

COMMUNITY INSPIRATION AWARDS

20 SEPTEMBER 2024



AWARDS CEREMONY HIGHLIGHTS BROCHURE



WELCOME
&

INTRODUCTION

MOZMUN HUSSA

CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MUNICIPALITY

Welcome!

The Community Inspiration Awards is a proud celebration of the remarkable achievements of individuals, public sector workers, businesses, and voluntary organisations that made a significant and lasting impact on the lives of others. This post event brochure provides a highlight of the award ceremony held on 20 September 2024 with the list of award presenters, finalists and winner.

This year, as with previous years, we were overwhelmed by the volume and quality of nominations. Hundreds of submissions poured in, each one shining a spotlight on individuals and organisations whose dedication went above and beyond. From acts of kindness and bravery to initiatives that tackled some of the most pressing social issues of our time, the stories behind each nominee were nothing short of inspirational. The selection process, as always, was immensely challenging. Every nominee was deserving of recognition and celebration, making it difficult to choose from such a wealth of talent and passion.

In total, we had 13 award categories, each representing a different facet of community life. From outstanding public service to environmental sustainability, business innovation, these categories reflected the breadth of contributions that fuelled positive change. For each category, five finalists were shortlisted, bringing us to a total of 65 exceptional nominees who demonstrated that meaningful change is possible when we work together with a shared vision.

I would like to thank all our award presenters, sponsors for their unwavering support and our staff and volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring this evening to life. A special thank you goes to those who took the time to nominate these remarkable individuals and a big congratulations once again to all the finalists, runner up and winners.



Chief Executive | Community Foundation

HOST



NOZMUL HUSSAIN

Chief Executive
Community Foundation

CHIEF GUESTS



SIR DERRICK
ANDERSON OBE

His Majesty's
Lord - Lieutenant of the
West Midlands



SIMON FOSTER

West Midlands
Police & Crime
Commissioner

AWARD PRESENTERS



RICHARD KIRBY

Chief Executive
Birmingham Community
Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust



SIOBHAN BLAKE

Chief Crown Prosecutor
The Crown Prosecution
Service



PAULETTE HAMILTON

MP for
Birmingham, Erdington



SHOKAT LAL

Chief Executive
Sandwell City Council

AWARD PRESENTERS



CHRIS PAYNE

Assistant Chief Executive
West Midlands Fire Service



MIKE O'HARA

Assistant Chief Constable
West Midlands Police



LUCY CALDICOTT

Chief of Staff to the Mayor
of West Midlands Combined
Authority



PAT CARVALHO

Principal and Chief
Executive Officer
Birmingham MET

COMMUNITY AWARD CATEGORY



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FINALIST



BENITA WISHART

Birmingham Voluntary Service
Council



SYED MUHAMMAD FAISAL SAMI

Faizan Global Relief Foundation
United Kingdom



SATPAL BOYES

Riverside Pantry



MARWAN BAKAILI

Halesowen/Dudley Yemeni
Community Association



BOB RHODES

LivethroughFriends CIC

2ND RUNNER UP



SYED MUHAMMAD FAISAL
SAMI

Faizan Global Relief
Foundation United Kingdom

For 25 years of volunteering and leading impactful initiatives on laughing gas misuse, knife and gun crime prevention, anti-bullying, disaster relief, and COVID-19 support, profoundly impacting communities both locally and internationally.

Award Presented by:

Lucy Caldicott

Chief of Staff to the Mayor of West Midlands

1ST RUNNER UP



MARWAN BAKAILI

Halesowen/Dudley Yemeni
Community Association

For spending over 20 years building a multicultural community hub in Halesowen and Dudley, raising £1 million, securing awards like the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, and securing grants, all while promoting integration and supporting local development despite ongoing funding challenges.

Award Presented by:

Lucy Caldicott

Chief of Staff to the Mayor of West Midlands

WINNER



BOB RHODES

LivesthroughFriends CIC

For dedicating his life to service, leading social work, nursing, and services for people with autism and disabilities, founding Lives (lives) through Friends CIC, and championing community-based alternatives while advocating for the disadvantaged throughout his career.

