

## Introducing the Foundation

The Nehemiah Foundation has developed out of the desire to see regeneration and transformation happening in areas of urban deprivation and social exclusion. It does so in ways that engage effectively with people in their local neighbourhoods.

The Foundation is built on a commitment to tackle and address issues of poverty and injustice. It also recognises the complexity and interconnectedness of the problems and issues of deprived areas, including each area's unique identity, needs and key partnerships.

The Foundation seeks to support and resource organisations and individuals, activists and enablers working in deprived neighbourhoods. Our model for community regeneration is built on the belief that each neighbourhood is unique and that programmes of regeneration must be tailored to the community - one size does not fit all.

The model involves the Foundation working with an organisation that already has a presence and a degree of community engagement within a neighbourhood and creating a process of developing key initiatives within that neighbourhood that not only catalyse and support the regeneration of that neighbourhood and building of society, but that emerges from and remains firmly rooted within it.

This process can focus around the organisation's key activities, for example housing, healthcare, or education, but will lead on to consideration of related issues affecting local residents.



## What do we do?

The Foundation offers a range of training and support to equip people and organisations to transform their communities.

An accredited 18-month full time **Community Regeneration programme**.

Participants are employed by a 'host' organisation, a community organisation rooted in the neighbourhood, and the programme equips the Regeneration workers in developing:

- **A detailed understanding of the neighbourhood:** a baseline report that includes statistics, perspectives of individuals, local history and identification of themes;
- **A community profile of the area,** built up from innovative consultation methods that take account of previous work undertaken and build up a picture of the neighbourhood's priorities;
- **A community-led organisation:** run by residents and local stakeholders wanting to partner with each other, pool resources, plan effectively and deliver activities that meet need;
- **An effective communications network:** for individuals and organisations within a neighbourhood to engage in ongoing dialogue and collaboration; and
- **A comprehensive business plan:** for the neighbourhood with plans for the next 3 to 20 years.



An 8-month **condensed programme** of 6 taught training days, with assignments to be completed with local residents, helping them to engage more fully in their wider communities.

**Stand-alone training days** on a range of topics (including consultation, community mapping, vision, and governance)

A **Network** of participants, hosts, community advocates, professionals in the regeneration field and others, which provides connection and information to all those involved.

**Strategic advice and support services** for neighbourhood organisations or those serving them.

**“The benefit to the community of Rood End is enormous! The Foundation has facilitated the employment of a dedicated full-time worker for the area, who can assist residents to hold service providers to account, to see ideas come to fruition and projects successfully delivered.”**

Liz Knell, Community Regeneration Worker, Rood End, Sandwell.

**“The Nehemiah Foundation has given me the practical steps to take to discover the needs of the community and lead its development”.**

Karen Urwin, Community Regeneration Worker, Druids Heath, Birmingham



## Supporting the Nehemiah Foundation:

The Nehemiah Foundation is a charity and relies on its supporters. These include:

### **Anthony Collins Solicitors (ACS)**

The Nehemiah Foundation was founded by Anthony Collins Solicitors and the firm has invested heavily in its establishment. The Foundation builds on the skills, knowledge and passions of the firm and the programme is delivered by staff seconded from ACS in collaboration with a different range of organisations engaged with transforming communities.

### **Church Urban Fund (CUF)**

Church Urban Fund is a not-for-profit organisation supporting social action in the poorest parts of England, supporting local organisations working to tackle the effects of poverty in their communities and make a real difference to the lives of those around them. CUF have been a significant partner in establishing the Foundation; they have offered professional and developmental support, as well as contributing financial support, to both the programme and to some of our host organisations.

## For more information:

If you are interested in being a host or a participant on the Regeneration Training Programme, or for any further information on any of our Nehemiah resources, please contact a member of the Nehemiah team:

Phone: **0121 214 3653**  
Email: **contact@regenworker.com**  
Or visit our website at: **www.regenworker.com**

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**Church Urban Fund**  
Anthony Collins  
solicitors