



# Emmanuel Adeyemi

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Leeds, United Kingdom  
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Religious Studies graduate from the University of Leeds with internship experience at the Near Neighbours programme (Church Urban Fund). Organised 6 interfaith community events engaging 280+ participants. Assessed 12 grant applications and monitored 8 funded projects. Successfully submitted a £5,000 National Lottery Community Fund application. Skilled in community engagement, interfaith dialogue facilitation, and project coordination.

## EDUCATION

### BA (Hons) in Religious Studies

University of Leeds, Leeds

Sep 2022 – Jun 2025

Upper Second Class Honours (2:1). Modules include religion and conflict, interfaith dialogue, ethics and society, Islam in Britain, and sociology of religion. Dissertation on the role of mosques as community hubs in northern English cities.

## SKILLS

- Community Engagement & Outreach
- Interfaith Dialogue Facilitation
- Event Planning & Coordination
- Grant Application Writing
- Project Monitoring & Reporting
- Community Consultation Methods
- Safeguarding Awareness (Level 2)
- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Survey Design & Administration
- Report Writing for Policy Audiences

## CERTIFICATIONS

### Safeguarding Level 2 (Church of England)

Church of England

Jun 2024 – Jun 2027

### Mental Health First Aid (MHFA England)

MHFA England

Mar 2024 – Mar 2027

## LANGUAGES

- English (native)
- Yoruba (conversational)
- Arabic (basic, A2)

## REFERENCES

### Rev. Rachel Sherwood

Regional Coordinator, Yorkshire and Humber, Near Neighbours Programme

r.sherwood@cuf.org.uk, +44 7700 900 193

### Dr. Sean McLoughlin

Senior Lecturer in Religious Studies, University of Leeds

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## EXPERIENCE

### Community Development Intern, Near Neighbours Programme (Church Urban Fund), Leeds

Jun 2024 – Aug 2024

12 week internship supporting the Yorkshire and Humber regional coordinator with community cohesion projects and interfaith grant making.

- Organised and facilitated **6 interfaith community events** in Leeds, Bradford, and Huddersfield, engaging **280+ participants** from 6 faith communities
- Assessed **12 small grant applications** (£500 to £5,000 each) from community groups, writing assessment reports and recommendations
- Monitored **8 funded projects** through site visits and phone check-ins, producing progress reports for the national team
- Facilitated **4 community consultations** using structured dialogue methods to gather resident views on local cohesion priorities

### Community Cohesion Volunteer, Leeds City Council, Community Cohesion Team, Leeds

Jan 2024 – May 2024

Volunteered one day per week supporting the council's community cohesion and integration strategy.

- Helped organise **3 community engagement events** in Harehills and Beeston as part of the council's integration strategy consultation
- Conducted **40 door-to-door surveys** in Harehills gathering resident views on community safety and neighbourhood satisfaction
- Prepared **2 briefing notes** summarising survey results for the Community Committee

## PROJECTS

### Dissertation: Mosques as Community Hubs in Northern English Cities

Oct 2024 – Apr 2025

Examined the civic and social functions of mosques in Leeds, Bradford, and Sheffield beyond their religious worship role.

- Conducted **20 semi-structured interviews** with mosque committee members, imams, and community workers
- Visited **8 mosques** and observed 12 community programmes (food banks, homework clubs, citizenship classes)
- Argued that mosques serving the widest civic function had **3x higher non-Muslim community engagement** than worship-focused mosques
- Awarded a mark of 74%

### National Lottery Community Fund Grant Application

Jul 2024 – Aug 2024

Wrote a successful grant application for a community cooking project bringing together residents from 4 faith communities in Harehills.

- Drafted the full application including project plan, budget, and safeguarding policy (**£5,000 awarded**)
- Project delivered **8 community cooking sessions** attended by 60+ residents over 4 months

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

### Volunteer Youth Worker, Leeds Community Foundation

Sep 2023 – Jun 2025

Ran weekly youth sessions (ages 14 to 18) at the Beeston Community Centre. Planned activities for groups of 15 to 20 young people and completed 80+ hours of youth work over 2 years.