Award Presented by:

Lucy Caldicott

Chief of Staff to the Mayor of West Midlands

DUTY TO THE COMMUNITY AWARD FINALIST



DAVINDER KAUR
Skills Work Enterprise Development
Agency



AMAAN DAD
Our Community Foundation



SALMA YAQOOB
Birmingham & Solihull Integrated
Care System



WOMEN ACTING IN TODAY'S
SOCIETY



RAVINDER TAGGAR

2ND RUNNER UP



DAVINDER KAUR

Skills Work Enterprise
Development Agency

For leading employment and enterprise services in Sandwell, co-founding SWEDA and Sandwell Consortium CIC, securing significant funding, and helping thousands of residents overcome barriers to work and business for 35 years.

Award Presented by:
Siobhan Blake
Chief Crown Prosecutor
The Crown Prosecution Service

1ST RUNNER UP



SALMA YAQOOB

Birmingham & Solihull
Integrated Care System

For championing equality for all and needs of the communities in both a professional and personal capacity. She has championed the ICB Health Inequalities strategy with exemplary leadership bringing in people from different profession and the community to work collaboratively to achieve the objectives. She has received numerous awards, including an Honorary Doctorate from Birmingham City University for services to public life.

Award Presented by:

Siobhan Blake

Chief Crown Prosecutor

The Crown Prosecution Service

WINNER



RAVINDER TAGGAR

For establishing Count Me In, which empowers women's voices and fosters community inclusivity by addressing Domestic Violence, Crime, Street Cleaning through Street Watch Groups thereby challenging cultural norms and elevating women's visibility and influence.

Award Presented by:
Siobhan Blake
Chief Crown Prosecutor
The Crown Prosecution Service

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

AWARD

FINALIST



HANIYA AADAM
Green Lane Masjid & Community
Centre



CHARLIE MCNEIL
The Active Wellbeing Society



DAWN EDWARDS
Erdington Litter Busters



ANES CERIC
Bosnia Herzegovina UK Network



CENTRAL HEALTH SOLUTIONS
(VACCINATION TEAM)

2ND RUNNER UP



ANES CERIC

Bosnia Herzegovina UK
Network

For twenty years of work with Midlands Bosnian Refugee community activities, managing a 24-hour helpline, organising events, supporting families in Bosnia, and extending aid to Syrian and Ukrainian refugees.

Award Presented by:
Siobhan Blake
Chief Crown Prosecutor
The Crown Prosecution Service

1ST RUNNER UP



CHARLIE MCNEIL

The Active Wellbeing Society

For organising a successful fencing outreach event at Ladywood Sports Centre in January 2024, drawing attendees from Surrey and showcasing her commitment to inclusion and diversity.

Award Presented by:

Siobhan Blake

Chief Crown Prosecutor

The Crown Prosecution Service

WINNER



DAWN EDWARDS

Erdington Litter Busters

For founding Erdington Litter Busters in 2018 to improve local cleanliness and greenery, leading the 'Adopt a Street' initiative with 189 members, transforming spaces, and fostering community connections.

Award Presented by:

Siobhan Blake

Chief Crown Prosecutor

The Crown Prosecution Service

ENVIRONMENT CHAMPION AWARD FINALIST



JOHN ELLIS
Canal and River Trust



ST GILES PANTRY COVENTRY
St Giles Trust



EASTMIDLANDS
FREEWHEELERS



SOHO ROAD BID CIC



HERITAGE SEED GUARDIANS
Garden Organic's Heritage Seed
Library

2ND RUNNER UP



SOHO ROAD BID CIC

For boosting its high street by offering 24/7 security, organising events, reducing anti-social behaviour, creating green spaces, and providing outreach support, serving as a vital resource hub for businesses and residents.

