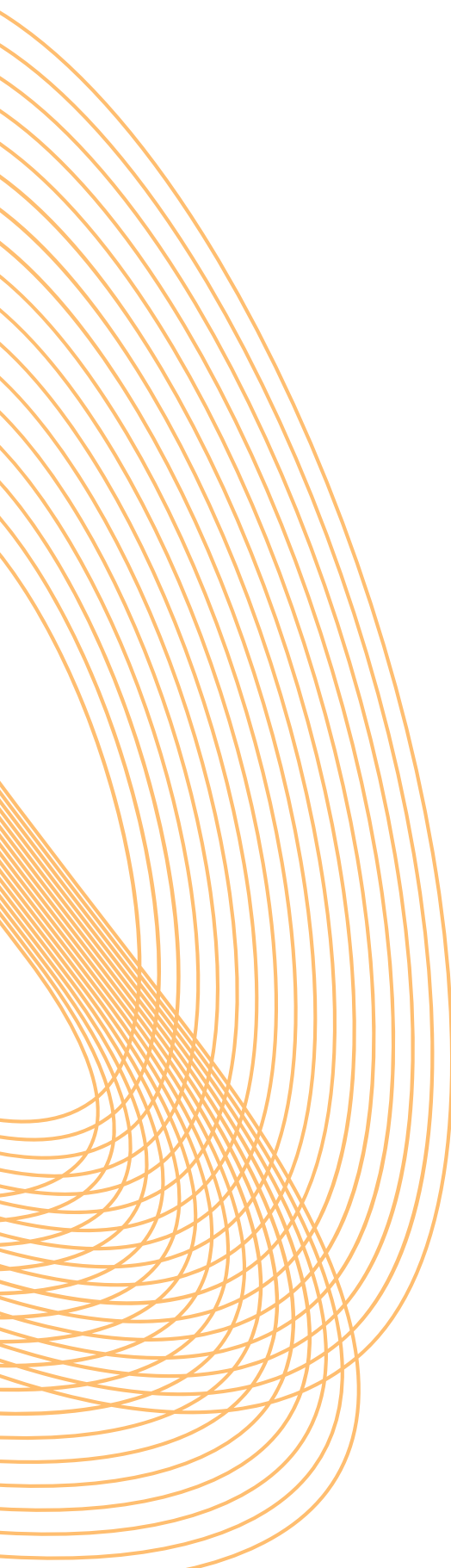
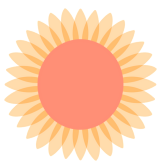


ONLINE COMMUNITY SPACES - IMPACT & EVALUATION REPORT

Expery By Experience

AUGUST 2022





Overview:

The aim of this report is to provide honest evaluation and reflection on online community spaces as they come to a close due to funding running out. The spaces were delivered from 2021 to 2022. Our online community spaces were held digitally and they were separate for South Asian men and South Asian women, non-binary folks were welcome to either of those spaces.

Key Stats:

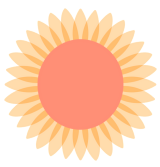
- 11 spaces were delivered in total
- 8 of the spaces were for South Asian men
- 3 of the spaces were for South Asian women
- Over 20 people attended our spaces in total

Key Aims:

The key aims of our online community spaces were to:

- *Facilitate open, honest and non-judgemental spaces for South Asian folks to discuss subjects ranging from body, and mental health to intergenerational trauma*
- *Provide safe spaces in a digital format so that folks are able to feel socially connected from their home environment during COVID-19*
- *To strengthen social connections experienced by those attending our spaces*





Participant Experience, Online Community Space For South Asian Men - Key Quotes:

- *"I loved it + am super grateful for this opportunity!"*
- *"Great dynamic for a small group."*
- *"improvements" might come organically but there isn't anything obviously missing from the space."*

Areas of improvement:

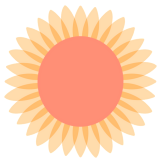
Given that the online community spaces were a pilot on behalf of Expert By Experience, there are some key areas for improvement:

- **Lack of consistency:** one of the central issues that led to a lack of regular attendees and ultimately negatively affected community building was the lack of consistency in the delivery of the spaces. The lack of consistency can be attributed to over-capacity on behalf of the organisation.
- **Lack of structure:** a key theme that started to appear in the spaces, especially in the latter spaces on the men's side, where there weren't many attendees, was a lack of structure in the spaces. While this was intentional on behalf of the facilitator due to lack of people present, it was noted in the question 'What can be improved for next time?' as:

'A little bit more structure'

'I think more structure.'





Future Plans:

Specific to each space, our future plans are highlighted below.

Men's Space: The men's space will not continue, due to a lack of funding and capacity. The facilitator from the men's space, will, however, join the wider Taraki men's facilitation team and will serve as an organiser and facilitator there.

Women's Space: The women's space will not continue, due to a lack of funding and capacity. Neither will it be absorbed into a partner organisation, unlike the men's space.

