

Funder Partnership Pack

1. Executive Summary

Afro Innovation Group (AIG) is a community-rooted organisation delivering person-centred support to migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and wider BAME communities across Leicester and Leicestershire.

We work at the intersection of crisis prevention, safeguarding, systems navigation and policy reform.

Our model combines:

- Structured triage and casework
- Safeguarding-led intervention
- Advocacy and systems navigation
- Warm referrals into regulated specialist provision
- Research-informed policy and systems influence

We support individuals and families facing overlapping disadvantages, including housing instability, welfare barriers, safeguarding risks, health inequalities, professional exclusion and digital access challenges.

2. The Need

Across Leicester and Leicestershire, we regularly see:

- Newly recognised refugees facing homelessness due to move-on pressures
- Survivors of abuse navigating unsafe housing or immigration-linked vulnerability
- Highly qualified professionals unable to practise due to non-recognition of overseas qualifications
- Individuals excluded by digital-only systems
- Families experiencing mental health pressures linked to trauma and isolation
- Young people disengaging due to structural barriers

These are rarely isolated issues. Most individuals experience multiple, intersecting challenges.

Without coordinated, culturally competent and safeguarding-aware intervention, risks escalate.

3. Our Model of Support

A Structured 3-Step Pathway

1. Triage & Risk Assessment

We assess urgency, safeguarding risk, location and complexity.

2. Casework & Advocacy

We provide structured problem-solving, advocacy and practical navigation support.

3. Safe Referral & Ongoing Support

Where specialist intervention is required, we coordinate trusted referral routes and follow up where risk remains.

Urgent safeguarding concerns are prioritised.

4. Our Programme Areas

Advice & Casework

We provide practical guidance, advocacy and structured one-to-one support to address urgent barriers.

Outcomes:

- Reduced crisis escalation
 - Increased system navigation confidence
 - Improved access to appropriate services
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Housing & Homelessness Prevention

We support individuals who are homeless, at risk of eviction or leaving asylum accommodation.

Outcomes:

- Reduced homelessness risk
 - Safer accommodation secured
 - Improved engagement with housing systems
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Welfare & Financial Stability

We help individuals understand entitlements, manage documentation, and reduce misinformation-related harm.

Outcomes:

- Increased benefit stability
 - Reduced financial crisis
 - Improved compliance and understanding
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Health, Wellbeing & Mental Health

We support access to healthcare and culturally competent wellbeing pathways, particularly where trauma and isolation are factors.

Outcomes:

- Increased healthcare engagement
 - Earlier mental health referrals
 - Reduced isolation
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Women, Safeguarding & Domestic Abuse

We provide safe triage, risk awareness and referral coordination for women and families experiencing abuse or safeguarding concerns.

Outcomes:

- Increased access to safety planning
 - Safer housing outcomes
 - Reduced safeguarding escalation
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Employment, Skills & Digital Inclusion

We support professional recognition pathways, job-readiness, volunteering and digital skills development.

Outcomes:

- Improved employment readiness
 - Increased progression into training or volunteering
 - Reduced professional exclusion
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Youth & Families

We support young people and families to reduce isolation and strengthen safe progression routes.

Outcomes:

- Improved education engagement
 - Increased youth confidence
 - Structured pathways into volunteering or learning
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Community Inclusion & Volunteering

We strengthen belonging through volunteering, peer support and cross-cultural community initiatives.

Outcomes:

- Reduced isolation
 - Increased civic participation
 - Strengthened social cohesion
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5. Advocacy & Policy

We translate lived experience into policy change.

Our advocacy work includes:

- Policy briefings
- Consultation responses
- Written evidence submissions
- Research partnerships

- Co-produced system recommendations

We collaborate with universities, NHS bodies, civil society partners and policymakers to ensure frontline insight informs structural reform.

6. Safeguarding & Governance

We operate with:

- Formal safeguarding policies and procedures
- Risk-aware triage embedded across all services
- GDPR-compliant data protection processes
- Structured case recording and monitoring
- Clear referral thresholds
- Active board oversight

Safeguarding is integrated into every programme area.

7. Why Fund Afro Innovation Group?

Funding AIG enables:

- Early intervention before crisis escalation
- Safe and structured support for high-risk cases
- Culturally competent and trust-based access
- Improved system coordination across agencies
- Evidence-informed advocacy that strengthens policy design

We are both a frontline delivery organisation and a systems connector.

Flexible and core funding strengthens safeguarding capacity, casework resilience and long-term impact.

8. Partnership Opportunities

Funders can:

- Support a specific service area
- Invest in core organisational capacity

- Fund safeguarding infrastructure
- Partner on pilot initiatives
- Support advocacy-to-impact work
- Co-design community-led programmes

We welcome collaborative, trust-based partnerships aligned with equity, inclusion and measurable social development.

9. Contact

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