



OxfordAgainstCutting
ProtectingGirls&Women



Oxford Against Cutting Annual Review

For year ended 31st March 2021
Charity number 1161597



OxfordAgainstCutting
ProtectingGirls&Women

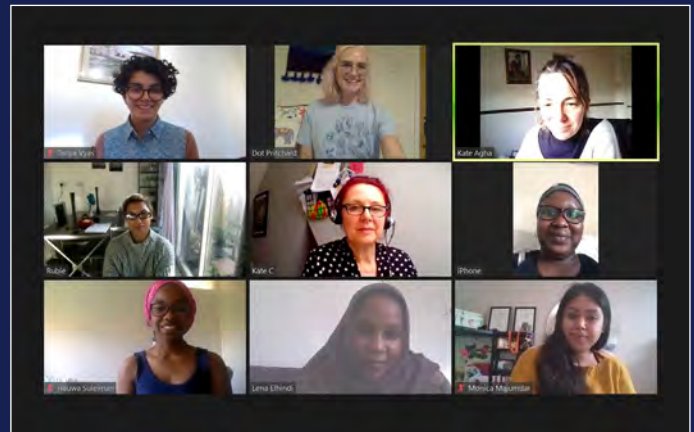
www.oxfordagainstcutting.org

Executive Summary

Our charity adapted quickly and effectively to the Covid-19 outbreak, as it became clear that lockdown was exacerbating isolation, the risk of abuse and mental health concerns for women from communities affected by female genital mutilation (FGM) and 'honour'-based abuse. We are proud to have delivered 50 Web Cafes in the last financial year, providing support, befriending and learning in an informal, online space. Our Web Cafes have tackled a broad range of topics on harmful practices, such as Advertising and Sexualised Body Alterations and Values for Sons and Daughters, for both communities and professionals.

In addition, we delivered online safeguarding training and webinars on FGM and forced marriage for school staff teams, community groups, charities, the Probation Service, the Crown Prosecution Service and companies. When restrictions were eased, we were delighted and ready to return to the classroom, having increased our team size and reach during the pandemic.

During the first lockdown, we led and joined strategic thinking, by setting up a temporary working group to consider the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak on people at risk of FGM and forced marriage. The group included local and national support services such as Karma Nirvana and the National FGM Centre and considered the use of codes, the barriers to reaching support and the messages and action needed to support people affected by harmful practices during lockdown. Our charity prepared working documents for discussions on barriers and case studies that were included in a Select Committee report. We subsequently created lockdown helplines posters to support families in the Thames Valley to reach services and we now lead the BAED WORLDS Group, a multi-agency team in Oxfordshire providing expertise on initiatives to support women from minoritised groups with recovery from abuse.



Our time online has also enabled us to create a wealth of digital content such as Instagram Live interviews, podcasts and films, as well as work with partners further afield. We are committed to ensuring that materials on abuse and sexual health issues are accessible to everyone, both in terms of messaging and language. In December 2020, we released our first translated film material for World AIDS Day.

We were delighted to welcome new members to our team, including Rubie Marie, high profile Activist and Survivor of Forced Marriage; Hauwa Suleiman, Gender Specialist; and Tanya Vyas, Social Media Communications Coordinator. We also welcomed three new trustees, Naseem Sarbatta-Walia, Seiza Bashir and Ahd Hassan, and our new Social Justice Influencers.

We continue to deliver all our workshops with facilitators from affected communities who can share lived experiences of the impact of harmful practices on families and communities. As we head towards the end of the pandemic, we look forward to providing both in person and online education to end harmful practices.

Thank you for your support.

