

# MOTHERS 4 JUSTICE UBUNTU ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## Achievements in 2021

# SUMMARY

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**Our first year has been a rollercoaster in which we have overcome great challenges in what has been another tough year for so many in our community, and particularly for those going through the criminal justice system and their loved ones.**



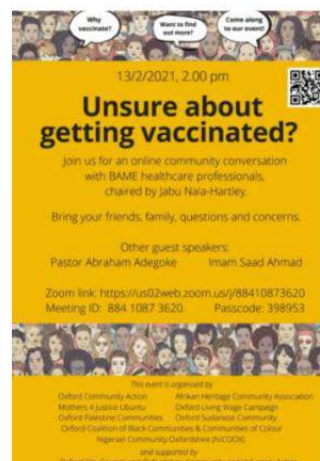
**We are so proud and grateful to have formally launched our organisation, delivered our first training course, run a programme of community conversations and collaborated with organisations across Oxford to support, organise, defend and empower our communities.**

**We have many fights ahead of us, but thanks to the hard work of so many of you we already have a lot to celebrate. Here's a look at some of the things we've achieved together this year:**



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**We also collaborated with various key services and organisations including: Oxford Coalition of Black Communities and Communities of Colour; Oxford Unity; Asylum Welcome; Makespace; Aspire; Common Ground; Oxford Community Action foodbank. We held regular stalls at the future planning community space in Cowley Centre, and were visible at many of the Black Lives Matter and trade union events and rallies across the city including talking alongside Diane Abbott and Andy McDonald MPs to raise our profile and reach hundreds more people.**



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# OXFORD ROAD TO JUSTICE LAUNCH EVENT



**We were so grateful to launch our organisation with the support of such incredible leaders in the field of fighting for justice - including Professor Gus John, Gloria Morrison from JENGbA, Jamal Khan and Kadeem Marshall-Oxley from No More Exclusions, Neha Shah from the Campaign Against Prevent, Erica Davies from ACORN, Jabu Nala-Hartley founder of Mothers 4 Justice Ubuntu, and many more fantastic speakers, campaigners and spoken word artists.**

**Together, we discussed the key challenges in Oxford and beyond with the criminal justice system and reimagined a future where our communities are not criminalised, discriminated against and downtrodden, but instead supported, liberated and empowered. Thank you to all who participated and turned out.**



# GOVERNANCE AND FUNDING

Despite the logistical challenges posed by Covid, we are proud to have formally constituted our governance system and built a significant funding base with support from many generous friends. We are grateful for our first hotdesking space, donated to us by Makespace, which gave us the opportunity to make the move to rent our own office at Peace House. We have also been granted space at the future planning community space in Cowley Centre. Our annual accounts and acknowledgements are attached at the end of this report.



## CARE TALKS TALKS WITH MY MOTHER



We organised five CARE (as a Community we Acknowledge your Realities and Experiences) Talks between mothers and their sons facing the criminal justice system, where over 20 people participated. These talks challenge the isolation and stigma so often felt by families who are faced with navigating the criminal justice system by bringing together families with shared experiences and building a supportive community. Thank you to our friends at Activate for funding this work.



# ADVOCACY TRAINING

We launched our pilot training course to train advocates for people navigating the criminal justice system from arrest to probation and beyond. Five people completed the course, and we are moving towards running follow up courses and getting our advocates into position to begin to support people in prisons and their families in the coming months. They will offer 1:1 advice and support and help to build broader campaigns to win justice. We are grateful for our friends at Quakers Oxford who provided the financial support for us to develop and complete this vital work.



# COMMUNITY PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH

We are working with Public Health England to undertake a community participatory action research project into the impact of Covid on the prison population and their families, which will be completed and published in the new year.

