



**“THIS IS THE TIME WHEN YOUR BRAIN IS AT ITS FITTEST, IT’S LIKE A SPONGE SO LEARN AND TAKE IN AS MUCH AS YOU CAN”**

## **LIFELINE MENTOR Q&A: RAHELA HUSSAIN**

**Lifeline offers development and support to 16-25 year olds looking to start up their own business. After an initial training course some participants are selected for additional support, including access to a business mentor.**

Here, we give you the chance to meet one of these mentors – Rahela Hussain.

Our Lifeline mentors are passionate people who sign up to support an aspiring young entrepreneur on their journey to creating their own online business. Mentors are there to offer guidance and advice, and help their mentee stick with their commitment. It isn't for the faint-hearted – it's a frustrating, but hugely rewarding, process. In return, mentors have a real opportunity to help a young person, one who is facing multiple challenges, to do something that might, without the mentor's support, be out of their reach.

If you're interested in becoming a Lifeline mentor go to [www.brap.org.uk/lifeline](http://www.brap.org.uk/lifeline) for more information.

## **TELL ME A BIT ABOUT YOURSELF**

My name is Rahela Hussain and I live in Birmingham. I am employed as an Office Manager for an equalities charity and my main roles are office management and financial management. I also support the team with project administration and the CEO with diary management and workloads.

A normal day for me would be ensuring the smooth running of the office, dealing with finances and credit control, ensuring staff administration needs are met, and assisting the CEO when requested.

Outside of work my interests are volunteering for charities, social welfare, and outreach work. I also enjoy keeping up to date with the world's going ons and wondering why we don't all live in peace!

To relax I like listening to music, going to the cinema, eating out, and spending quality time with friends.

## **HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE LIFELINE PROJECT?**

Lifeline is a mechanism to establish an individual in a very competitive global market by way of technical, financial, and mentoring support.

## **DESCRIBE YOUR BUSINESS STRENGTHS IN 10 WORDS OR LESS**

I'm organised, financially intelligent, intuitive, diligent, and think outside the box.

## **HOW DID YOU GET WHERE YOU ARE TODAY?**

Sheer determination to achieve my goals, stubbornness, and supportive managers!

## **WHAT LESSONS HAVE YOU LEARNT ALONG THE WAY?**

Make informed decisions, ask questions when you're not sure, and learn how to say 'no' sometimes (really, it's ok to!).

## **WHAT DO YOU THINK ARE THE MAIN ADVANTAGES OF CREATING YOUR OWN BUSINESS?**

Being your own boss, flexibility with time (so you can put as much time into your business as you need), and understanding how a business functions from the ground up – financially and technically.

## **ARE THERE ANY DISADVANTAGES?**

The majority of your time is spent on the business. You may not be confident enough to ask for help – financial and technical – and if so, your business may suffer. If you're the lazy type, the business may slip out of control – and you could lose more than you've put in.

## WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE STARTING A BUSINESS?

Be greedy for success (in a positive way); but be fair and legitimate. Get some good financial understanding – find out how much things cost. And make sure you get a sound understanding of what taxes you're expected to pay if you've registered as a business or are self-employed.

## IF YOU WERE GOING TO SET UP AN ONLINE BUSINESS ON LIFELINE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

A mentoring and advice portal – wherever, whenever people need it.

## WHAT DO YOU WISH SOMEONE HAD TOLD YOU WHEN YOU WERE 16-25?

This is the time when your brain is at its fittest: it's like a sponge so learn and take in as much as you can and dedicate yourself to your education and career. The cars and parties can come later, because if you're broke you won't be enjoying any of that!

## WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT LIFELINE?

The support from brap staff, mentors, and Tiger Bam to equip you to be globally successful in business, potentially all from your front room.

***You can find more information about Lifeline on our website at [www.brap.org.uk/lifeline](http://www.brap.org.uk/lifeline) or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/braplifeline](http://www.facebook.com/braplifeline).***



LIFELINE IS TRAINING AND SUPPORTING 16-25 YEAR OLDS TO SET UP THEIR OWN ONLINE BUSINESS. BY 2017 WE'LL HAVE TRAINED OVER 70 ASPIRING ENTREPRENEURS  
**YOU COULD BE ONE OF THEM!**

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WWW.BRAP.ORG.UK/LIFELINE

