

Elevated

Aspirations CIO

London

# ELEVOTE<sup>®</sup>

Annual Report 2023 - 2024

EA CIO 2023 - 2024

BE CREATIVE



[www.elevated-aspirations.co.uk](http://www.elevated-aspirations.co.uk)



## Be Creative



Contact details



Website

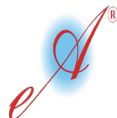
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# STRAIGHT OUTTA NIK'E DESIGNS



BE CREATIVE



# CATWALK

BY **Elevate**

Catwalk:

Style and Fashion



# WANTS YOU

BE CREATIVE

inspire@elevated-aspirations.co.uk



## Chairman's Report

### Our achievements this year

Our biggest success this year, like last year, was continuing to survive the negative impacts brought about by Covid-19.

Whilst we came out of lockdown 3 years ago, there is still a lasting impact & link between Covid-19 and reduced funding.

The impact on us is that there has been less funding available to apply for in order to put on community projects and also youth activities.



Chairman: Tuaneri Akoto

### Our strategic focus

This year the Trustees focused on how to continue to provide services to our beneficiaries as well as stay afloat.

We were largely successful in that all costs were kept to a minimum and no new expenditure was incurred.

### Our results and impact over the past year

Elevated Aspirations CIO has much to celebrate over the past year:

1. So far we have survived the pandemic
2. We increased our membership/beneficiaries
3. We provided our core activities
4. We maintained our staff pool
5. We collaborated with more voluntary organisations

### Our core achievement

Our core achievement in 2023 – 2024 has to be Elevated Aspirations CIO reaching out and providing free high quality activities and provisions in low income communities.

Elevated Aspirations achieved significantly more for young people and adults. This was accomplished through adopting a wider strategy to support additional demographic groups who are living in vulnerable situations.

### Together we can achieve more

None of this would have been possible without the combined contributions from funders, partners, volunteers, staff and young people. My thanks and gratitude goes out to you for all that has been achieved throughout 2023 to 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T Akoto". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Tuaneri Akoto  
Chairman of the Board  
20th April 2024



# Our Vision, Mission, and Values

## Elevated Aspirations CIO's guiding principles

### Our Vision:

Elevated Aspirations CIO's vision is of:

"A society where individuals aspire to achieve more, are assisted to set and accomplish goals - to continuously evaluate & elevate their aspirations and achieve success. A society in which children, young people, and adults are not afraid of, or hindered in, aspiring to achieve more, aspiring to accomplishing goals, and aspiring to achieving success"

### Our Mission:

Elevated Aspirations CIO's mission is:

"To develop a society where children, young people, and adults achieve more, accomplish goals, and attain success by providing them with physical resources, support, and training necessary for them to reach their full potential"

### Our Values:

Elevated Aspirations CIO's values are:

The conducting of our business with integrity, honesty, transparency and accountability to our beneficiaries and stakeholders  
Valuing people and elevating their aspirations and achievement  
The promotion of equality, justice, fairness & diversity and opposing discrimination of any sort  
Excellence in all that we do in order to provide high quality services that result in successful intended outcomes

### Our Goals:

Elevated Aspirations CIO's goals are to:

- A. Address children's, young people's, adults', and communities' issues through educative projects, training and community events
- B. Engage with children, young people, adults, and families in providing a service with programmes of activities and training that best meets their needs and aspirations



# Introduction

## About us

Elevated Aspirations CIO is a registered charity directed by local professionals, highly skilled and experienced in business, youth & community work, training, community events & shows, consultation, educative projects, and partnership work.

Elevated Aspirations CIO first started operating late March 2015 and was the brain child of Tuaneri Akoto (MBA M.Sc. CMI FCMI).

Tuaneri and Shaka Daanwi had been working in Newham Adult Education & Youth Services for over 25 years and created numerous projects that addressed confidence, self-esteem, and morale. Furthermore, creating and delivering training, managing educative projects, and running projects that addressed social issues for children, young people, adults and families. Tuaneri, Shaka and Paul ceased working for Newham Adult Education & Youth Services early December 2014.

## Why we are needed

No one agency can provide for all of a community's diverse needs, wants and aspirations. Elevated Aspirations is a charity that assists in meeting any given community's needs and aspirations.

The services we offer are led by local need and the requirements of funding bodies wishing to address social and community issues. As such in order to develop and create a holistic service Elevated Aspirations CIO takes into consideration the views and opinions of the children, young people, families, and adults of whom we work for and with to provide a better outcome based service – we listen to our beneficiaries.

