

MONEY ADVICE UNIT BLACK AND MINORITY ETHNIC (BME) CARERS PROJECT

Do you work with BME carers?

Do they need help or advice about the welfare benefits they can claim?

If so, you can refer them to a new BME Carers Project at the Money Advice Unit. This provides welfare benefits advice and representation for BME Carers and those they care for in Hertfordshire.

Benefits we can help with include:	Areas we may be able to help with include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disability Living Allowance• Attendance Allowance• Carer's Allowance• Employment and Support Allowance• Income Support• Jobseekers Allowance• Pension Credit• Tax Credits• Housing Benefit• Council Tax Benefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Benefit checks• Completion of claim forms• Challenging refusals• Outreach and talks

TO CONTACT THE BME CARERS PROJECT

HCC staff should refer carers via IRIS. Others should contact the Money Advice Unit on **01438 843456** and ask for the Referral Management Team. Please state you would like a referral to the **BME Carers Project** and provide as much information as possible about the client's income, any health problems and circumstances.

If we can help, we normally arrange for one of our welfare benefits interviewers to visit the carer and cared for at home or at a convenient place to carry out a benefit check and to assist with the completion of benefit claim forms. The case will then be allocated to our specialist BME carers' adviser for representation in any revisions or appeals.

THE MONEY ADVICE UNIT

The Money Advice Unit is part of Hertfordshire County Council's Adult Care Services. Services provided by the Unit include a number of projects, telephone advice line to staff in statutory and voluntary organisations in Hertfordshire, training and talks.

The MAU has been advising Hertfordshire carers for almost 10 years and will continue to provide benefits advice through its main carers project and the booklet 'Extra Money for Carers'. Research shows however that carers from BME communities have a particular need for benefits advice, which is why Hertfordshire County Council and West Hertfordshire and East and North Hertfordshire PCT have created this special project, initially funded until October 2010.



West Hertfordshire and
East and North Hertfordshire

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