Oxford Against Cutting (OAC) Web Café
Safe Spaces for Difficult Conversations To Empower Women and Girls

Conversations on FGM - MONDAYS 11am - midday

Session Title	Date	Topic
Introduction and FGM	27 June	Introduction to FGM
	28 June	Family violence and FGM
	29 June	Family violence and FGM
	30 June	Family violence and FGM
	1 July	Family violence and FGM
	2 July	Family violence and FGM
	3 July	Family violence and FGM
	4 July	Family violence and FGM
	5 July	Family violence and FGM
	6 July	Family violence and FGM
	7 July	Family violence and FGM
	8 July	Family violence and FGM
	9 July	Family violence and FGM
	10 July	Family violence and FGM
	11 July	Family violence and FGM
	12 July	Family violence and FGM
	13 July	Family violence and FGM
	14 July	Family violence and FGM
	15 July	Family violence and FGM
	16 July	Family violence and FGM
	17 July	Family violence and FGM
	18 July	Family violence and FGM
	19 July	Family violence and FGM
	20 July	Family violence and FGM
	21 July	Family violence and FGM
	22 July	Family violence and FGM
	23 July	Family violence and FGM
	24 July	Family violence and FGM
	25 July	Family violence and FGM
	26 July	Family violence and FGM
	27 July	Family violence and FGM
	28 July	Family violence and FGM
	29 July	Family violence and FGM
	30 July	Family violence and FGM
	31 July	Family violence and FGM

Zoom Link: Meeting ID: 458 318 279 Password: 46490

Let's talk about honour - TUESDAYS 11am - midday

Session Title	Date	Topic
Introduction	27 June	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	28 June	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	29 June	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	30 June	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	1 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	2 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	3 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	4 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	5 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	6 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
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	15 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	16 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
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	19 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	20 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
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	24 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	25 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	26 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	27 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	28 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	29 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	30 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse
	31 July	Introduction to Honour-based Abuse

Zoom Link: Meeting ID: 458 318 279 Password: 46490

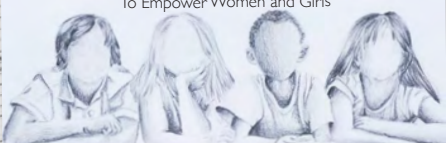
Building positive body image - TUESDAYS 11am - 12pm

Session Title	Date	Topic
Introduction	27 June	Introduction to Body Image
	28 June	Introduction to Body Image
	29 June	Introduction to Body Image
	30 June	Introduction to Body Image
	1 July	Introduction to Body Image
	2 July	Introduction to Body Image
	3 July	Introduction to Body Image
	4 July	Introduction to Body Image
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	31 July	Introduction to Body Image

Zoom Link: Meeting ID: 458 318 279 Password: 46490

OxfordAgainstCutting
Protecting Girls and Women

Oxford Against Cutting (OAC) Web Café
Safe Spaces for Difficult Conversations
To Empower Women and Girls



CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

Hilary Burrage, Consultant Sociologist and Writer on FGM
 Imam Mawwar Hussain, M.B.E., D.L. Founder of the Oxford Foundation
 Dr Brenda Kelly, Consultant Obstetrician and Founder and Director of the Oxford Rose Clinic
 Charlotte Kelly, Oxford DPhil student, research in women's rights in Asia in a medical context
 Victor Koroma, Anti-FGM Campaigner, Alliance for Cohesion and Racial Equality
 Payzee Maika, Activist and campaigner against child marriage and honour-based abuse
 Rubie Marie, Ambassador and campaigner against honour-based violence and forced marriage
 Vanita Marjani, Specialist in BAME support, Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Services
 Ibrah Mohamed, Somali-born Campaigner, Slough Integration Services
 Cecily Mwaniki, Ugandan, anti-FGM group based in Reading
 Jaswant Narwal, Chief Crown Prosecutor, National CPS lead on FGM, forced marriage and honour-based abuse
 Caroline Pinder, FGM Researcher for 28 Too Many and OAC, Chair
 Jasvinder Sanghera, CBE, Survivor of forced marriage and Founder of Karma Nirvana
 Naseem Sarbatta-Walla, Campaigner against honour-based abuse
 Kaddy Touray, Gambian-born Survivor and Campaigner against FGM, OAC
 Hiba Wardere, Somali-born Campaigner against FGM

Date: 29 June-10 November
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OAC's Web Cafe
Topic: Forced Marriage



Payzee Maika
Activist, campaigner against Child Marriage & HBA, Iranian & Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation

August at 11am
161 516 337 Password: 985517

[againstcutting](https://www.oxfordagainstcutting.org)