## What do we do?

We provide informal and accredited educational activities to children, young people, families, adults, residents and communities. All of our projects incorporate and promote positive activities and training that increase personal and social development and elevate aspirations – we capacity build.

Our goal is to provide the aspirational support that each beneficiary needs to help them achieve more in their lives, education, and social relationships. There are several strands to what we do that make this possible: funding, partnerships, donations, and community support.

## Annual report

The following pages of this annual report highlight the work Elevated Aspirations CIO has done with and for its beneficiaries for the year 2023 - 2024 – all made possible by our funders, supporters, and volunteers.





I

Aspire  
To...



Singer





**Elevated Aspirations CIO's vision is of:**

“A society where individuals aspire to achieve more, are assisted to set and accomplish goals - to continuously evaluate & elevate their aspirations and achieve success. A society in which children, young people, and adults are not afraid of, or hindered in, aspiring to achieve more, aspiring to accomplishing goals, and aspiring to achieve success”

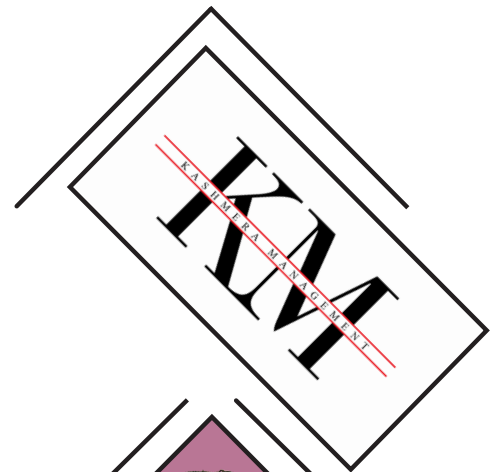
# E L E V A T E

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**THE  
MAGAZINE**

**ELEVATE  
IS PRIMARILY ABOUT  
RAISING ASPIRATIONS &  
INSPIRING CREATIVITY**

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# Summer Scheme Projects

## Summer Scheme



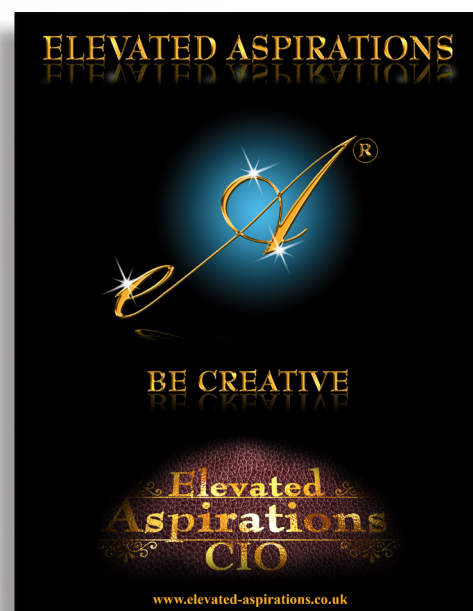
Photographic modelling attracts a lot of would-be models

The Summer Scheme, at Forest Gate Library & Stratford Library, took place over 5 weeks from, Monday 24th July to Saturday 26th August. The summer holiday scheme was based on performing arts, youth enterprises and sports.

The activities ran from 11.00am to 3.00pm from Monday to Saturday.

On the summer scheme Elevated Aspirations staff worked with over 60 young people from varying backgrounds and ethnicities.

Considering the impact of Covid-19 and parents still reluctant to send out their children, we still had a comfortable amount of young people to work with.



