

AYIAN

Ayian comes to the centre for any kind of legal or social advice, and is always eager to meet other people. Originally from Somalia, she moved to Barking 15 years ago, joining the Women's Association 10 years ago.

She describes how the volunteers and the team care for her family: their help was essential in seeking social services for her autistic child. They assisted her in her training for work and in finding schools for her children. Ayian talks of how the centre is pivotal for many families in the area, who come here to build connections. She believes the team's approach to be unique; this is exemplified by the activities offered by the centre and the shared time together. In her words, she feels less lonely and worried, and she can laugh again.

“There is no other place like this; people come here to speak, to get advice, for a tea...”