

Support available from the Women's Resource Centre for women's third sector organisations

The [Women's Resource Centre](#) (WRC) is a charity which supports women's organisations to be more effective and sustainable. We provide training, information, resources and one-to-one support on a range of organisational development issues. We also lobby decision makers on behalf of the women's not-for-profit sector for improved representation and funding.

Our members work in a wide range of fields including health, violence against women, employment, education, rights and equality, the criminal justice system and the environment. They deliver services to and campaign on behalf of some of the most marginalised communities of women.

There are over ten thousand people working or volunteering for our members who support almost half a million individuals each year.

Although our main purpose is to support women's organisations (from small and informal groups to large, registered charities) and projects to be more effective and sustainable, we also support WRC members who are non-women's organisations as well.

How can we help?

○ Briefings and information about important third sector policy issues

WRC provides [accessible information](#) on a range of policy issues impacting on women's organisations, from key third sector issues such as Local Area Agreements and London Councils funding, to legislation affecting women's equality like the Gender Equality Duty and Single Equality Bill.

○ **'Voice' for women's organisations**

WRC is the leading organisation supporting the women's third sector in London. We have undertaken most of the [research](#) available on the women's sector and proactively engage women's organisations in key third sector issues, such as commissioning and procurement.

We provide [policy voice](#) and [advocacy](#) for women's organisations in third sector policy consultations, and work closely with [other second-tier and infrastructure organisations](#) to ensure the needs, aspirations and experiences of the women's third sector are voiced.

We also run the '[why women?](#)' campaign (promoting the value of women's organisations) and support the '[Crisis in Rape Crisis](#)' and '[Abolish No Recourse to Public Funds](#)' campaigns.

○ **Resources**

In our 2009 membership survey, our members told us that they wanted clear, accessible and step-by-step [resources](#) on a range of issues. We are developing resources to help organisations with their internal development and at influencing policy.

We also produce [resources for public bodies](#) on [Gender Equality Schemes](#) and other issues.

○ **Research**

WRC is working on a number of [research](#) projects that will be of interest to women's organisations and public bodies alike including evaluating the [Social Investment on Return](#) (economic impact) of women's organisations and assessing how women's organisations can best support women and girls who are [gang-affected](#).

As part of our '[why women?](#)' campaign, we have produced a number of research reports about the women's third sector.

○ **Training**

We offer [training](#) on a range of organisational development issues including engaging the media, [understanding public law](#), fundraising, [commissioning and procurement](#), [social enterprise](#), monitoring and evaluation, developing effective partnerships and strategic planning.

With the [Women and Girls' Network](#), we offer [accredited training](#) for frontline workers in violence against women (VAW) organisations as part of our '[Sharing Our Strengths](#)' programme. The training and accreditation is free for VAW organisations funded by [London Councils](#).

In 2010, we will be adding many more topics to our training calendar including realising equalities and understanding how to effectively influence policy.

● **Events**

We hold [events](#) on a range of issues of importance to women's organisations, such as policy consultation events, skills and information sharing sessions, and events aimed at encouraging effective partnerships.

We also hold [events aimed at bringing public bodies and women's organisations together](#) to discuss key issues such as violence against women.

Our borough based [funding seminars](#) bring local commissioners together with women's organisations.

● **One-to-one support**

We provide ongoing support that is tailored to an organisation's specific needs. Through our '[Making Waves](#)' programme, we support organisations to become more involved in influencing local decision-making, fundraising, using social media, developing robust internal policies and many other issues. If we can't support an organisation with their particular issue, we will always try and find someone that can.

We also offer support to women's organisations to form networks and forums and work together to tackle key policy issues in their local areas through our '[Stronger Together](#)' programme.

Want to get in touch?

We are constantly updating our events and introducing new projects and services, so the best way for us to keep people up-to-date is if they:

- Become a [WRC member](#) (fees range from £5 to £30 per annum)
- Check out our [website](#), which is constantly updated
- Sign-up to our fortnightly [enews](#)
- Follow us on [Twitter](#), join our on-line 'Women's Café', become a WRC fan on [Facebook](#), or check us out on [Flickr](#) and [YouTube](#).

Details are all available on our website, www.wrc.org.uk.

Otherwise, we can be contacted by email info@wrc.org.uk or phone 020 7324 3030.