## Catwalk Modelling



Catwalk modelling is our most popular activity





# Elevated Aspirations CIO



T-shirt project: group design T-shirt

## T-shirt Projects



Several of our activities were run online via Zoom

## Photo Modelling



## Seniors' Salsa

Through dance participants worked on their health & fitness





# Photographic Modelling



Learning how to pose and take pictures



Photographic modelling



Male model learning how to pose





Fatima modelling for the EA magazine



Reneeé modelling for the EA magazine



Neriah modelling for the EA magazine





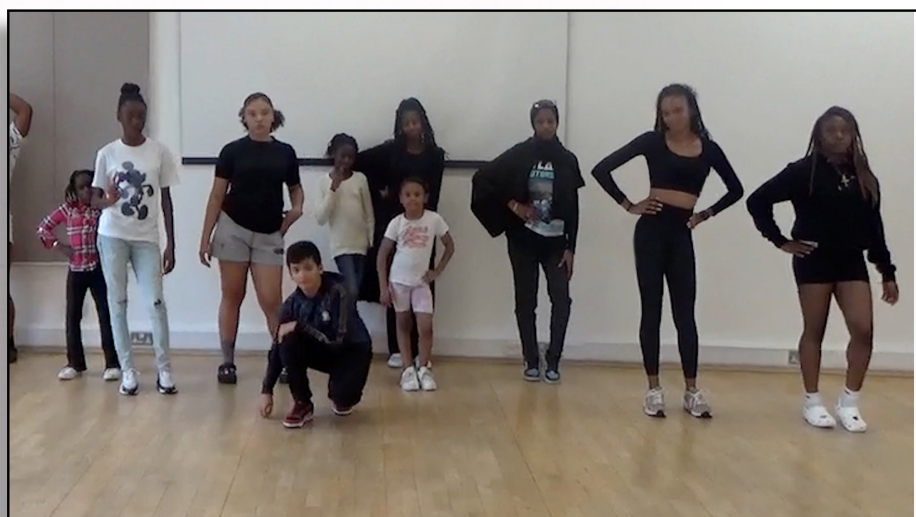
## Catwalk Modelling



Senior girls catwalk modelling



Kashmera Catwalk Modelling



Group pose





Posing for the Vlog



Kashmera modelling agency



Finalé



## Choir/Singing



Learning the song lyrics



Choir and singing sessions



Singing the song



# YouTube Video Vlogs



Kavya's YouTube vlog



Khadijah's YouTube vlog



Kaylah's YouTube vlog





## Dance



Warming up for dancing



Dance Sessions



Individuals being selected to dance



# Product Photography: EA Bottled Water



Completed product poster



Fatima's vlog



Completed product poster





## T-shirt Workshops



Kaylah pressing her T-shirt



T-shirt workshop



Kaylah pleased with the outcome





Pressing shirt and being timed



From drawing to heat transfer



Participants showing their T-shirts





## Table-tennis



Participants playing table-tennis



Harry teaching a participant how to hold tthe bat



Harry getting an award from a Youth Ambassador



# Salsa for Seniors



Senior salsa session



Salsa sessions for adults



'Spin the lady' move

## Youth Ambassadors

# Helping to deliver positive activities

Our youth ambassadors started out as participants in many of our activities. Over time these young participants showed an aptitude to teaching other young people new skills and routines.

Tutors observed the enthusiasm and willingness of these young people to help and support their peers. Out of these observations came the birth of Elevated Aspirations' Youth Ambassadors.

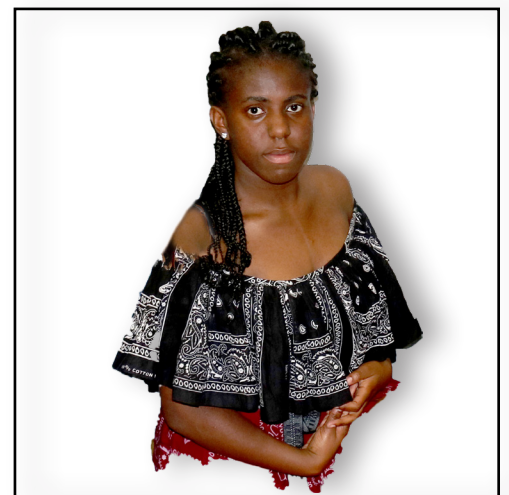
### Kierra

"I was here 7 years ago for the first summer scheme. I now help run catwalk modelling and dance"

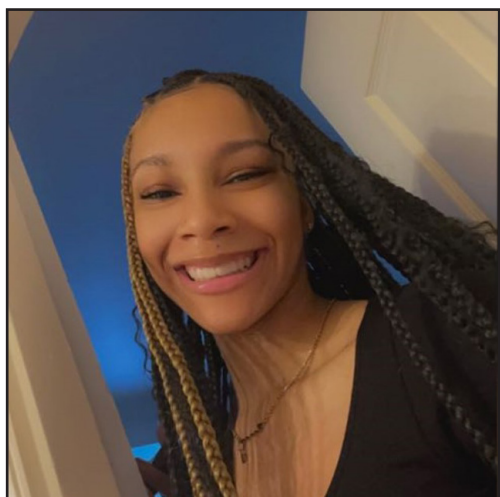


### Dorinda

"I like helping other young people to develop skills in our activities. I help with the singing, catwalk modelling and hosting the community shows"







## Renee

"I started summer 2016 learning catwalk modelling. I attended throughout the year and then I became a Youth Ambassador"



## Renee

**Renee running the catwalk modelling session whilst the tutors supervise her as a Youth Ambassador.**

# Elevated Aspirations CIO

Elevated Aspirations



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## **Fatima**

"I attend all the projects that Elevated Aspirations run. I really like the YouTube videos. That's how I started as a Youth Ambassador"



## **Kareem**

"I became a Youth Ambassador through helping my friend Reneé run some sessions. I really like hosting the community shows and helping other young people to learn"



## **Tianah**

"I attend all the projects with my cousin Fatima. I really like and help in the YouTube Video sessions. I have my own show called 'Tianah's Gossip' "

SALSA



LA SALSA  
VIVE



# Our Impact

## Our Impact

### Reach

This year we have managed to maintain a reasonable level of income. This has resulted in Elevated Aspirations managing to continue to impact and reach communities and young people. This is due to two reasons: firstly, an increase in applications. Secondly, being more successful in our bid applications.

