

## Fatima Whitbread

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## **COME AND JOIN US - SAVE THE DATE**

## FATIMA'S UK CAMPAIGN

## INAUGURAL ONE VOICE SUMMIT

LET'S MAKE HISTORY TOGETHER – 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at The Guildhall London

INSPIRE - EDUCATE - COLLABORATE - CHALLENGE

For the first time ever we are bringing together a wide range of professionals who are engaged with supporting vulnerable young people in the care system and care leavers in order to support collaboration and to share good practice.

Our aim is that young people experiencing the care system should be given the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential. As a society, we have the responsibility to collectively act as caring parents to those in care and care leavers.

The current reality is bleak for many youngsters who have experience of the care system. If meaningful and sustainable change is to be achieved, it is vital that the system is seen as a whole. Rather like the song 'The foot bone is connected to the ankle bone', every element of the care system impacts on another and collectively they make the difference between a life well lived as a productive member of society or a life where homelessness, addiction, poor metal health and a plethora of other challenges are their future.

Whilst some great things are going on, the reality is that the system is fragmented, and the experience of youngsters is very much a lottery. The evidence is stark – too many youngsters are falling through the net and feel that they don't matter – and with good reason.

At a personal level, every child who falls through the net is a tragedy. As a society in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, this is not only wholly unacceptable but is hugely costly, taking up significant resources as the NHS, Police, Probationary Service and all the other organizations involved are left trying to pick up the pieces.

We recognize that the task is both huge and complex but that is not a good enough reason not to aspire to create a better approach. We ask that rather than thinking about all the reasons why things can't change, we use our combined creativity, compassion, experience and expertise to find a better way forward.

We are very keen that the Summit should focus on solutions and that examples of current good practice are shared effectively. The problems are well documented, so we intend focusing on solutions moving forward.

Fatima's UK Campaign Registered Charity No: 1207064

We have two days filled with speakers, panels, discussions, breakout sessions and exhibitions. Over 100 organizations contributing across the two days.

The breakout sessions cover different aspects across 4 main themes

BREAKOUT SESSIONS - TIMES AND THEMES			
Wednesday 23rd April 12.00-1.00	Wednesday 23rd April 2.30 – 3.30	Thursday 24th April 12.00 -1.00	Thursday 24th April 2.30-3.30
Holistic Wellbeing	Holistic Wellbeing	Holistic Wellbeing	Holistic Wellbeing
Mental Health	Education	Physical Health	Mental Health & Education
Home	Home	Home	Home
Early Intervention	Foster Care	Residential Care	Adoption & Family Rights
Adulting	Adulting	Adulting	Adulting
Housing	Homelessness	Employment	Homelessness & Financial Independence
Society	Society	Society	Society
The Power of Sport	Tackling Abuse Domestic Violence	Prison / Probation	Community Projects

If you have children think about what it is you want for them? We want the children and young people in care and those who leave care to know that that they matter too. Sadly, that is not the case for many of the young people who are currently in the system and even more so for many care leavers who are expected to live independently at the age of 18. Please help us to make a positive difference. Together we can help these young people have a more positive chance in life.

We must have high aspirations to create better experiences and opportunities for these young people, to have high aspirations for them and of them and of ourselves. We desperately need your support and help if we are to break the cycle and create a positive living legacy for those within the system now and future generations.

We hope that you will support our aims and lend your weight to our ambitious plans to make a fundamental difference to those children and young people who are currently so badly let down by our society. Our ultimate aim is to build happier lives, better communities and a nicer kinder society.

Please save the dates and join us at the 'One Voice Summit'. We would be extremely grateful if you'd share it with the relevant team leaders. We will be in touch with the links to book your tickets will in February 2025. In the meantime you can find out more by visiting our website:

https://www.fatimascampaign.com/

Fatima Whitbread MBE Chairman & Founder of Fatima's UK Campaign Gina Gardiner Vice Chair Fatima's UK Campaign