

Specialist victim support as best practice reassurance for communities vulnerable to hate

Temba Mahari, Head of Services



SARI

- Set up by and for victims of racial harassment in 1988 – Stand Against Racist Incidents
- Since 2013 covering all hate crime and all protected characteristics – Stand Against Racism & Inequality
- Bristol, South Gloucestershire, North Somerset, Somerset and B&NES
- BHC&DS – Bristol Mind / Brandon Trust / Resolve West / OTR / Law Centre



What do we do?

Casework

Training and Education

Equality and diversity consultancy

Working in partnership to monitor
community tensions





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REPORT A HATE CRIME

STAND AGAINST RACISM & INEQUALITY



REPORT A HATE CRIME

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How the police and local authorities can reassure communities vulnerable to hate

- Working with a 'critical friend' builds trust in the police and other statutory agencies
- Listening to and believing victims reassures communities that hate is not accepted
- The impact of victim support



Barton-hill Activity Club C.I.C

@samirabhac · Follow



BartonHill residents woke up 2 this yesterday morning, it's a very shocking to see this kind of hate crime and racism in 2022. The residents in Eccleston House keep calling me asking if this is related to the fire that happened last month? @AandSPCC @SARIcharity @BristolCouncil



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Engaging with third sector 'critical friends'

- Meeting the needs of victims better
- Supporting the relationship between the police and the victim/community
- Incrementally tackling systemic barriers to justice e.g. through cultural competence training in all strands
- Accountability

Thank you for making the Council listen to me

Client#233-202/2021

My younger son experienced racism from police and the police were not very helpful and did not seem to take me seriously, until Bill took up the case. A really good case of restorative justice happened and my son is no longer scared of police.

Client #251-2020/2021



Listening to and believing victims

- Empowering and supporting with reporting and demanding a response
- Facilitating communication
- Taking practical considerations seriously

The most important thing for me was to be able to talk to someone who got it.

Client #189 - 2020/2021

Thank you for your advice and help with my case. I had never been in this situation before and being in a foreign country makes things more difficult.

Client #241-2020/2021

As a black person there is a lot of prejudice and all these micro-aggressions you experience everyday. Knowing that there is service like SARI is really helpful and I feel happier that SARI is there.

Client #009-2021/2022



Impact: housing, employment and health

I was confused and didn't know what to do, SARI saved me. Without the support that Y gave me, I wouldn't have a house or be working. Y encouraged me and showed me that I have rights. I'm so glad SARI exist. My mental health is better and it's because of the support that Y gave me.

Client#287-2020/2021



Impact: education and family

All it took was one email from SARI to get the school to pay attention and take the issue seriously... Within a day of the first contact we had with her she had arranged a meeting with the school for us and she represented my son so well in that meeting. She reminded the school of their policies and what they were doing to my son wasn't very inclusive.

Client#073-2021/2022



Impact: transport and community

S had put me back on track. Bought back my confidence to walk here and there again. The thought that there are organisations out there that care, understanding and willing to help. Thank you so much for the empathy, sympathy and wider outlook into human race and their mentalities.

Client#367-2020/2021



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