### Increased beneficiaries

By working in partnership with many organisations and venue holders, we have managed to increase the number of people to whom we provided our services.

Through our summer scheme and half term activities we worked with an additional 300 young people in comparison to last year. Furthermore, we worked with an additional 150 adults through our Dancercise Inc. programme.

### Anti-social behaviour

With funding specifically provided to address anti-social behaviour, particularly by young people, we contributed to a decrease in anti-social behaviour in Forest Gate and Stratford areas. However, do not take this as a claim to reducing it overall. Our contributions are a small cog in the big wheel.

### Community groups

Through securing commissioning funding and improved partnership work we have managed to branch to new communities in Newham. Through commissioning, we now work in Plaistow. Through engaging with Councillors, we work in various wards in Newham – especially through Young N Gifted's Choir partnership.



Enjoying the magazine workshop





## Trustees

### **Tuaneri Akoto, MBA, M.Sc., CMI, FCMI**

Tuaneri, alongside the other Trustees, is responsible for determining the strategic and policy direction of Elevated Aspirations and implementing & fulfilling the charity's charitable objectives. Tuaneri has over 27 years' senior and middle management experience.

He has held Chair and Vice Chair positions (Youth Exchange Council Committee, British Council) and sat on various committees and boards. Tuaneri has also written a chapter on social inclusion & education in the international selling book 'A Charge Against Society: A Child's Right to Protection'.



