

**NCBI LANCASHIRE
ANNUAL REPORT
April 2005 – March 2006**

1. Introduction

NCBI Lancashire was established in April 1999 and this year, our sixth birthday, has seen significant growth with the appointment of a full time programme manager and the move into larger office space which has given us a training and meeting room.

The following report details our activities over the last year.

2. I'm Me and I'm Special

Initially funded by Stonewall Citizenship 21 and the Children's Fund, this community based project with primary school children aged 5 – 9 was funded this year by the Lancaster District local Strategic Partnership from September 2005 – July 2006. We are currently working with Dallas Road County Primary School, Morecambe Bay County Primary School and Bowerham Road Primary School. The project aims to raise self esteem and provide children with the strategies to combat name calling, teasing, bullying and conflict. The children work on welcoming diversity in term 1 and on Violence Prevention in term 2.

**3. Work in the Community of Lancaster District
(Community workshops; Holocaust Memorial Day; Diversity Dialogues;
Equality and Diversity Building Block)**

Our work in the community is underpinned by our community workshops funded by Adult Education.

Five community workshops have run this year; exploring body image (May 14th 05); examining the intersection of ageism and Adultism (Meeting in the Middle June 11 05) and Welcoming Diversity workshops July 9th 05; 20th October 05 and Feb 11th 06. In all we trained 70 people.

In January 06, NCBI Lancashire co-ordinated a number of events to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. 200 people attended the commemoration and cultural share for Holocaust Memorial Day at the Town Hall on January 26th ; the Dukes cinema supported our work with a film workshop attended by 15 people and with their showing of Life is Beautiful. For the first time this year we were able to take panels of speakers into schools and visited Our Ladies year 10 and Morecambe High School 6th Form. Pupils heard perspectives on the Holocaust from both Jews and Allies – all of whom lived locally.

Our latest project launched in the District is Diversity Dialogues. In partnership with Usman Munshi from the Sultan Food Court and Art Gallery we organised a tour of the Mosque on September 15th 05 and a Dialogue which attracted over a 100 people debating whether minority groups can truly integrate and be welcomed or whether groups are forced to assimilate. Our second

Dialogue was held during Pride week and attracted 50 people examining the concept of Family in the light of Civil Partnerships in December 05.

In June 05 the Director was elected to chair the newly formed Equality and Diversity Building Block for the Local Strategic Partnership.

4. Work in Lancashire

Our work in Burnley has strengthened this year delivering a 3 day leadership training to 25 community activists.

5. Contracts

We have not been actively seeking contracts outside of Lancashire as we made a decision to work locally on projects. However we have worked with 2 housing groups: one in Bolton and one in Manchester.

6. Training the Trainer

36 people participated in our three day leadership training in November 05. 23 people were new participants. 16 had already experienced a 3 day leadership training and were being trained in advanced leadership skills.

7. Finance

Funding comes from four sources, contracts, grants, donations and participant fees from workshops. This year grants have been received from Lancaster District Local Strategic Partnership; Me2 DfES in partnership with Traveller Education Service; Traveller Education Service (£6000).

Liz Neat
Director
June 2006