

pennyappeal

Adoption & Fostering

Guide for providers



pennyappeal
at Home



Penny Appeal philosophy

Penny Appeal was established in 2009 to provide poverty relief across Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. In 2015, the UK aid and development programme, Penny Appeal at Home, was launched to respond to immediate and ongoing concerns more locally. This established a model that twins its overseas programmes with equivalent projects on the ground in the UK.

Since its inception, Penny Appeal has transformed lives and empowered communities in more than 30 countries around the world, helping to break the poverty cycle and build brighter futures for all.

The Penny Appeal way of doing charity is simple but has a massive impact. We make charitable giving both affordable and rewardable, ensuring that everyone can help those in desperate need by donating just a few pennies each day.

Here at Penny Appeal, we take small change and use it to make a big difference.

All our projects are carefully planned and designed to be accessible and effective. They are a blend of emergency support, short term relief and longer term sustainable interventions.

This multi-focus approach means we can save lives immediately, improve situations in just a few days or weeks whilst transforming communities for years to come.

We can offer desperate people the support they need depending on their situation.

Aamer Naeem CEO





Project Overview

Penny Appeal's Adoption and Fostering team supports adoption and fostering providers by recruiting Muslim foster carers and adopters on their behalf.

Our objective is to provide compassionate, nurturing and loving homes for vulnerable children and young people in care.

Building upon the interest that Penny Appeal received for its Muslim fostering work in 2015, this new project funded largely by the Department of Education, seeks to improve the recruitment rates within the Muslim community for Muslim adoptees and foster carers.

The project employs a three-pronged approach and focuses on awareness raising amongst Muslim communities, supply creation of Muslim adopters and capacity building of local services to improve understanding of and responses to Muslim adoptees.

Led by Tay Jiva, a qualified social worker with more than 15 years of experience with vulnerable and disadvantaged children, Penny Appeal welcomes families, and adoption and fostering providers alike from all areas across the UK.

The project delivers community engagement events and conferences, anti-discriminatory practice (ADP) training, the preparation and distribution of an Islamic guidance document,

endorsed by over 60 UK based Islamic scholars and a strong media campaign.

This campaign has already seen a 12 part TV series, My Muslim Fostering Family, produced and aired by British Muslim TV (Sky 845). Each episode of the series covers different aspects of fostering, such as 'What Islam says about fostering', 'caring for teenagers' and 'caring for children of other faiths'.

The programme features interviews with foster carers, social workers, Tay Jiva, care experienced adults, The Fostering Network and Coram British Association of Adoption and Fostering (BAAF) and is available to watch on You Tube.

Utilising our strong networks within Muslim communities, we are pro-actively engaging them in adoptive services and we look forward to working with you to send you referrals (at no charge to you or the applicant), give you useful information about how to recruit Muslim foster carers and adopters, and offer you training in how to work most effectively with Muslim service users.



Six strands of the project



■ Recruitment events

Penny Appeal has hosted over 40 adoption and fostering recruitment events in 2017. All local adoption and fostering providers are invited to them and a maximum of five providers are booked for each event. These serve as an introduction between the community and the service providers.

For further information about the recruitment events and for bookings please contact the Penny Appeal Adoption and Fostering team at:

**adoptionandfostering@pennyappeal.org
or 03000 11 11 11**



■ Referrals procedures

Penny Appeal will carry out telephone assessments for prospective adopters or foster carers. We do this for two reasons; firstly, to ensure we are not flooding providers with unsuccessful referrals; and secondly, to offer Islamic guidance on topics such as caring for teenagers, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT), and children of other religions/ethnicities.

Our assessments are sent to all providers in the applicant's area. From providers who express an interest in the applicant, up to three are chosen, based on Ofsted ratings and (where applicable) tier levels and allowances.





■ Anti-discriminatory practice [ADP] training

The ADP training will be in a 'train the trainers' format, where we ask providers to send between 2 to 4 representatives (depending on the size of the service provider).

Each representative will be given the presentation and notes from the training with the understanding that the representatives will commit to delivering the training in their own service within the following three months.

The training will be over two days, from 9.30am to 2.45pm.

There will be nominal charge of £95 per attendee to cover costs for the two days of training (including venue hire, lunch and snacks) for Independent Fostering Providers (IFPs) and Voluntary Adoption Agencies (VAAs) - no cost to Local Authorities (LAs).

There will not be any charges for use of training materials in subsequent in-house training.



■ Research by Coventry University and CoramBAAF

The researcher, Dr Sariya Cheruvallil-Contractor, is a Muslim adopter who sits on the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) board for CoramBAAF. She has carried out quantitative and qualitative research (including data requests, freedom of information requests and ethnographic interviews with staff, adopters and the public).

The focus of the research is the involvement of the Muslim community in the adoption process. The research report will also be available on the Penny Appeal website from December 2017.





■ Identity boxes for children

High quality gift boxes will be available for all Muslim children in care.

We will provide a booklet with useful information about how to support the identity development of Muslim children in care. Also, the box will contain a prayer mat, prayer beads, head coverings and a small gift.

Boxes are priced at £50, but Penny Appeal is offering subsidised/funded boxes when requested.

What's next? Please find enclosed forms for you to fill in and return to us if you wish to get involved in this work. We look forward to a fruitful relationship of recruitment, intervention and collaboration. Furthermore, if you do not wish to participate, please do notify us by email.



■ Islamic guidance document

Penny Appeal has engaged over 60 scholars to write a guidance document to cover the Islamic perspective on adoption and fostering.

Both documents will be available on the website where you can register to our mailing list to receive updates. The scholars have also written a 'khutbah', which is a talk/speech that will be read out at Friday prayers (Jummah) in local areas on the Friday before the recruitment events.

pennyappeal

Charity Number 1128341

For any more information, please don't hesitate to call
We will be on hand to answer any questions you may have,
and are looking forward to working with you in the future.

✉ adoptionandfostering@pennyappeal.org

📱 07718645971

☎ 03000 11 11 11

🌐 www.pennyappeal.org