**Tuaneri Akoto**

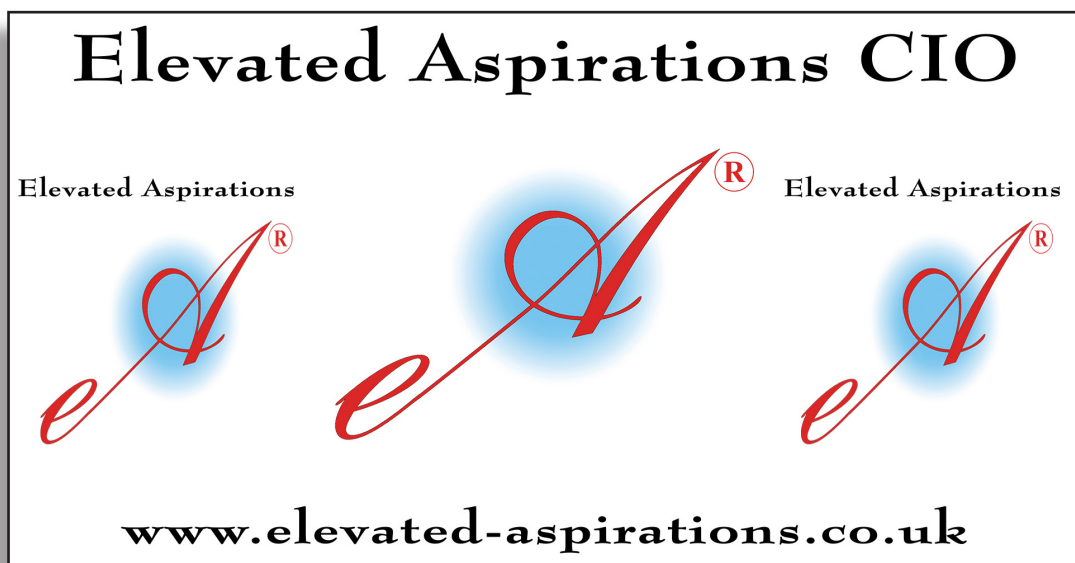


**Shaka Daanwi**

### **Shaka Daanwi DipHE**

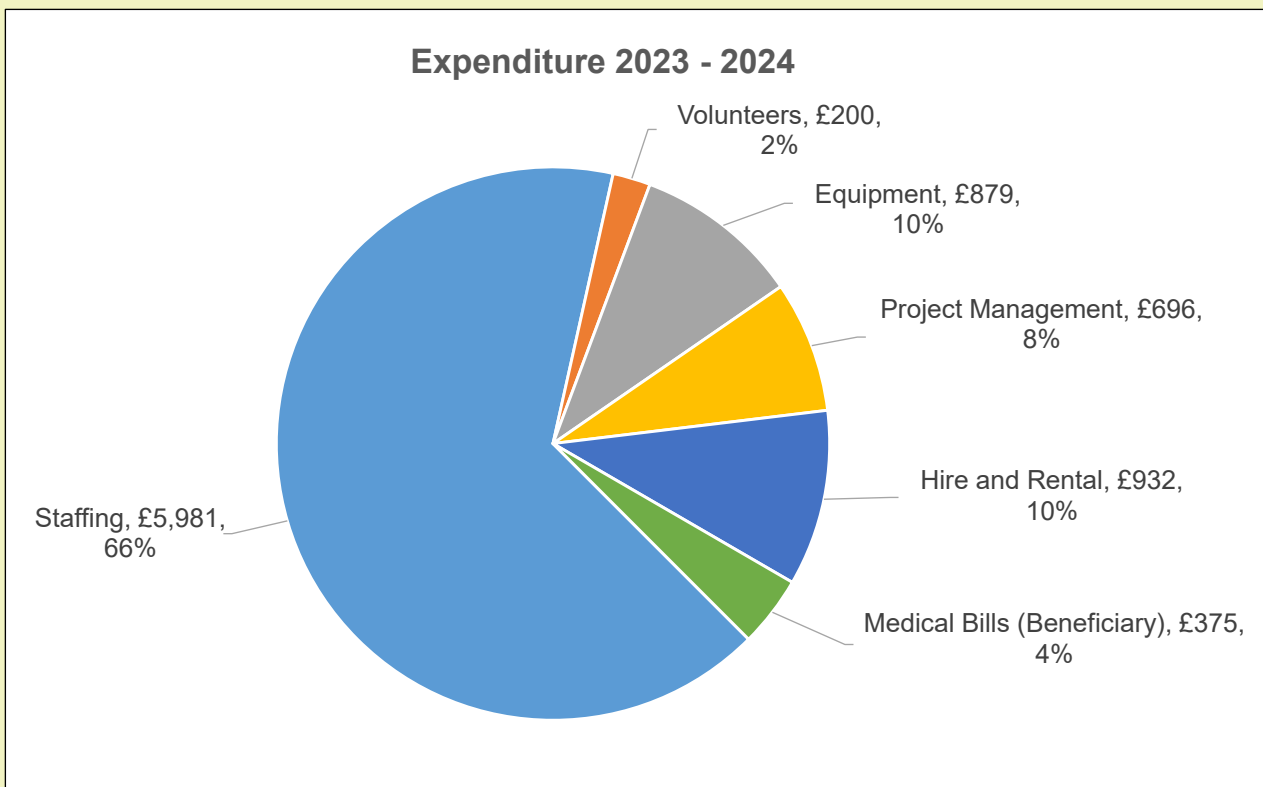
Shaka has a wealth of experience in youth and community work. He has been employed in youth and community work for over 30 years with several youth organizations, however, primarily with Newham Youth Service until leaving in December 2013.

Shaka has spent many years as a strategist and consultant for non-profit organisations. He specialises in music and has over 25 years' experience in the music industry.



# Statement Of Financial Activities

	Notes	2024 Unrestricted £	2024 Restricted £	2024 Total	2023 Total
Income	1 (d)				
Donations and legacies	2	-	9725	9725	14684
<b>Total incoming resources</b>			<b>9725</b>	<b>9725</b>	<b>14684</b>
Expenditure	1 (e)				
Expenditure on charitable activities	3				Year 2024 9063
<b>Total resources Expended</b>					<b>9063</b>
Net movement in funds					Year 2024 662
Total funds brought forward previous year					853
<b>Total carried forward at 31 March 2024</b>					<b>1515</b>



## Thanks To Our Funders, Partners, & Volunteers

All the activities and projects covered in our annual report would not have been possible without the combined contributions from funders, partners, volunteers, staff, and young people. To all these contributors our thanks and gratitude goes out to you for all that has been achieved this year.

1. Young N Gifted
2. Advent Community Association, Kenny Price
3. Coneyl Taylor (Coneyl Taylor Designs)
4. East End Community Foundation
5. Forest Gate Community Neighbourhood Centre
6. London Borough of Newham
7. London Future Achievement Trust: Larmarr White and Eden Cain
8. Rueanne Duncan-Jones
9. Stratford Community Neighbourhood Centre
10. Uptown Dancing Academy: Joanne Simms
11. Youth volunteers
12. Salsa volunteers





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