The Rt. Hon. Chris Grayling M.P. opened Twist's Women's Health Project at the Jagonari Women's Education and Resource Centre Whitechapel March 12th 2012. He later described the experience.

"Some people still ask what the Work Programme is all about. What do we mean when we say it is a black box scheme? I like to use this story from Whitechapel to explain.

A group of 25 Bengali women, all referred by their Jobcentre Plus to the Work Programme not only devised a way of getting work, but also contributing to their community and potentially saving the NHS thousands of pounds a year.

The women keen to become self-employed and had been attending weekly enterprise sessions run by The Twist Partnership. The sessions sought to inspire people to use their experiences to find a way into employment. The women had investigated a number of ideas including a setting up a market stall. But they realised that together they all knew of the health problems and social isolation that many Bengali people in London suffer, especially the older generation.

They knew better than anyone the reasons why bad diet, lack of exercise and ignorance about health services continue to be problems for the Bengali community.

The group approached doctors at the Royal London Hospital and received enthusiastic support. Aided by the Team Up initiative run by the London Deanery which aims to get Junior Doctors involved in community projects and with the help of a grant from the medical charity London Catalyst, they launched a Healthy Women's Club.

I met them just after they launched the project back in March and was impressed by the way they had used their skills and experiences to create a real grass roots organisation. And to provide their community with a much better platform to find work.

This is what the Work Programme is all about. …I've seen the way it is transforming lives, and the positive first steps we are making."

Chris Grayling, Minister for Employment,
from a speech to the Institute of Economic Affairs May 30th 2012