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OAC's Web Cafe
Topic: Let's talk about honour



Jasvinder Sanghera
CBE, Survivor of Forced Marriage and founder of Karma Nirvana

Tuesday 6th October at 11am
Zoom Link: Meeting ID: 161 516 337 Password: 985 517

[@oxfordagainstcutting](https://www.oxfordagainstcutting.org)

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Web Cafe Schedule

SAFE SPACES FOR DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS ABOUT 'HONOUR'-BASED ABUSE

1-HOUR SESSIONS WITH OPTIONAL 15-MINUTE DISCUSSION TIME AFTERWARDS

Zoom Login Details: MEETING ID: 847 2271 7771

MONDAY 11 JAN, 12-1 1.15PM - FGM AND TERMS
 MONDAY 22 JAN, 12-1 1.15PM - FERTILITY
 MONDAY 8 FEB, 12-1 1.15PM - MODERN SLAVERY
 MONDAY 22 FEB, 12-1 1.15PM - DURESS
 MONDAY 8 MAR, 12-1 1.15PM - FEMALE PERFECTIBILITY
 MONDAY 22 MAR, 12-1 1.15PM - MENTAL HEALTH

*TOPIC DATES MAY VARY

PLEASE EMAIL: DOT@OXFORDAGAINSTCUTTING.ORG

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WEBINARS FOR WOMEN

Giving women the chance to discuss sensitive subjects in a safe space

Weekly discussion, friendship and support on the issue of FGM

Monday 4th May
11am - 12
Meeting ID: 458 318 279
Password: 666490

OAC Facilitator, Dr Neveen Younis and Research Coordinator of 28 Too Many and OAC Chair, Caroline Pinder will be discussing the findings of medicalized FGM.

For more info please email: DOT@OXFORDAGAINSTCUTTING.ORG

Oxford Against Cutting is committed to providing safe spaces in all of our work, including online. Please visit our safe spaces online page for more info: www.oxfordagainstcutting.org

WEBINARS FOR WOMEN

Giving women the chance to discuss sensitive subjects in a safe space

Weekly discussion, friendship and support on the issue of 'honour'-based abuse (HBA)

Tuesday 5th May
11am - 12
Meeting ID: 161516337
Password: 985517

In this session OAC Facilitator, Monica Majumdar, will be facilitating conversations on 'caste', 'gender' and 'identity'.

For more info please email: DOT@OXFORDAGAINSTCUTTING.ORG

Oxford Against Cutting is committed to providing safe spaces in all of our work, including online. Please visit our safe spaces online page for more info: www.oxfordagainstcutting.org

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OAC's Web Cafe
Topic: Talking about the journey through the criminal justice system"



Caroline Goodie
Detective
Rubie Marie
Survivor and Activist
Jaswant Narwal
Chief Crown Prosecutor, CPS Thames and Chiltern

Monday 11th December, 12:00 - 1:30pm
Zoom Link: Meeting ID: 161 516 337 Password: 985517

Led by Sobia Afridi, Anti-HBA Facilitator
[@oxfordagainstcutting](https://www.oxfordagainstcutting.org)

Webinars For Women & Web Cafe

Our Web Cafes are a safe, informal online space for communities and professionals to meet up, share learning and provide mutual support on sensitive topics. Most sessions include an interview with a speaker, who is a specialist in the topic, followed by time for questions, discussion and connection. Our speakers have included Jasvinder Sanghera CBE, Survivor of Forced Marriage and Founder of Karma Nirvana; retired DCI Caroline Goode, the police officer who led the investigation into the “honour” killing of Banaz Mahmod; and Hibo Wardere, Somali-born Campaigner against FGM.

Our Web Cafes are facilitated by our team members who represent communities affected by harmful practices and we consult with participants on topics for discussion to raise awareness about cultural harm.

The project was rolled out following our Webinars for Women pilot, a series of 8 “closed” workshops for women from communities affected by FGM and forced marriage.

In addition to new learning on cultural harms, our Web Cafes have led to reflections on sub-conscious belief systems that underpin community behaviours (for example, “girls must not have an intimate partner before marriage but this is not an important value for boys”); new friendships; signposting to support; safeguarding action and joint working on other projects, such as the creation of films to support women from South Asian communities with sexual health issues.



