

The Equality and Diversity Forum

The Equality and Diversity Forum (EDF) is the network of national non-governmental organisations committed to equal opportunities, good community relations, respect for human rights and an end to discrimination. Our vision is of a society where everyone can fulfil their potential and make their distinct contribution; a society where diversity is celebrated, people can express their identities free from the threat of violence and everyone is treated with dignity and respect; a society where your chance to flourish is not limited by who you are or where you come from.

To help achieve this vision we have three strategic goals:

1. To build the capability of the voluntary and community sector to advance equality and human rights.
2. To help make a reality of equality and human rights by informing policy and practice.
3. To build support for equality and human rights by influencing public debate.

Our work centres on monthly meetings, open to the whole network, which combine presentations, debate, information sharing and agreement on policy positions. EDF works with public bodies, the private sector, think tanks, academics and lawyers and acts as a 'critical friend' to the Government Equalities Office, the human rights team at the Ministry of Justice and the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

EDF's core activities

Our main activities are:

- an acclaimed fortnightly Newsletter;
- a unique information bank of equality and human rights resources which has more than 60,000 visits each month; the information bank provides users with resources that enable them to better support their clients, to improve their own practice and to influence policy debates;
- the Equally Ours human rights communications hub
- creating and disseminating tools to help organisations integrate equality and human rights into their work, such as our Public Sector Equality Duty toolkit;
- running events to support good practice development:
- co-ordinating the EDF research network;
- policy and influencing work on behalf of members;
- providing the secretariat for the All Party Parliamentary Group on Equalities.

The EDF Newsletter reaches over 4,500 subscribers, providing information about a wide range of policy, legislation, activities, publications, events, vacancies and funding opportunities for organisations and individuals concerned with equality and human rights. To subscribe click on eNewsletter sign up on our home page www.edf.org.uk

The EDF Research Network is a multi-disciplinary equality and human rights network bringing together academics, policy makers, NGOs and funders to inform and improve policy and legislation. The Network has approximately 300 members and associate members. It is a collaborative project supported by leading equality and human rights academics and coordinated by EDF.



- *How to get involved:* If you conduct research on equality, human rights and related subjects or use it in your day to day work please visit www.edfresearch.org.uk/ to join the network.



Equally Ours is a project led by EDF in partnership with other national charities. To show the importance of human rights and how they benefit us all we: share stories of how people have relied on human rights in their everyday lives; work with individuals and organisations to help them tell their own human rights stories; work with the media to provide case studies and spokespeople from our network; and carry out detailed research on public attitudes to human rights. *Help us change the conversation on human rights:*

- Subscribe to our *weekly news round-up* featuring human rights stories in and out of the news. Sign up at www.equally-ours.org.uk/contact/
- See our *case-study bank* that features dozens of stories where human rights have made a difference in people's lives: www.equally-ours.org.uk/stories/
- If you have a story about human rights you'd be willing to share please do get in touch at www.equally-ours.org.uk/resources/share-story/
- Our guide, "*How to talk about human rights*" offers practical advice on what works and what doesn't when talking about human rights. We can also offer your organisation bespoke training sessions on how make human rights relevant and engaging in your work. Contact us via: www.equally-ours.org.uk/contact/

The Equality and Human Rights Framework is a free online tool to help voluntary sector organisations strengthen their work by putting human rights and equality at the heart of what they do. It can help build organisational knowledge, confidence and achievement. The Framework has an easy-to-use modular format, and contains resources, guidance, case studies and information. It covers developing policies; involving people; providing services; employing staff; working with volunteers; campaigning, advocacy and policy work; and funding and finance. The Framework is free to use and is available at www.ehrf.org.uk.



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How to get involved with and support our work: If you would like to find out more about how your organisation can become an EDF member, how to volunteer with us, how to advertise with us or support our work with a donation or sponsorship please go to [www.edf.org.uk /get involved/](http://www.edf.org.uk/get-involved/) or contact info@edf.org.uk.