# Asset Based Community Development Approach to Diabetes Prevention & Weight Management in South Asian Women

Rashida Salloo **READY STEADY ACTIVE** 

Supported & Funded by Diabetes UK Community Champions Programme

**4.7 million** people in the UK have diabetes.

Women & girls from South Asian background have the lowest physical activity rates & face greater barriers than their white counterparts to access physical activity

South Asian and black people are two to four times more likely to develop Type 2 diabetes than white people.

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Why is this important?



The NHS spends at least **£10 billion a year** 

on diabetes.

#### That's 10% of its entire budget.

opportunities &

#### healthcare resources.



- NCVIN (2016), Diabetes Prevalence Model for England + estimated growth between 2015–2020 from APHO (2010) Prevalence Models for Scotland and Wales.
  Hex, N., et al (2012) Estimating the current and future costs of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes in the United Kingdom, including direct health costs and indirect societal and productivity costs. Diabetic Medicine. 29 (7) 855–862.
  Sport England Active Lives survey Nov 2016-18 (two years combined).
  Health and Social Care Information Centre (2006). Health Survey for England 2004, Health of Ethnic Minorities and Ntuk, U.E., Gill, J.M.R., Mackay, D.F., Sattar N. & Pell, J.P. (2014). Ethnic-Specific Obesity Cufoffs for Diabetes Risk:
- Cross-sectional Study of 490,288 UK Biobank Participants. Diabetes Care 37(9), 2500-7.

What is our approach?

Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) uses existing community assets, people, skills & networks to produce health & wellbeing interventions which build relationships, create resources leading to stronger & more empowered communities.

Programme designed & delivered by local community-based sport, health & physical activity provider with strong knowledge, relationships and experience working with South Asian communities.



- 17 adult females of SA background with diabetes or high risk of diabetes recruited onto the programme.
- Designed & delivered a community-centred 8 week programme.
- 3 x physical activity & 1 x information session per week.



## How did we do it?

- Ongoing support.
- Wellbeing, lifestyle and diet monitored.
- Weekly measurements carried out.
- Supported by Diabetes UK, Community Champions, Pharmacists & Consultants.

# What are the results?



- Reduction in weight, BMI and waist circumference measurements.
- Reduction in pulse rate, BP & HbA1c measurements.
- Participants reported improved wellbeing, happiness and knowledge base scores.
- Food diaries showed improved eating patterns.
- Participants showed they maintained positive changes, improved lifestyle, behaviour and knowledge resulting in sustained weight loss.

### What are the conclusions?

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- An ABCD approach building on existing community assets, local expertise, skills and networks can be very effective in engaging South Asian women in health programmes.
- Programme designed & delivered by a trusted local partner with knowledge of the community & culture is key to enabling strong engagement & results.
- Incorporating regular physical activity sessions & regular contact keeps participants engaged.
- Peer-support is important where participants can socially & emotionally support each other. Programme design should include peer support development from the onset.
- Community Champions participation & support was helpful.
- A community-led ABCD approach would enhance the current diabetes intervention offer and could lead to higher success rates and lower costs.

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