Award Presented by:
Pat Carvalho
Principal & Chief Executive Officer
Birmingham MET

1ST RUNNER UP



ST GILES PANTRY COVENTRY St Giles Trust

For addressing food poverty and social isolation by offering weekly fresh produce, support with debt and health issues, and connections to essential services, assisting 144 new cases over the past year.

Award Presented by:
Pat Carlvalho
Principal & Chief Executive Officer
Birmingham MET

WINNER



HERITAGE SEED GUARDIANS Garden Organic's Heritage Seed Library

For conserving rare vegetable varieties by growing, saving, and returning seeds, producing about half of the seeds needed for conservation each year and supporting biodiversity.

Award Presented by:
Pat Carvalho
Principal & Chief Executive Officer
Birmingham MET

SPORTS AWARD FINALIST



JEEVAN CHAGGER

Evolve and City of Birmingham Hockey Club



SPECIAL OLYMPICS SANDWELL



WARWICKSHIRE CRICKET
FOUNDATION



SAHELI HUB



MOHAMMED ABDUL HAI
Bright Future Association

2ND RUNNER UP



WARWICKSHIRE CRICKET FOUNDATION

For promoting cricket as an inclusive sport, managing Edgbaston Stadium's community activities, outreach for the club's EDI plan, funded by various charities and partnerships.

Award Presented by:
Paulette Hamilton
MP Birmingham, Erdington

1ST RUNNER UP



MOHAMMED ABDUL HAI
Bright Future Association

For demonstrating unwavering commitment to young players' holistic development, instilling life skills and a passion for the game through Saturday morning sessions, impacting skills, integrity, and community cohesion.

Award Presented by:
Paulette Hamilton
MP Birmingham, Erdington

WINNER



SAHELI HUB

For organising the TRY-ATHON! event, which showcased women of all backgrounds, boosted their confidence and enjoyment, and fostered an inclusive environment for future physical activity.

Award Presented by:
Paulette Hamilton
MP Birmingham, Erdington



VOLUNTEER AWARD FINALIST



PHIL RUSSELL



EMILY MAHER-BUTLER



SABRINA FFRENCH
NHS



KENNETH THOMAS HYDE
Special Olympics Sandwell



ALVINA ALI AND SECRET
ANGELS VOLUNTEERS
Secret Angels

2ND RUNNER UP



KENNETH THOMAS HYDE
Special Olympics Sandwell

For being a dedicated volunteer at Special Olympics Sandwell, supporting athletes with intellectual disabilities through positive engagement, administrative duties, and encouragement, significantly enhancing their experience and impact.

Award Presented by:
Shokat Lal
Chief Executive
Sandwell City Council

1ST RUNNER UP



SABRINA FFRENCH
NHS

For being a nurse who supports patient care and fundraising, volunteers for nursing charities, serves as a public governor, and addressing food waste as a charity trustee, significantly benefiting her patients and community.

Award Presented by:
Shokat Lal
Chief Executive
Sandwell City Council

WINNER



ALVINA ALI AND SECRET ANGELS VOLUNTEERS Secret Angels

For leading an impactful initiative in Wolverhampton since 2021, including a food bank, digital inclusion programme, and befriending scheme, addressing key community needs and enhancing well-being.

Award Presented by:
Shokat Lal
Chief Executive
Sandwell City Council

GOOD NEIGHBOUR AWARD

FINALIST



VILLA CROSS SOUP KITCHEN



HOPE COMMUNITY PROJECT
(WOLVERHAMPTON)



WALSALL OUTREACH



BEATRIC IMIELSKA
Inclusive Life Projects



JILL FRASER
Kissing it Better

2ND RUNNER UP



VILLA CROSS SOUP KITCHEN

For serving the local community for 10 years, offering a safe space with diverse services, partnering with local organisations, and continuing support through the pandemic, earning recognition for its positive impact and contribution to the community.

