## NAVCA Allyship programme

- Presented by Robert Brennan
- Manager Diverse Ethnic Background Service
- Sefton CVS



## **NAVCA Allyship Programme**



Networks and peer support



Access to resources and information





Training and development opportunities



Advocacy and solidarity

#### NAVCA Allyship programme

 Local infrastructure organisations are leaders in their local voluntary, community and social enterprise sectors, and the NAVCA network reaches around 165,000 charities and community groups across England. The programme gives NAVCA members the opportunity to make a real difference locally and nationally, emphasising the important role of local infrastructure and the wider VCSE sector in driving social change and improving community wellbeing

### What is the Allyship Programme?

 Allyship is the practice of actively supporting and advocating for individuals or groups who are marginalised, underrepresented, or facing discrimination. It involves using one's own privilege, power, or position to promote equality, equity, inclusion, and social justice.

•

#### The following are key aspects of Allyship:

- Awareness: Recognising and understanding systemic inequalities and biases.
- **Education**: Continuously learning about the experiences and challenges faced by marginalised groups.
- Action: Actively working to challenge discrimination and promote inclusivity.
- Support: Amplifying the voices of marginalised individuals and groups.
- Responsibility: Taking accountability for one's own biases and mistakes.
- Listening: Paying attention to the needs and perspectives of marginalised communities.
- Solidarity: Standing alongside marginalised groups in their fight for equality.
- **Self-reflection**: Examining one's own privileges and how they can be used to benefit others.
- Ongoing commitment: Recognising that Allyship is a continual process, not a one-time action.

#### Why is Allyship important?

- Amplifying voices: Allies can use their privilege to elevate marginalised voices that might otherwise go unheard.
- Sharing the burden: It relieves marginalised groups from always having to advocate for themselves.
- **Building understanding**: Allyship promotes empathy and cross-cultural understanding among diverse groups.
- Challenging norms: It helps question and dismantle harmful societal norms and stereotypes.
- Supporting mental health: Allyship can reduce feelings of isolation and stress among marginalised individuals.
- Enhancing diversity: It encourages diverse representation in leadership and decision making roles.
- Creating safer spaces: Allies help create environments where people feel safe to be themselves.

# We are already doing this and well along the road on our EEDI journey?

- Ongoing commitment: Recognising that Allyship is a continual process, not a one-time action.
- Education: Continuously learning about the experiences and challenges faced by marginalised groups.
- Changing landscape globally
- Difficult conversations & building community cohesion