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Supporting an intersectional approach to tackling abuse



At the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, our charity brought together a temporary working group to consider the additional barriers created by lockdown that prevented people affected by harmful practices from reaching specialist services. The group included local stakeholders, Karma Nirvana and the National FGM Centre and led to a number of initiatives to improve access to support, including our Thames Valley poster campaign.

We were subsequently invited to set up a new multi-agency group, BAED WORLDS (Black, Asian and Ethnically Diverse Women in Oxfordshire Recovering from Lockdown and Domestic Abuse). The new group is part of the Domestic Abuse Partnership hosted by Oxfordshire County Council and the activities are informed by the findings from a 2-year Thames Valley BAMER Project Report by Agya Poudyal.

The first initiative of the group was to create Best Practice: Support groups for women from Black, Asian, and Ethnically Diverse (BAED) communities in Oxfordshire. The Group has also participated in new training on Transboundary Abandonment developed by our charity.



To support the local education and voluntary sector, we have also set up Inclusive Perspectives, a new initiative to ensure training materials, such as workshop plans and handouts, are suitable for the intended audience from an intersectional perspective. Our specialist team reviews resources from a multi-lensed perspective, to support the use of materials that are culturally sensitive, gender-appropriate, and user-friendly for all ages and abilities.

Digital Resources

We created a wealth of new digital material to raise awareness of harmful practices, including: Instagram Lives with:



- IG Lives with
- Lucky Roy Singh
 - Rubie Marie
 - Sandy Abdel Rahman
 - Kaddy Touray
 - Anj Handa
 - Hoda Ali
 - Bethel Tadesse

Perspectives Podcast episodes

The property of my community: Women, girls and honour-based abuse.

FGM and culture: Changing the narrative.

Reclaiming the word “Shame”: “honour”- based abuse and the male perspective.

Body Image: In a perfect world?

Social Media and Body Image



World AIDS Day films, with messaging in English, Punjabi, Urdu and Arabic to raise awareness and break the stigma of HIV.

Working With Schools

Our charity delivers lessons and workshops for schools and universities across the Thames Valley, always with a facilitator from an affected community who brings lived-experience to learning, as well as specialist knowledge. Evaluation of our training consistently demonstrates that confidence levels in dealing with all the issues surrounding FGM and forced marriage increase significantly following our workshops. In the summer of 2020, we published Evaluation Reports on our largest schools projects in the Thames Valley. During the pandemic, we were pleased to deliver online safeguarding training for staff teams at the following schools and universities:

- *St John's Catholic Primary School, Banbury*
- *Langford Village Primary School, Bicester*
- *Oxford Brookes University – 3rd Year Children's Nursing Students*
- *NASUWT (multiple workshops for approx. 350 trainee teachers at Manchester Metropolitan University and Edge Hill University)*
- *Waddesdon Village Primary School*



Dot Pritchard and Dr Nesreen Yanni, facilitating at Waddesdon Village Primary School

Our charity also delivered workshops and presentations for:

- North Hampshire Domestic Abuse Forum (2 workshops with over 100 participants at each)
- ODBST Buckinghamshire
- Oxford International Women's Festival event, Business as Usual? Women's Activism Under Lock Down (contribution)
- Sunrise Multicultural Project, Banbury
- Thames Valley Police and Crime Panel
- AAFDA (Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse)
- Young People's Supported Accommodation, Oxfordshire
- Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board (multiple sessions)
- Young Women's Music Project
- Global Health Teaching, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells Hospitals
- Probation Service
- Newly Qualified Social Workers (Oxfordshire)
- Elmore Community Services
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Utulivu's Zero Tolerance event "Let's Talk End FGM in a Generation" (contribution)
- Stryker
- Artist and judges joining OAC's Art Competition

CPS OxfordAgainstCutting
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CPS THAMES AND CHILTERN RACE CONFIDENT ONLINE EVENT:
'RECOGNISING THE SIGNS OF SO-CALLED HONOUR-BASED ABUSE AND FORCED MARRIAGE'