Award Presented by:
Chris Payne
Assistant Chief Executive
West Midlands Fire Service

1ST RUNNER UP



JILL FRASER
Kissing it Better

For leading the charity since 2012 in creating imaginative healthcare projects, fostering intergenerational connections, and adapting to challenges like the pandemic, significantly impacting awareness, behaviours, and community support for isolated older individuals across Birmingham, the West Midlands, and beyond.

Award Presented by:
Chris Payne
Assistant Chief Executive
West Midlands Fire Service

WINNER



BEATRIC IMIELSKA Inclusive Life Projects

For being a dedicated carer who advocates for underserved communities, playing a crucial role during the pandemic in reducing health inequalities, supporting NHS engagement, and promoting community equity in Birmingham.

Award Presented by:
Chris Payne
Assistant Chief Executive
West Midlands Fire Service

PUBLIC SERVICES AWARD CATEGORY



PUBLIC SERVICES AWARD FINALIST



A BETTER TOMORROW



ANDY BROWN
Oasis Community Hub



RUTH FORECAST
Malvern Welcomes



WELLBEING OUTCOMES
FRAMEWORK PROJECT TEAM



CAROLINE PHANSI
Contento Social Homes

2ND RUNNER UP



A BETTER TOMORROW

For empowering adults facing challenges through tailored support programmes, including abstinence and skill-building, with a notable impact and recognition from Telford and Wrekin Council for its contribution to public awareness and plans for expansion.

Award Presented by:
Mike O'Hara
Assistant Chief Constable
West Midlands Police

1ST RUNNER UP



RUTH FORECAST Malvern Welcomes

For being a driving force behind Malvern Welcomes, coordinating support for families through Government and Local Authority schemes, leading a team of volunteers, and managing a range of services from education to fundraising, all whilst maintaining a high level of dedication and support.

Award Presented by:
Mike O'Hara
Assistant Chief Constable
West Midlands Police

WINNER



CAROLINE PHANSI Contento Social Homes

For significantly supporting domestic abuse survivors in the West Midlands by providing 30 safe houses for over 99 women and children, offering life skills and confidence-building sessions, and fostering empowerment and community awareness on domestic violence.

Award Presented by:
Mike O'Hara
Assistant Chief Constable
West Midlands Police

COMMUNITY REASSURANCE AWARD FINALIST



DR MD ARAFATUR RAHMAN
University of Wolverhampton



JESS ALLAN
Northfield Community Partnership



LAURA BAILEY
Bailey Bears Sensory Den CIC



BLACK COUNTRY ICB
COMMUNICATIONS TEAM
Black Country ICB



INSPECTOR HANIF ULLAH
West Midlands Police

2ND RUNNER UP



JESS ALLAN
Northfield Community
Partnership

For effectively delivering the Neighbourhood Network for Northfield Constituency, connecting local residents with support services, promoting independence, and enhancing community engagement reassurance through various initiatives and grant programmes.

Award Presented by:
Simon Foster
West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner

1ST RUNNER UP



DR MD ARAFATUR RAHMAN
University of Wolverhampton

For being a globally recognised academic leader in Cyber Security, IoT, and Wireless Communication, has significantly impacted academia, research, and industry through his extensive teaching, over 150 publications, and his roles in shaping innovative technological solutions and mentoring future researchers.

Award Presented by:
Simon Foster

West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner

WINNER



INSPECTOR HANIF ULLAH West Midlands Police

For making a lasting impact through his strong community engagement, significant crime reduction efforts, and recognition with multiple awards, now training new recruits as an Inspector.

Award Presented by:
Simon Foster

West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner

HEALTH & WELLBEING AWARD FINALIST



MELODY BRIDGES
Birmingham and Solihull ICB



BLACK COUNTRY ICB CANCER
TEAM
Black Country Integrated Care Board



COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS
Birmingham Community Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust



VISION FOR ALL



LESLEY THORPE AND
KASSANDRA STYCHE
Black Country Integrated Care Board

2ND RUNNER UP



VISION FOR ALL

For significantly impacting the community by creating inclusive spaces and offering diverse services, including warm spaces, sports sessions, outreach, food banks, and mentoring, to promote behavioural change, safety, and positive youth development.

