

# Fanon F.C





Football Against Stigma and Prejudice In Mental Health Creating Opportunities

Through Sport

#### Fanon F.C.

The Just Do It! Sports group was founded in 1997 to provide physical activity in a community setting, for young people with Mental Health problems in Birmingham. Since 1997 over 400 different service users have participated with 10,000+ sessions attended, with most enjoying benefits such as improved fitness, confidence and self esteem as well as being fun.

Spin offs from the Just Do It! Group have been the Thursday 5-a-side Sessions and league now being run at Goals Birmingham.

Also teams have participated in local, national, and International events.

The most recent development in this area of service delivery has been the foundation of Fanon F.C. A joint venture between the Birmingham City Council Community Projects Team (south) and the Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health Trust (Frantz Fanon Centre).

Fanon F.C. entered a team in the North Birmingham Sunday Football league in 2004. The objective being promotion of social inclusion in a regular social activity that has expectations as well as responsibilities. We believe that ventures such as these are particularly important because they test participants in a non Mental Health setting.

#### World Cup 2006

Fanon F.C. took on a new challenge at the 2006 World Cup by taking part in a tournament in Frankfurt, between mental health teams and England fans that were part of the SHIFT campaign:

### "FOOTBALL AGAINST STIGMA AND PREJUDICE IN MENTAL HEALTH".

Prior to the trip the players got together to create a banner that was presented to our hosts in Frankfurt. (see below).



#### <u>Outcome</u>

Since the world cup many members of the team have "spread the word" about the benefits they are experiencing, with some players enrolling to take F.A. coaching courses.

#### The Future

2007 will see Fanon F.C. promote more sports related training courses for members, these courses are progressions towards meaningful employment.

The team will be holding fund raising events during 2007 to raise money for:

- (a): Coaching courses
- (b):Participation in a Mental Health tournament at Euro 2008.

For more information on coaching or refereeing opportunities, contact:
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Birmingham B17 9AB

## FANON F.C.

### THE ROAD TO SUCCESS!





SUPPORTED BY GOALS BIRMINGHAM

#### Just Do It! Sports Project

N.I.A Community Hall King Edwards Road Birmingham B1 2AA Tuesdays 11.00am—12.30pm

#### Goals Birmingham

5 A-Side Football Project
Star City
Watson Road
Birmingham B7 5SA
Thursdays
11.00—12.30pm

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