

Case study

African Initiative Support

Founded in 2003 in Nottingham, African Initiative Support (AIS) is a voluntary and community organisation, driven by the needs of African residents for culturally sensitive support to help them to access key services.

AIS aims to relieve poverty, distress and improve the quality of life of Africans, particularly refugees and asylum seekers living in Nottingham and surrounding areas by providing services in the areas of education and training, health promotion, orientation and advice, culture and other philanthropic activities.

In Autumn 2009, AIS commissioned a paper researching the needs, skills and experiences of the African community living in the city. The project was managed by the organisation alongside a steering group of community members, and several African and refugee groups.

The steering group continues to meet regularly, working on possible projects, further research, exploring funding opportunities and seeking a stronger voice within the community.