Award Presented by:
Richard Kirby
Chief Executive

Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

1ST RUNNER UP



MELODY BRIDGES
Birmingham and Solihull ICB

For tackling cancer delivery and screening in Birmingham and Solihull with innovative approaches, inspiring teams and improving outcomes despite limited resources, thereby addressing health inequalities and enhancing cancer diagnosis and screening.

Award Presented by:
Richard Kirby
Chief Executive

Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

WINNER



COMMUNITY CONNEXIONS Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

For adapting healthcare services to local needs by engaging approximately 400 participants through collaborative projects and community consultations to tackle health inequalities and improve outcomes.

Award Presented by:
Richard Kirby
Chief Executive

Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust



EDUCATION SERVICES AWARD FINALIST



GINA GODWIN
Wise Owls Nursery



LISA WOOTTON AND NATALIE
SMITH
Send Socials Birmingham CIC



ZOE BENNETT
Training Personified Ltd



CHARLOTTE MAHER-BUTLER
& HAYLEY TURNER
All Stars Senior Group



NIMO HIRSI
SOS Education

2ND RUNNER UP



ZOE BENNETT
Training Personified Ltd

For significantly impacting the region by securing training contracts, organising awards events, and delivering a nine-month NatWest programme, providing education and support that has led to job placements, recognition, and business development for hundreds of disadvantaged individuals.

Award Presented by:
Pat Carvalho
Principal & Chief Executive Officer
Birmingham MET

1ST RUNNER UP



NIMO HIRSI
SOS Education

For fostering collaboration with the TUC and SOS Education to enhance learning and well-being among Somali and Sudanese communities in Birmingham, organised educational and well-being events, produced a film on mental health and domestic abuse, and improving community engagement and relations.

Award Presented by:
Pat Carvalho
Principal & Chief Executive Officer
Birmingham MET

WINNER



CHARLOTTE MAHER-BUTLER & HAYLEY TURNER All Stars Senior Group

For establishing All Stars Youth Club for children with SEND and later founding All Stars Senior Group in December 2023, offering regular social events and activities for adults with SEND, significantly enhancing their socialisation opportunities.

Award Presented by:
Pat Carvalho
Principal & Chief Executive Officer
Birmingham MET

BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE AWARD FINALIST



FREE YOUR MIND CIC



LAURA BAILEY
Bailey Bears Sensory Den CIC



SEVEN STARS EVENT LTD



THIA CIC



SUSAN EVANS
Manor Farm Community Association

2ND RUNNER UP



SEVEN STARS EVENT LTD

For providing excellence in food quality and raising the standards in the catering industry by providing a seven star service to the community along with ensuring no food is wasted through their highly successful event food distribution scheme to the homeless and needy, providing food fit for a king to thousands of poor families throughout the year.

Award Presented by:
Shokat Lal
Chief Executive
Sandwell Council

1ST RUNNER UP



SUSAN EVANS
Manor Farm Community
Association

For leading impactful projects, securing vital funding, and enhancing community support, earning national recognition while promoting inclusion, compassion, and sustainability.

Award Presented by:
Shokat Lal
Chief Executive
Sandwell Council

WINNER



THIA CIC

For playing a pivotal role in the BBM project as a cancer champion, raising awareness and fostering collaboration among seven organisations to address health inequities within Black African and Caribbean communities.

Award Presented by:
Shokat Lal
Chief Executive
Sandwell Council

COMMUNITY ORGANISATION AWARD FINALIST



HALESOWEN/DUDLEY
YEMENI COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION



NATALIE CHARLOTTE DETNON
Turn Around Toys Bexley



USMAN MASOON
Birmingham Tours CIC



NECHELLS POD
SHINE@NechellsPOD



YMCA SUTTON COLDFIELD

2ND RUNNER UP



HALESOWEN/DUDLEY YEMENI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

For being a well-established charity since 1994, that passionately serves and unites the community by providing diverse services, fostering partnerships, and supporting inclusivity, earning prestigious awards and significant funding to continue its impactful work.

