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| <b>Name of your Organisation:</b>                                                                                        | Sister System                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Name of the project funded:</b>                                                                                       | Sister System                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Date Funded:</b>                                                                                                      | 10/11/2020 – Black Funding Network                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Were you able to undertake your project as planned?</b>                                                               | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>If no, please outline how the project has changed.</b>                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Can you describe and/or demonstrate the specific impact that BFN funding has had against your initial objectives?</b> | <p>Through our activities throughout the past year, the BFN funding has allowed us to continue supporting our communities and empowered us to grow. It has enabled us to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Deliver a respite trip for 12 of our beneficiaries/sisters to increase their resilience and mental well-being levels. This was a week-long trip to Cornwall which took place in August 2021. During this trip we have undertaken community building activities and organised activities such as surfing, beach trip, arts, movie night, evening campfire and board games to raise their well-being. Many of these young women have never left London before and have never seen the sea or made a campfire. It has given them the opportunity to make amazing memories and experience new things. The funding has enabled us to provide sustenance, sanitary products, and accommodation to our sis-stars throughout the trip.</li> <li>- Allocate 3 team members to the respite trip that were involved in organising activities, dealing with safeguarding and ensuring the positive outcomes of the trip.</li> <li>-We launched the Empowerment Fund from the BFN funding which has enabled some of our sis-stars to buy basic items for themselves or their homes when transitioning to independent living. This has enabled our sisters</li> <li>-Build our reserves and enable us to remain mobile during challenging times.</li> </ul> |
| <b>What portion of the project did BFN fund?</b>                                                                         | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>How many direct beneficiaries did the funded project reach?</b>                                                       | The funding has enabled us to support over 90 of our sis-stars on our various programmes and mentoring sessions through its addition to our reserves. It has given us the autonomy to be able to support our community as its needs change and fluctuate during a challenging time. It has also allowed us to provide the respite trip for 12 of our sis-                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

# TFN Impact Report

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|                                                                                                                                 | stars which had a significant positive impact on their attitude and helped us strengthen the ties amongst the Sister System family.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>How many indirect beneficiaries did the project reach?</b>                                                                   | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Were you able to leverage further funding as a result of BFN support?</b>                                                    | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>If yes, how much were you able to raise?</b>                                                                                 | The trust of the BFN has also given more confidence for future donors to contribute to our unrestricted funds such as Lloyds, Garfield Weston and various corporate donations. Throughout the past year we have been able to receive unrestricted grants totalling £165,000 to be spent over the next two years, which has enabled us to support organisational costs such as staffing and infrastructure. |
| <b>Did you receive any pro-bono support, volunteer offers or introductions as a result of the event?</b>                        | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>If yes, please can you provide details of the support you received?</b>                                                      | The BFN event has given us exposure and has allowed us to raise awareness of our community and its challenges. It has enabled us to make connections with corporate volunteers and donors such as our new relationship with Credit Suisse, whose employees have joined our work coaching network for our programmes and have generously donated to our 2021 programmes' graduation ceremony.               |
| <b>Has the training you received from TFN &amp; BFN better prepared you in pitching your organisation to potential funders?</b> | We would have found it difficult to achieve our objectives without TFN / BFN funding                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Has the process increased your capacity to raise further funds?</b>                                                          | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>How important was the funding in helping you achieve your objectives?</b>                                                    | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Since presenting at the event, has your organisation undergone any other significant changes?</b>                            | Since presenting at BFN, we have grown our team and have on-boarded two staff members, a Business Development Officer and a Partnerships Officer and one Programmes Mentor. We have also launched 3 additional programmes in that time; Leadership Unlocked, Honour Thyself and Peer2Peer Power Up Programme                                                                                               |
| <b>Do you have any other comments or feedback on your experience of the process?</b>                                            | The process was inclusive, easy and very well supported. Pre and post support throughout the event has empowered us to not only excel with the BFN event but further leverage the knowledge and learning for other opportunities.                                                                                                                                                                          |

**Can you tell us any personal stories to highlight the value of the project?**

As a black led organisation that supports 98% black and ethnic groups, we recognise the power and significance of being supported by the BFN. We move forward as a community when we lift one another and empower each other. Having a black specific funding as a by and for charity, empowers us not only through financial means to carry out our work but it also sets a role model and example for our sis-stars to demonstrate that despite the challenges there is always a light at the end of the tunnel.