With address from *Jaswant Narwal, Chief Crown Prosecutor*

THURSDAY 21ST JANUARY 12-1.30PM

Training objectives:

- Describe so-called Honour Based Abuse (HBA) and Forced Marriage (FM) and outline the UK laws around these
- Recognise indicators of HBA and FM, as well as their impacts
- Identify professional responsibilities, best practice for opening up conversation and encouraging disclosure, and routes to support including safeguarding

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app
[Click here to join the meeting](#)

The POWER of Art

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'Honour'-Based Abuse Training For Artists

Date: 16th Dec
Time: 4.30 - 6pm

Zoom details:
Meeting ID: 839 6731 4584
Passcode: 470280

Art Competition

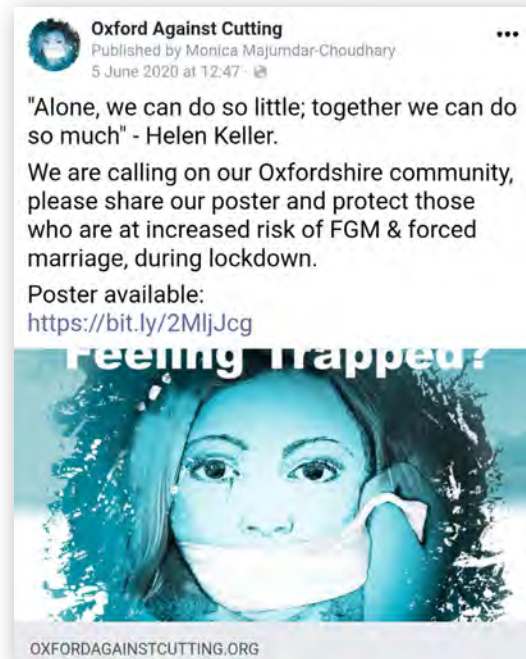
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Awareness-Raising



Our 2020 poster campaign was launched in May to protect those at increased risk of 'honour'-based abuses, such as FGM and forced marriage, during the pandemic. We worked closely with national charity, Karma Nirvana, to review the multiple barriers to people reaching support and the evidence that people were not reaching specialist services.

Our poster raises awareness of the specialist helplines that support people affected by honour-based abuses (HBA). The main image is based on artwork created by a young person during the charity's first art project, with messaging created with our anti-HBA facilitation team. We created versions of the poster to highlight local services in Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, North Hampshire, West Berkshire and East Berkshire (Slough; Bracknell Forest; and Windsor and Maidenhead) and shared hard copies with hospitals, as well as every school in the Thames Valley.



In addition to wide social media coverage, the campaign was covered by Jack FM, BBC Radio Oxford and the Oxford Mail.

