**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Title of Post:** **Breaking the Chains Project Coordinator**

**Hours:** 14 hours per week

### Salary: £12,800 for 2 days per week (Equivalent to £32,000 pa full time) plus Auto-enrolment Pension

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**Reports to:** Supervisor of Migrant and Refugee Children’s Legal Unit

**Objectives of the post**

Breaking the Chains is a ground breaking partnership project between MiCLU at Islington Law Centre and Shpresa Programme, a user-led organization, which promotes the participation and contribution of Albanian young people in UK society. The aims of the project are to increase the prospects of Albanian Children and Young People succeeding in their asylum claims using:

* High quality legal advice and representation and strategic litigation
* Intensive and culturally sensitive expert support work
* Engagement, education and empowerment work with children and young people
* Education and training for professionals involved with Albanian children and young people seeking asylum in the UK
* Participation in, and informing research work on issues affecting Albanian children and young people seeking asylum in the UK

The voices of children and young people inform every aspect of the delivery of this work, and all staff involved in the project are committed to facilitating this dialogue and offering opportunities for children and young people to shape the project.

The Big Lottery’s Reaching Communities fund is now supporting us to expand the project and increase the number of children and young people that we are able to assist, using increased casework capacity, and a new opportunity for co-ordination of this work. This is an exciting opportunity to join a team delivering high quality legal and support work, with the voice of children at its heart.

The Project Coordinator will be part of the Breaking the Chains team at Islington Law Centre working with Shpresa Programme to engage with and support young people in the immigration system and ensure that the project has maximum impact. The role is intended to provide co-ordination and facilitation of all aspects of Breaking the Chains work.

The work will take place at both the office of Islington Law Centre and the Shpresa Programme office in Newham, and at outreach venues. During the Covid pandemic remote working will be possible. Once we are able to return to office-based working the role will require the majority of work to be delivered in-person at MiCLU’s offices and Shpresa venues.

### Main Responsibilities

**1 To engage with and consult children and young people who are going through the immigration and asylum system and ensure that their voices inform the project. In particular:**

* 1. To develop and co-ordinate youth group sessions and activities in order to engage and consult young people using art, drama and related activities.
	2. Identify and implement ways to further involve children and young people in the planning, management and delivery of the Breaking the Chains Project.
	3. To support children and young people involved in the project to feed their ideas and opinions into the wider work of the project.

### 2. To share learning from the project, to include:

2.1 Co-ordinating and evaluating events designed to reach a wide range of audiences.

2.2 Co-ordinating and evaluating training to be delivered by Islington Law Centre and Breaking the Chains staff to Home Office decision makers, Immigration Judges, the CYP workforce, lawyers and immigration advisers.

2.3 To develop, update and maintain the Breaking the Chains pages of MiCLU’s website.

2.4 To develop in conjunction with other team members resources giving a voice to children and young people, and providing child-friendly information.

2.5 To identify and pursue (in conjunction with other team members) opportunities to share learning from the project and ensure that the voices of young people are at the forefront of this.

**3. To build an evidence base for the Breaking the Chains Project**

3.1 To identify gaps in the current evidence base, working with project staff and key partners.

3.2 To co-ordinate a research group to undertake research on issues related to the Breaking the Chains project.

3.3 To co-ordinate the publication and dissemination of the findings of the research and learning from the Breaking the Chains project and the provision of child-friendly summaries of this work together with other team members and volunteers.

3.4 To engage with funders and potential funders to raise awareness of and engagement with the project and its potential for replication.