Award Presented by:
Sir Derrick Anderson OBE
His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant
West Midlands

1ST RUNNER UP



YMCA SUTTON COLDFIELD

For supporting 800 children, young people, and disabled individuals annually, securing funding for a youth-led podcast, establishing a new youth club, and assisting 150 hidden young carers, with their impactful work featured on The One Show.

Award Presented by:
Sir Derrick Anderson OBE
His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant
West Midlands

WINNER



NECHELLS POD SHINE@NechellsPOD

For being a vital community hub in one of Birmingham's most disadvantaged areas, fostering inclusivity and cohesion through diverse events and activities that celebrate cultural diversity, promote respect, and have contributed to reduced extremism concerns.

Award Presented by:
Sir Derrick Anderson OBE
His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant
West Midlands





Comments

“Congratulations on the excellent Community Inspiration Awards event last night. My colleague, Jane, and I found it really inspiring and moving. It was wonderful to meet so many people who put so much creativity and generosity into improving the lives of other people.

*The organisation was impeccable and we are well aware of how much planning goes in to creating an event which runs so smoothly.
Thank you!”*

Ruth Forecast | Malvern Welcomes

*“We would like to express our gratitude and wish you every success.
Thank you for inviting us and a big thanks for nominating us, the event was
amazing and organised beautifully.
Thank you for your good efforts, we are very proud to have won the award.
To all communities across the UK congratulations and to you all for hosting
this great event.”*

Halesowen/ Dudley Yemeni Community Association

*“A big thank you for all your hard work to make Friday’s event such an enjoyable evening.
We had a fantastic time, and it was great to see and meet so many other organisations doing amazing work in the community. Please pass on our thanks to all those involved.”*

Catrina Fenton | Head of the Heritage Seed Library



VIP APOLOGIES

The following award presenters were unable to attend due to other pressing engagements and have asked us to pass on their congratulations to all finalists.

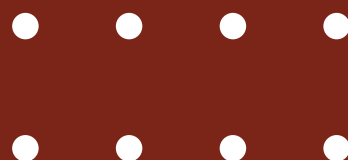
- Richard Parker, Mayor, West Midlands Combined Authority
- Shabana Mahmood MP, Member of Parliament for Birmingham Ladywood
- Mary Creagh MP CBE, Member of Parliament for Coventry East
- Jess Phillips, MP for Birmingham Yardley
- Liam Byrne MP Member of Parliament for Birmingham Hodge Hill and Solihull North
- The Lord Hodgson of Astley Abbotts CBE
- RT Hon Lord Hunt of Kings Heath PC OBE
- Councillor John Cotton, Leader, Birmingham City Council
- Councillor Ian Courts, Leader, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
- Councillor George Duggins, Leader, Coventry City Council
- Kevin O Keefe, Chief Executive, Dudley Council
- Emma Bennett, Chief Executive, Walsall Council
- Tim Johnson, Chief Executive, City of Wolverhampton Council
- Paul Johnson, Chief Executive, Solihull MBC
- Michael Harkin Vice Chancellor, University College Birmingham
- Professor Aleks Subic, Vice-Chancellor & Chief Executive, Aston University
- Sir David Nicholson KCB CBE, Chairman, The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust
- Councillor Majid Mahmood, Cabinet Lead Transport & Environment, BCC



Thank You

It was great to see so many people at the 12th Community Inspiration Awards ceremony and to be in the presence of wonderful people who have done truly amazing things.

We look forward to hosting next year's Community Inspiration Awards!



SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS



West Midlands
Combined Authority



Sandwell
Metropolitan Borough Council



Birmingham
City Council

Dudley
Metropolitan Borough Council



WMFS
West Midlands
Fire Service



BMet
Inspiring futures, realising dreams.



Birmingham
Community Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust



SOUTH & CITY COLLEGE
BIRMINGHAM

