



ARE YOU BUILDING AN ORGANISATION, MOVEMENT OR COLLECTIVE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE?

JOIN US FOR A LEGAL WORKSHOP AND FOCUS GROUP

Sistren Legal Collective in association with Migrant Action and RETAS Leeds are hosting a **legal workshop** on **setting up your non-profit organisation** for people from minoritised groups in the UK, including Black African/Caribbean, Asian, immigrant, refugee communities.

Friday 24th March | 2-5pm

RETAS, Roundhay Resource Centre, 233-237, Roundhay Road, Harehills, LS8 4HS, Leeds

After the workshop there will be a short **focus group** to discuss your legal needs and experiences for the purposes of **Sistren's research project**.

If you are interested in participating in the workshop and focus group, please contact samara@sistren.co.uk / keya@sistren.co.uk or whatsapp 07557 470 619

What will the workshop cover?

- **Business models**
 - for profit, not-for-profit, social enterprises
- **Legal forms, including**
 - what is a legal form?
 - why is it important to pick the right legal form
 - different types of legal forms (companies, community interest companies, charitable incorporated organisations)
- **A deep dive into how to register** a community interest company and charity - including a workshop and step by step guide to registering
- **Changing legal forms** (for those who might have already registered a legal entity, but now want to change)

What will the focus group cover?

- The types of legal support you need
- Your experience of working with lawyers
- Barriers to accessing legal support
- How lawyers can better support your community

What is **Sistren**?

Sistren Legal Collective is a project led by a sisterhood of lawyers using our knowledge of the law as a tool to support organisation-building by and for minoritised communities in the UK that are working to develop a more equitable society.

We aim to create a legal ecosystem that facilitates the set-up and development of organisations, collectives and movements led by Black African/Caribbean, Asian, immigrant and refugee leaders and activists and to provide affordable and accessible legal and strategic support where this is needed.

As lawyers, we aim to play a supportive and enabling role for organisations catalysing social change and to redistribute legal power and knowledge beyond law firms and into the hands of communities, change-makers and activists.

What is **Sistren**?

We support **diverse communities** of people that often face disproportionate barriers to accessing legal support to effect social change within their communities.

We are committed to creating, developing and supporting grassroots and early-stage **organisations, movements** and **collectives** to succeed.

We are an emerging initiative of **lawyers** working to increase access to legal support

We aim to **redistribute legal knowledge** into the hands of people that are building organisations, collectives and movements for social justice.

Who are we?



SAMARA LAWRENCE

Drive: passionate about working with non-profits and businesses working to deliver social and racial equity in our communities.

Experience: providing legal and governance advice to a variety of organisations, from grassroots organisations to multinational NGOs (Black Lives Matter UK, UNICEF, Plan International, Mission 44, Football Beyond Borders, Baobab Foundation and Blueprint for All).

Focus: organisations and communities most affected by systemic injustice and advocates for the eradication of social injustices.

Future: support and partner with organisations through their early growth stage to achieve their goals; empower the leadership of these organisations; create spaces for lawyers and organisations to connect in ways which allow their potential to be fulfilled.



KEYA ADVANI

Drive: inspired by the power of the law to advocate for justice and creating connections between global and local movements for social justice.

Experience: imaginative strategic and legal advice spanning the profit-with-purpose and non-profit sectors (charities, NGOs, social enterprises, mission-driven businesses, B Corps foundations, funders, trustees and directors), and a background working with non-profits in India, Jamaica and the US.

Focus: early-stage, activist, grassroots organisations; work led by immigrants and refugees.

Future: make the law an accessible and enabling tool to create positive change in communities; ideate collaborative and transnational approaches to address social and systemic injustice; cross-fertilise collaborations with global movements for social change.