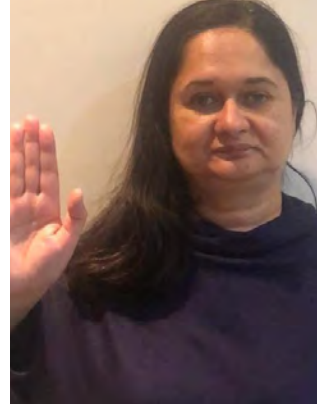
International Women's Day 2021



TANYA VYAS,
Social Media Communications
Coordinator



DOT PRITCHARD,
Project Manager



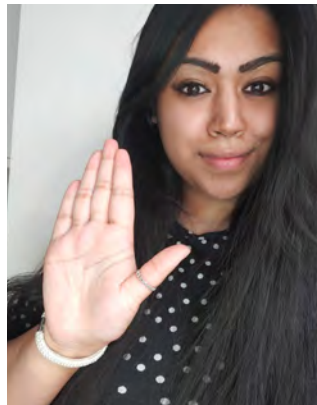
SOBIA AFRIDI,
Anti-HBA Facilitator



HAUWA SULEIMAN,
OAC Gender Specialist and
BAED WORLDS Coordinator



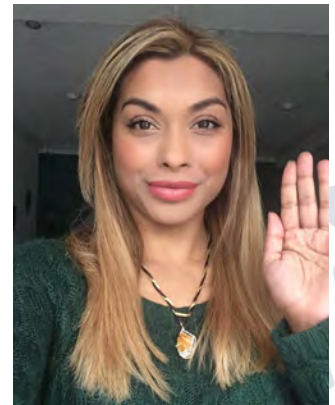
DR NESREEN YANNI,
Anti-FGM Facilitator



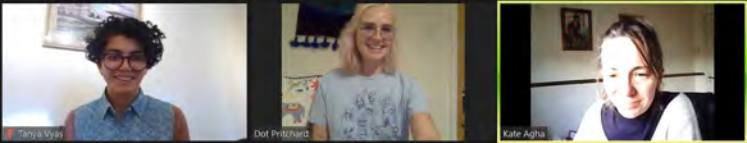
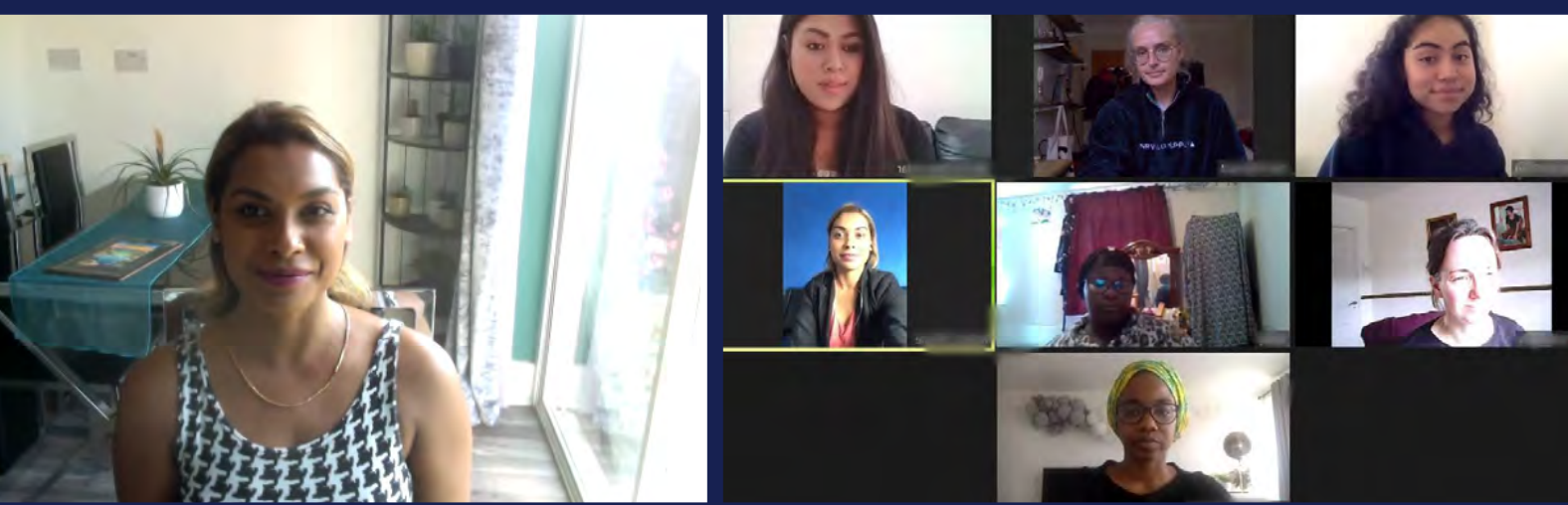
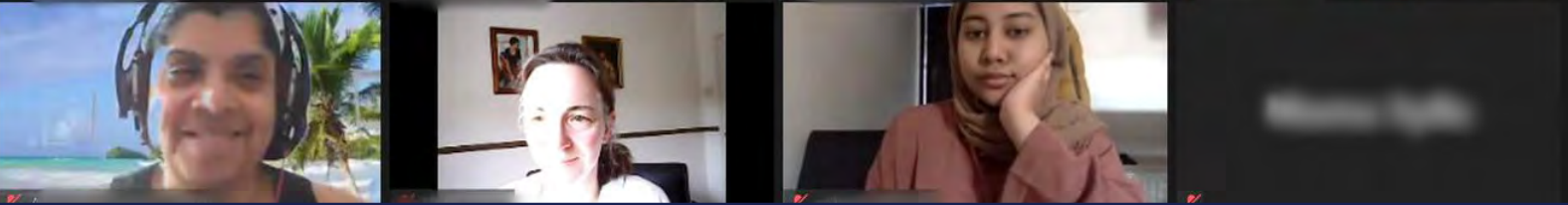
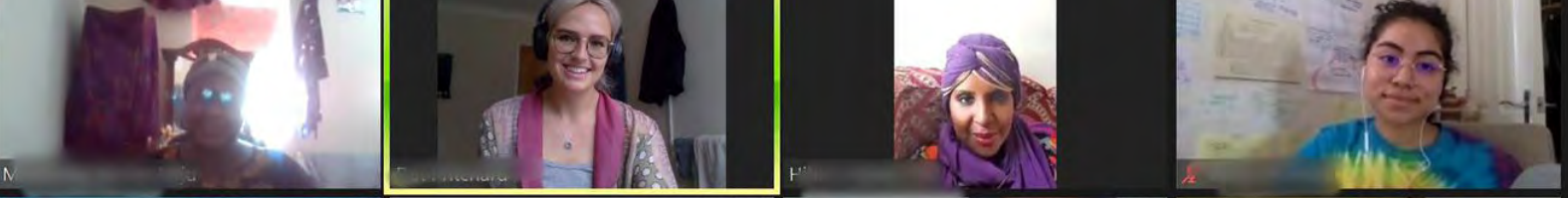
**MONICA
MAJUMDAR-CHOUDHARY,**
Anti-HBA Facilitator and
Social Media Specialist



