

# Putting equality and human rights at the heart of your work

## Sources of further support

This page lists resources you can turn to for further support on equality and human rights. For an electronic copy please email [barbara@rota.org.uk](mailto:barbara@rota.org.uk).

### Publications and web-resources

The Olmec guide, '**Equality and Diversity in the Third Sector**', acts as a really useful reference guide, including probably the most comprehensive list of available resources relating to equality and human rights in the voluntary and community sector (VCS). It also provides a good introduction to the current external environment and to what you need to be thinking about in taking steps to strengthen your organisation's equality and human rights practices. It is available at:

[http://89.234.34.106/presentationolmec/documents/website/Publications/Small\\_Guide\\_to\\_Equality\\_a\\_Third\\_Sector.pdf](http://89.234.34.106/presentationolmec/documents/website/Publications/Small_Guide_to_Equality_a_Third_Sector.pdf). It was produced last year and includes limited information about the Single Equality Bill, but there are plans to update it soon.

Big Lottery's '**Equality Matters – a good practice guide for small to medium sized voluntary or community sector organisations**' helps organisations think about equality issues and incorporate them into the planning of their projects. While it is targeted at potential applications to Big Lottery's funds, it would be useful for any VCS organisation seeking to improve its equalities practices. It is available at [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/equality\\_matters.pdf](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/equality_matters.pdf)

The British Institute of Human Rights publication, '**The Human Rights Act – Changing Lives**', considers how VCS organisations can use the Human Rights Act to address inequality and poor treatment. It also gives 31 varied and illustrative case studies and is available at [www.bih.org.uk/sites/default/files/BIHR%20Changing%20Lives%20FINAL\\_0.pdf](http://www.bih.org.uk/sites/default/files/BIHR%20Changing%20Lives%20FINAL_0.pdf)

Stonewall's short guide '**What's it got to do with you: 10 reasons why you should fill in the funny box things at the end of those forms**' helps employers and service providers explain to their staff and service users why monitoring information is being collected. 'What's it got to do with you?' explains why a range of data – such as age, gender, sexual orientation and belief – may now be requested, and what the benefit is. It is available at [http://www.stonewall.org.uk/media/current\\_releases/3491.asp](http://www.stonewall.org.uk/media/current_releases/3491.asp).

### To find out more about equality organisations in the VCS

The National Equality Partnership's publication, '**Supporting equality groups**', gives a good overview of the different equality VCSs (e.g. the Black and minority ethnic VCS, the women's VCS) in England, the type of work they typically do, their support needs, the challenges they face, and so on. Each section is introduced with illuminating facts and figures about the inequality specific to the 'equality area' being considered. It is available at [www.wrc.org.uk/includes/documents/cm\\_docs/2008/s/supporting\\_equality\\_groups\\_nep\\_august\\_2008.pdf](http://www.wrc.org.uk/includes/documents/cm_docs/2008/s/supporting_equality_groups_nep_august_2008.pdf).

HEAR's '**Gaps and Solutions: Supporting London's equalities sectors**' report, which covers the same areas as the above NEP report, but which includes information specific to London. It is available at [www.rota.org.uk/downloads/Gaps%20&%20Solutions.pdf](http://www.rota.org.uk/downloads/Gaps%20&%20Solutions.pdf).

**REAP's online directory of resources** relating to equality and diversity in the VCS. It is available at <http://www.reap.org.uk/lib/>.

## Organisations and services

**HEAR** is London's only regional pan-equalities and human rights VCS network. HEAR aims to place equality and human rights issues at the heart of the work of London's VCS. It does this by acting as a pan-equalities voice and source of knowledge and expertise on issues impacting on the VCS. HEAR provides a range of services and will respond to any queries you have about both external and internal equality and human rights issues. HEAR's membership includes organisations with specialist expertise in particular equality areas, which HEAR will refer you on to for more specialist expertise as appropriate. To find out more visit [www.rota.org.uk/pages/HEAR.aspx](http://www.rota.org.uk/pages/HEAR.aspx) or contact Barbara Nea at [barbara@rota.org.uk](mailto:barbara@rota.org.uk) or 020 7902 1177.

**NEP** provides a range of practical toolkits, training and resources relating to external and internal equality and human rights issues. It has also just launched an e-bulletin. To find out more visit [www.wrc.org.uk/what\\_we\\_do/our\\_projects/national\\_equality\\_partnership.aspx](http://www.wrc.org.uk/what_we_do/our_projects/national_equality_partnership.aspx).

**The British Institute of Human Rights** provides a range of services, including publications, events and training, aimed at supporting organisations and people to use human rights based approaches to address inequality and poor treatment. To find out more visit [www.bih.org.uk](http://www.bih.org.uk).

**Equality and Human Rights Commission** has a range of useful resources on its website. Of particular relevance to this event are its 'advice and guidance' webpages at [www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/). These pages provide advice and guidance to employers and service providers. They explain what is meant by service providers, outline their areas of responsibility and indicate some of the actions that service providers can do to promote equality of opportunity and to tackle discrimination.

Race on the Agenda (ROTA) provide a range of useful products and services, but of particular relevance to this event is the **Winning the Race Coalition** which it leads. This Coalition is working to influence the Single Equality Bill and raise awareness amongst the VCS about it. To find out more about the Coalition visit the 'what's new' pages of ROTA's website at [www.rota.org.uk](http://www.rota.org.uk) for the latest update. Alternatively contact Pavan Dhaliwal on 020 7902 1177 or email [pavan@rota.org.uk](mailto:pavan@rota.org.uk) for information, including details of how to join the Coalition.

