



## FHFA Fellowship Fellows and Project Summaries – Cohort 1

Name	Job Role	Sector	Locality	Project Summary
Aisha Aro-Lambo	Project Manager	VCFSE	Bolton; Manchester; Heywood, Middleton, Rochdale;	Aisha's project is called Voices for Health and centres around women's health equity advocacy and improving health literacy through educational materials which aims to create a meaningful impact within Wonderfully Made Woman and the community. This program seeks to address the unique healthcare challenges faced by women in migrant communities through accessible and culturally sensitive community workshops, advocacy campaigns and a resource hub in order to improve health outcomes, reduce medication misuse and build a stronger community engagement in healthcare.
Alexandra Guy	Strategic Partnerships Lead (Business Development)	Housing	Greater Manchester	Alex has dedicated her career to the housing and social care sector and firmly believes that our comprehensive understanding of the individuals she supports positions her uniquely to collaborate with the NHS in addressing health inequalities and developing truly preventative models of community-based care. This initiative begins with the generation of essential data to create cross-sector solutions. Alex is particularly passionate about exploring the intersection of poverty, mental health, and access to services, and I used this focus as the foundation for her project.
Alice Coren	Director of ReMade	VCFSE	Wigan	Alice's project aims to look at how community-based peer support could be beneficial for people at risk of poor mental health and health inequalities in Wigan, with a particular focus on women.
Bethany Mitchell	Operations Manager	Primary Care	Manchester;	Bethan's project explored health inequalities faced by asylum seekers in Greater Manchester. The aim is to establish clear pathways for those in temporary asylum accommodation, focusing on mental health, maternity care, sexual health, and infectious diseases. Her goal is to improve healthcare access and reduce barriers, ensuring individuals have the information they need. She gained insights into how social inequalities like housing, finances, and education impact health and aimed to create a support program providing a single point of access within asylum accommodation to help navigate healthcare systems and connect with the VCSE sector and charities.

Hilaria Asumu	Ambassador, Organ Donation/Charity Chair	VCFSE	Greater Manchester	Hilaria's project aimed to address healthcare and service access disparities faced by Black ethnic communities in Salford, focusing on new immigrants and refugees. These groups often encounter language barriers, cultural misunderstandings, and systemic mistrust of public services. The objectives were to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empower communities with knowledge about available services.</li> <li>• Build trust between service providers, especially GPs, and the community.</li> <li>• Facilitate collaboration between local councils, public services, and community organizations.</li> </ul>
Khadijat Idowu Morafa	Director/ Founder	VCFSE	Greater Manchester; Stockport; Wigan; Manchester; Trafford; Salford; Oldham;	Idowu's aim was to explore and establish holistic Health Centre's in underserved areas addressing health inequalities, promote sustainability, and foster community inclusion, focusing on accessible healthcare and education for marginalised and vulnerable populations.
Laura Cousins	Newly qualified salaried GP	Primary Care	Oldham	Laura introduced opt-out HIV testing for all patients aged 15-65 having any blood test at her GP practice. The HIV prevalence rate seemed low compared to GM, but she found that this was because of poor attendance at GUM clinics, where the data was being collected, rather than fewer of their patients having HIV. She wanted to roll out routine HIV testing somewhere that her patients would regularly attend, to improve testing coverage, in line with the UK goal of no new HIV cases by 2030.
Liam Handley	Wellbeing & Health Manager	VCFSE	Bolton	To significantly reduce smoking rates in Bolton, a critical public health priority, Liam will leverage the extensive reach, local expertise, and valuable insights of the VCSE sector. By harnessing their deep community connections and knowledge, he aims to implement targeted interventions and support services that effectively address smoking cessation and promote healthier lifestyles.
Lindsey Kent	Salaried GP	Primary Care	Manchester;	Lindsey's project was initiated to tackle the pressing issue of cardiovascular disease (CVD), which remains a leading cause of premature death and health inequalities in Greater Manchester. The project specifically focused on the Black African and Caribbean community, a population disproportionately affected by CVD and healthcare disparities, and hypertension which is a major risk factor for heart attacks and strokes.
Peace Temitope Nyamja Currently on Maternity	Health and Wellbeing Development Manager	VCFSE	Greater Manchester;	Peace's project focuses on enhancing the health and wellbeing of Black Caribbean and African young people in Greater Manchester through a culturally tailored community-based social prescribing approach. This includes 3 distinct activities focusing on Green & Art activities such as gardening, nature walks and art therapy, Performing Arts and Physical Activities such as group sports and fitness classes.
Philippa Murphy	GP	Primary Care	Oldham;	Philippa's project aims to develop an initiative which will raise awareness of annual health checks amongst young people with learning disabilities and will contribute to increasing the number of people on the learning disability register and attending for annual health checks in Oldham.

Philippa Norris	First Contact Practitioner and Advanced Clinical Practitioner	Primary Care	Greater Manchester;	Pip's project sets out to tackle economic inactivity to improve health outcomes and reduce inequality. The target group was patients who are registered with Tregenna Medical Practice, in Wythenshawe, who are off sick, at risk of falling out of work, or economically inactive.
Saroja Forester	General Practitioner	Primary Care	Stockport;	Saroja was struck by the difference in healthy life expectancy between residents of Brinnington and other neighbourhoods in Stockport. Looking at wider determinants of health, she found one of the contributing factors could be poor attendance in the primary schools in Brinnington. By reducing absenteeism in primary schools, it is hoped that these children's short-term health (educational outcomes, social and cognitive development) and subsequent long-term socioeconomic opportunities and health will improve.
Suzannah Carrier	Salaried GP	Primary Care	Salford;	Suzie aimed to understand the population served by Ordsall Health Surgery and their health disparities. Salford South-East PCN had prioritised improving breast screening uptake as the PCN inequality focus for the year and coordinated a working group to facilitate this. As a working group, our goal was to identify and overcome barriers to breast screening to enhance uptake during the September 2024 screening period.
Tayyaba Kosar	Systems Change Facilitator	VCFSE	Tameside	Tayyaba's project was centered around enhancing cross-organisational collaboration, raising awareness of support services and opportunities to mitigate food poverty and improve health outcomes, Establish a working group to share resources, learning, and signpost services. In addition, she aims to create a resource directory for organizations to refer residents to services that promote physical activity, healthy eating, and mental well-being. Improve connectivity between groups in Ashton, increasing access to ongoing projects and services for Ashton and Tameside residents and share information to ensure immediate support for those affected by food poverty without requiring them to conduct their own research.