## MEDIA COVERAGE

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**This year we have received coverage of Mothers 4 Justice Ubuntu in the Oxford Mail. BBC Oxford have featured stories on our community vaccination drive. We have also helped to generate media coverage around the Oxford Coalition of Black Communities and Communities of Colour initiative, of which we are a member. A full list of media appearances can be found on our website.**

## PLANS FOR THE NEW YEAR

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**Next year we plan to deliver another advocate training course and organise our volunteer hub for advocates to begin their casework. We will deliver our research project in collaboration with Public Health England.**

**We also hope to fundraise enough to bring in a full-time staff member to coordinate volunteers and advance our community organising work. To join our team, please sign up on our website at [mothers4justiceubuntu.com/advocacy](https://mothers4justiceubuntu.com/advocacy)**

**We are also exploring a social enterprise project in collaboration with businesses in South Africa to produce Mothers 4 Justice Ubuntu merchandise and care packages.**



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

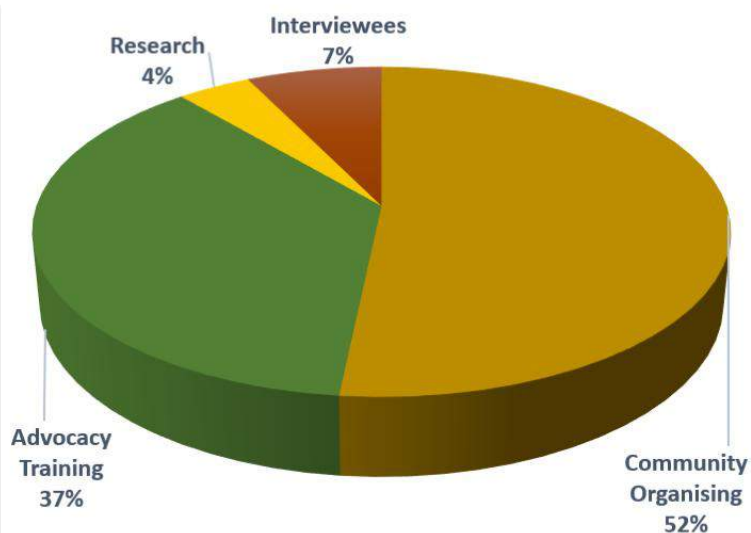
None of this would have been possible without our friends, supporters and funders. Together, we have achieved so much in our first short year and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for joining our journey and our fight for justice and accountability. This year, we received invaluable funding from the following organisations as well as individual donors and contributions raised at rallies:



# ACCOUNTS

We are grateful to be backed by diverse funders in our first established year who believe in our project and our vision.

Our expenditure reflected our priorities, with **52% spent on community organising**, **37% on advocacy training** and with **£550 going to pay those shared their stories and experiences with us as part of our work to recompense them for their labour.**





## M4JU accounts 2020-21

Income			Outgoings					
Date	Item	Cost	Date	Item	Cost			
Jan 2021	Carry over	£800.00	Jan 2021	CARE Talk interviewee and organiser payments	£150.00			
Jan-Feb 2021	Quakers Oxford donations	£5,400.00	Feb 2021	4 days/month for Feb community organising	-£400.00			
March 2021	Activate Collective	£1,000.00	Mar 2021	8 days/month for March community organising	-£1,000.00			
March 2021	Asylum Welcome probation grant	£1,000.00	April 2021	25 days advocacy training development Feb - Apr	-£2,500.00			
April 2021	Funds carried over		May 2021	CARE Talk interviewee and organiser payments	-£150.00			
May 2021	BBL Parish Council	£500.00	July 2021	CARE Talk interviewee and organiser payments	-£150.00			
June 2021	Unite the Union Oxfordshire general branch	£200.00	Aug 2021	3 days advocacy training delivery	-£300.00			
Sept 2021	Public Health England - Community Participatory Action Research	£1,204.00	Aug 2021	5 days/month for Aug community organising	-£500.00			
			Sept 2021	5 days/month for Sept community organising	-£500.00			
			Oct 2021	5 days/month for Oct community organising	-£500.00			
			Nov 2021	5 days/month for Nov community organising	-£500.00			
			Dec 2021	5 days/month for Dec community organising	-£500.00			
			Dec 2021	CPAR Interviews (£50 x 5)	-£250.00			
			Dec 2021	3 days for conducting interviews for the PHE CPAR project	-£300.00			
Total Income		£10,104.00	Total Outgoings		-£7,250.00	Annual Total		£2,854.00