

# LIVES OF COLOUR<sup>®</sup>



**OUR VISION IS TO  
'CREATE A WORLD OF  
CURIOSITY THAT ALLOWS  
EVERYONE TO LEARN,  
CELEBRATE AND EMBRACE  
OUR DIFFERENCES'.**



## ADVICE, GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT

### Authors of Colour

This scheme takes children, parents and educators on a multi-cultural literary journey. We promote access to books with diverse characters allowing all children - no matter their identity to feel represented.

### Free Legal Advice

We promote access to justice by collaborating with University House London to provide guidance and support in legal issues involving family law, housing, employment, and welfare benefits.

### Schools Charter

We provide guidance to school boards, educators, parents and students on matters relating to race and equity.



## COMMUNITY VOICES

### Black history month

We have been privileged to facilitate the annual celebration of Black History Month in collaboration with Cheltenham Borough Council since October 2014. We aim to empower and educate all on the rich history and culture of ethnically diverse communities within Gloucestershire.

### Podcast network

A safe space is provided for our communities to share their stories of growth and reflect on the resilience they have fostered along their journey. We welcome all experts-by-experience.

### Young, Leading and Black

This initiative aims to inspire, educate and elevate young black individuals to be at the forefront of positive change within their community.



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### Culture Fest

This is vibrant annual summer event that celebrates the diversity and richness of the different cultures through music, Art, Dance, Food, Fashion and traditions. We celebrate openness and respect towards everyone's heritage.

### EDI Training

Improving cultural competence by facilitating training on heuristics and biases for businesses and statutory agencies across Gloucestershire. We aim to promote truly inclusive and safe work environments.

### I-MMIGRATE Exhibition

In a celebration of cultural heritage, this exhibition explores the stories and experiences of immigrants of colour through various artistic mediums. The exhibition showcases the diverse journeys, challenges, and triumphs of individuals, as well as their contributions to society.



## RACIAL JUSTICE AND SYSTEM CHANGE

### Cheltenham Alliance for Race Equity

Bringing together all interested parties to take progressive action in transforming, promoting, advancing and celebrating racial equity and equality for future generations.

### Community Involvement in Strategic Direction

Leveraging our strong connections and relationships within our community has proven to be essential in understanding the unique needs of our community.

### Fabrics of Colour

In a bid to improve economic opportunities and ethnic minority access to the field of fashion, a year-long project in collaboration with Superdry was developed. This provided individuals of all ages with an opportunity to explore culture, history and heritage through the art of textiles.



## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

### Education and Mentorship

Providing a safe space to foster a sense of community and direction in order to provide support in fostering ethnic identity, career ambitions; and build capacity for reciprocal mentorship programs during apprenticeships/work experience.

### Research into Racial Inequality within Mental Health

Diverse communities appear to have additional barriers in accessing healthcare and maintaining their recovery. This ongoing project will identify where the existing gaps lie within the various mental healthcare systems and inform the development of future programs to address this.

### Swimmers of Colours

The projects seeks to address disparities in access to swimming and water related activities amongst communities of colour. This improves physical health and psychological wellbeing.

## COLLABORATION:

Working in partnership with members of the community, statutory agencies and businesses is vital in achieving an equitable future. Our collaborations have provided opportunities for mutual and reciprocal growth for all parties involved.

We are proud to have notable partners including Active Gloucestershire, SoulCap, Spirax Sarco, Sport England, Superdry, Swim Design Space, etc. Together, we have successfully achieved great milestones in various programs and events such as Culture Fest, Fabrics of Colour and Swimmers of Colour.

## RESEARCH AND CURIOSITY:

We value continuous learning and improvements as these provide key data that informs how we refine our programmes and strategies. To maximize our impact, we have established a research department which is responsible for collaborating with a wide range of academic, governance and healthcare institutions. The department is keen to engage the community and bring their voices to these strategic discussions.

## CO-PRODUCTION:

'Change for the people, by the people' is at the heart of all we do. As we provide a safe environment for growth, we want to empower the community to engage and participate in securing a future where our generations will feel seen and heard. Our programs reaffirm that the stories our communities hold in their souls and backbones are valid and welcome. We hope that you will join us in honouring these experiences.

## INFLUENCE AND CHANGE:

Awareness. Acceptance. Adaptation. Those are the steps that guide all our work, and we're not skipping any of them. Just as we are open to having discussions about issues and barriers within our communities, we also want to hear about our strengths and achievements. That way, we will work together to develop programs that bring about change and celebrate your progress and successes. Work with us to be the change that you want to see.

[www.livesofcolour.co.uk](http://www.livesofcolour.co.uk)



**PLEASE SCAN TO SIGN UP TO OUR NEWSLETTER**

**OUR MISSION IS TO ELEVATE THE VOICES OF ETHNICALLY AND CULTURALLY DIVERSE COMMUNITIES THROUGH EDUCATION, EVENTS, AND TRAINING WITH A FOCUS ON CREATING EQUITABLE FUTURES IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE**