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| S/PYO | <p>Fonds</p> <p>Title: <i>Records of the Progressive Youth Organisation</i></p> <p>Extent: 15 files</p> <p>Description: Mainly reports, event and meeting papers mainly kept by Akkas Miah [who later changed name to Mayar Akash] who worked at the Progressive Youth Organisation.</p> <p>They cover issues affecting young people especially Bengali youth at grass roots level in Whitechapel and surrounding area. These include papers relating to youth trips, drugs and sexual health and later papers concerning relations with the police.</p> <p>Administrative History: The Progressive Youth Organisation (PYO) was an youth agency which emerged in response to 'the need to physically defend the community against racists attacks of the National Front' (Source: Annual Report 1984-85, reference LC984). Its roots began in 1973 with the United Welfare Organisation, an educational and cultural organisation. Founded by young people supported by community leader Jaffar Khan, formed at his home in Castle House, Castle Street.</p> <p>The PYO was formally established in 1979. The name Progressive Youth Organisation was later chosen: 'We chose the name because we are changing the system from one system to another in progressive manner' (quotation from Mr. Mohammed Abdus Salam). The first base was at the Montefiore Community Education Centre, Deal Street and Hanbury Street where staff activities included campaigning against racism and against police harassment.</p> <p>The main objective was 'to provide facilities and to educate young people, to help them develop awareness of themselves and of the wider issues which effect their lives, such as racism, health, education, housing and employment' (Source: Annual Report 1984-85, reference LC984). Their work with young in the local Whitechapel area</p> | 1992 - 2005 |
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| | <p>meant a natural focus on the local Bengali community. This included educational activities, trips and exchanges with other countries, opening up themes with young people around responsibility, new ideas and new aspirations. The advisory service focused on local youth and the local people. The organisation ran youth clubs, employed youth workers and organised teams and outreach work around issues including drugs.</p> <p>Funding originally came from Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) Youth Service budget and from Greater London Council. Later the PYO was funded by the local authority and charitable organisations.</p> <p>The organisation later moved to The Davenant Centre, 179-181 Whitechapel Road after 1985. The original PYO was disbanded after it was handed over to other subsequent youth groups.</p> <p>Sources include: Mr. Mohammed Abdus Salam interview, 2006 Swadhinata Trust available on https://www.swadhinata.org.uk (accessed June 2022).</p> <p>Related Material: The Local History Library holds annual reports, 1983-1990, reference LC984, class 360.1 Box 3.</p> <p>See also archive references: I/AVU/A/11/4, I/SPP/4/6/21 and I/SPP/4/6/25.</p> <p>Access Conditions: Some material within this collection has been closed under current Data Protection legislation as the records concerned contain sensitive personal data. Please check specific item level descriptions for details, and refer any queries to the Heritage Officer (Archives).</p> <p>Request: NO - This does not represent a physical document. Please click on the reference number and view list of records to find material available to order at file or item level.</p> | |
| S/PYO/1 | <p>File</p> <p>Title:</p> | 4 October 1992 |

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| | <p>'P.Y.O. and Polish Exchange 1992. Personal Evaluation - Interactions with the Group (P.Y.O).'</p> <p>Extent: 1 document</p> <p>Description: Personal account about relations during the Exchange with 'S.O.S. Warsaw', Poland, mentioning named individuals. Typescript on computer printout paper</p> <p>Access Conditions: This record contains the personal data of adults and therefore has been closed for 84 years under current Data Protection legislation. For further information please speak to the Heritage Officer (Archives).</p> <p>Request: NO - This material is not orderable. Please see access restrictions for further details.</p> | |
| S/PYO/2 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>'Polish Exchange Group Report' by Akkas Miah [Mayar Akash]</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 3 pages</p> <p>Description: Includes expectations, Polish experience in the East End and lessons learnt. Typescript</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | 1992 |
| S/PYO/3 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>'MS01-DSH/Youth' by David Holloway</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 2 pages</p> <p>Description: Report on Bengali youth, lessons learnt from the past and anti-racist struggles. Includes tasks for the future around strengthened community workers,</p> | 1993 |

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| | <p>organisation frameworks and improving the political climate. Typescript</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | |
| S/PYO/4 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>'Summer Holiday Project (Club) Report by Akkas Miah' [Mayar Akash]</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 7 pages</p> <p>Description: Includes details of the events, costs of residential in the Brecon Beacons, Wales for young people, outcomes and skills gained and recommendations. Typescript</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | 1993 |
| S/PYO/5 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>'Progressive Youth Organisation 94-95: Outreach / Face to Face Work' by Abjol Miah</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 2 pages</p> <p>Description: Outline with introduction, method and diary of sessions. Typescript</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | 1994 |
| S/PYO/6 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>'Workers Report May 95' "3rd month" by Akkas Miah [Mayar Akash]</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 1 page</p> | 1995 |

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| | <p>Description: Typescript</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | |
| S/PYO/7 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>'Group Discussion - Sexual relationship'</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 2 pages</p> <p>Description: Summary of discussion between young people held at PYO Youth Club, 16 December 1994. Gives aims and objectives (including sexual health - HIV/AIDS and safer sex), questions and answers around 'sexual relationship', 'sex' and 'what attracts Bengali girls'. Also reflections around 'culture', 'religion', peer-group pressure' and evaluation.</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | 1994 |
| S/PYO/8 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>'The Prevention Team. HIV AIDS and Drugs Alcohol Prevention Team. Volunteers Package'</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 1 page</p> <p>Description: Recruitment poster information. Photocopy.</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | 1995 |
| S/PYO/9 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>'Police and Young People'</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 1 page</p> | 1995 |

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| | <p>Description: Guidance notes including 'Dont give police a reason to stop you!' from CAPA (Community Alliance for Police Accountability)</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | |
| S/PYO/10 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>Drugs team meeting minutes</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 2 pages</p> <p>Description: Meeting held 30 March 1995. Includes concerns and actions including outreach structure and work at Vallance Road, Stepney, Chicksand and Collingwood estates</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | 1995 |
| S/PYO/11 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>'Drug Prevention Progress Report' by Aliur Rahman</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 7 pages</p> <p>Description: Prepared by Aliur Rahman for Akkas Miah/Mayar Akash on the work of the Drug Prevention Team in the Collingwood Estate, Bethnal Green. Gives aims and objectives, geographical area, 'the young people I work with' (no names given), 'outcomes so far', training, monitoring in the area and liaison work</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | 1995 |
| S/PYO/12 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>'Final summing up by Kumar Murshid'</i></p> <p>Extent:</p> | c.1995 |

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| | <p>1 document of 4 pages</p> <p>Description: Issues raised from conference which was organised in response to PYO's growing concern for the local Bangladeshi youth. Covers response to dissatisfaction expressed by participants from the Young Women At Risk workshop. Includes 'Cultural Conflicts Workshop report back'.</p> <p>Partial report includes pages 19-20, the rest missing</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | |
| S/PYO/13 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>Oxford House Youth Service: Cleveland Outreach Project (C.O.P.): Pre-Police Meeting Workshop at Oxford House, 15 November 2005. 'Write up for circulation' by Akkas Miah [Mayar Akash]</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 4 pages</p> <p>Description: Consisting of 'Brainstorm Analysis', 'Statements' as to police behaviour to them including 'stop and search' and 'Questions to put forward'. Gives list of young people attending. Includes handwritten additions</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | 2005 |
| S/PYO/14 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>Oxford House Youth Service: Cleveland Outreach Project (C.O.P.): Police meeting agenda 'Meeting with Sergeant Kennedy', Oxford House, 20 November 2005</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 1 page</p> <p>Description: Agenda with handwritten notes of points from the meeting by Akkas Miah [Mayar Akash]</p> | 2005 |

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| | <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | |
| S/PYO/15 | <p>File</p> <p>Title: <i>Siraj Miah - Murder in the Airport</i></p> <p>Extent: 1 document of 12 pages</p> <p>Description: Photocopy press cuttings relating to a 35-year old Sunderland restaurant owner beaten to death at Zia International Airport, Dhaka, Bangladesh</p> <p>Sourced from Bengali newspapers in Bangladesh and United Kingdom. Collected for reference. Relevance to Progressive Youth Organisation is unknown.</p> <p>Request: YES - You can order this material to consult in our Reading Room.</p> | August 1996 |