KADDY TOURAY,
Community Outreach
Director



RUBIE MARIE,
Ambassador and Anti-HBA
Facilitator



How To Donate

Please support us in helping prevent FGM and forced marriage and support survivors living in the Thames Valley. Every donation we receive makes a significant contribution towards continuing our work. **Our overheads are minimal as we do not have office space.** You can therefore be reassured that your donation will directly contribute to our work to tackle harmful practices.

You can donate to Oxford Against Cutting:

- Online via our website: <https://www.oxfordagainstcutting.org/donate-here/>
- Make a single donation by bank transfer, or set up a regular donation by standing order
Account name: Oxford Against Cutting Account number: 33389952 Sort code: 20-97-48

For more information visit our website: www.oxfordagainstcutting.org



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Going The Extra Mile

In addition to a packed calendar of training, awareness-raising and education events, OAC is a member and contributor to:

- Thames Valley BAED Partnership
- The Oxford FGM Operational Group (sub group of Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board)
- The Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Partnership
- Home Office's Anti-FGM Stakeholder Group
- Domestic Abuse and Recovery Sub-Group (Oxon)
- Focus group on the development of GP resources to support FGM survivors
- Case Review (anonymised) meetings with Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Services

Our Team

- Kate Agha - CEO
- Dr Kate Clayton-Hathway – Director of Research and Evaluation
- Kaddy Touray – Community Outreach Director
- Lena el-Hindi – Community Outreach Director
- Dot Pritchard – Project Manager
- Hauwa Suleiman – Gender Specialist and BAED WORLDS Coordinator
- Tanya Vyas – Social Media Communications Coordinator
- Dr Nesreen Yanni – Anti-FGM Facilitator
- Rubie Marie – Ambassador and Anti-HBA Facilitator
- Mariama Sallah – Anti-FGM Facilitator
- Sobia Afridi – Anti-HBA Facilitator
- Monica Majumdar-Choudhary – Anti-HBA Facilitator and Social Media Specialist

Our Trustees

- Caroline Pinder (Chair);
- Dr Sharon Dixon & Treasurer National GP Lead on FGM
- Liz Parry
- Miranda Dobson
- Richard Coleman
- Naseem Sarbatta-Walia
- Seiza Bashir
- Ahd Hassan
- Patron: Dr Brenda Kelly, Director of the Oxford Rose Clinic



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