated with domestic violence for children who witness it/live in a home where it occurs. Research highlights there are negative emotional and behavioural impacts on children when exposed to domestic violence. Such research suggests that the consequences can be both short and long-term and can vary according to when the abuse occurred and the duration, nature and frequency of the domestic violence and abuse. Furthermore, research findings have supported the assertion that children and young people who grow up in 'violent and aggressive families' are at a higher risk for a broad range of psychological and behavioural problems (Chan and Yeung 2009:314).

Himaya Haven were able to support Aliyah by:

- Providing her with a safe space to talk and reflect
- Liaising with Aliyah's school to ensure she has a robust support framework.
- Encouraging her to keep a journal as a means of releasing and processing her feelings and thoughts (she has found this very useful when dealing with family tensions).
- Encouraging her to pursue her hobbies for her mental health and wellbeing.
- Helping her learn techniques to cope with her with anger and anxiety.
- Helping her plan revision for her GCSEs.
- Helping her research what she needs to do to achieve her goals (for example she is determined to be a paramedic).
- Aliyah was given the opportunity, by Himaya Haven, to participate in a pilot panel review of funding bids for KFC foundation, which would influence the Foundation's review system.
- Conferring with school to discuss application for Aliyah to be registered as a young carer - agreed school would apply.
- Delivering educational support (e.g., GCSE revision material).

Conclusion

As highlighted in this report a core idea entrenched in the foundations of Himaya Haven is that the family is the 'golden thread' that can help reduce re-offending and stop intergenerational crime (Farmer, 2017). We cannot forget that individuals and families with loved ones in prison and custody are 'the silent victims on the outside' who require support and advocacy. Himaya Haven's frontline work and evaluation of the support we provide continues to illustrate that prisoner/offender families face isolation, disenfranchisement, social exclusion, and economic hardships. Culturally sensitive services are key to providing successful support in the short and long term.

In turn, issues of mental health and wellbeing for prisoners and their loved ones/families remain an issue of concern that requires further investigation and the implementation of more support. Public sector cuts and a long waiting list for counselling continue to be an impediment to families and their children who are in dire distress.

Moreover, there is a need for long-term and active cooperation and collaboration between the police, prisons, and probations with third sector organisations such as Himaya Haven. Referral pathways need to be utilised by CJS originations, as this is at present a key barrier to families gaining the support and services of Himaya Haven. As well as Himaya Haven gaining long-term sustainable funding to grow the organisation and continue our culturally nuanced and frontline services.

Overall, Himaya Haven will continue to strive to provide the essential practical and emotional support offender/prisoner families require.



Special Recognition



MBE Awarded to Razia T Hadait

Himaya Haven are delighted to announce that our Founding Director and CEO has received recognition in the Queen's 2022 Birthday Honour's list, having received an MBE for Services to the Birmingham Community. Razia is the first British Muslim Female of Kashmiri/Pakistani Heritage to receive an MBE in Sparkbrook which is in one of the top 3 most deprived wards in Birmingham/West Midlands.

Her dedication, diligence, energy, and humour have helped create a space for members of the community who often feel isolated, disenfranchised and forgotten. She founded Himaya Haven due to a determination to support and advocate for the "silent victims on the outside" – families and individuals with loved ones who are/have been arrested and imprisoned. Razia has always been a keen advocate for collaboration and encouraging different communities to join in working for the benefit of all.

Razia has been a community activist for 24 years championing the needs of disadvantaged groups from diverse, ethnic minority communities living in the most deprived areas of Birmingham.

Attending the State Funeral: Queen Elizabeth II

It was an honour for our CEO/Director Razia Hadait to receive an invitation to attend The State Funeral of HRH Queen Elizabeth II at Westminster Abbey; whilst representing her family, Himaya Haven CIC, my Pakistani/Kashmiri heritage, and the City of Birmingham. In her words:

"It was with heartfelt sadness that I witnessed the farewell to Her Majesty the Queen, a truly inspiring strong and dedicated woman, a role model for all. The whole experience for me will never be forgotten due to the sense of unity and compassion exhibited throughout the mourning period. Attending was a surreal but heart-warming experience I shall never forget.

The funeral and mourning period was a key moment in history never to be forgotten and being a part of it leaves me lost for words. Every moment of the remembrance for the Queen has been deeply etched in memory - it's a memory I will joyfully recall with loved ones and future generations. I was invited as one of the 200 community hero's and the seat I was in meant I had a front view of seeing everyone arrive, the King, Royal, Prime ministers and Foreign Royal and Leaders from around the world - it was so surreal."



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Financial Statement

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**Full Financial Accounts available upon request
and on Company House (10690686)**



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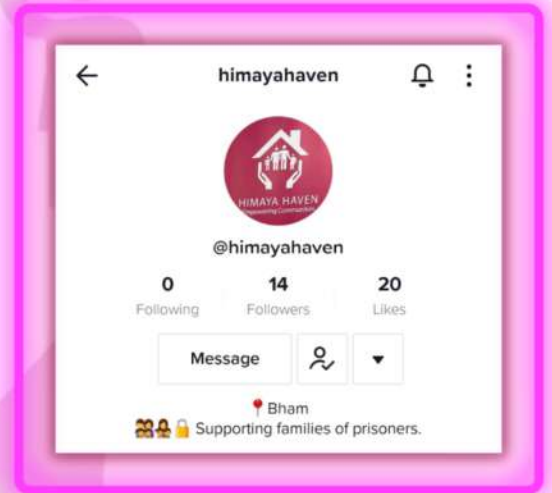
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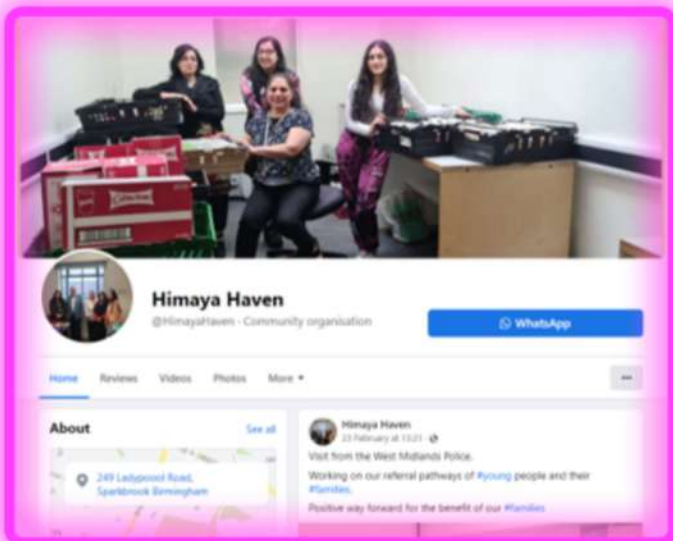
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