

## LEADING LIGHTS



**Name: Maria Franchi**  
**Job title: Senior Consultant**  
**Organisation: Mosaic Consultancy**

### **Why do you do this work?**

I do this work because I really enjoy working with people, and being part of positive change for organisations and individuals. I've made some really good friends amongst the supportive colleagues that I work with. Being a consultant is like being a bee that goes from flower to flower to pollinate different organisations, to share ideas, and enable people to learn from each other.

### **If there was one thing you could change for the Sector, what would it be?**

Recognition and power:- I would like to see the VCS getting the recognition it deserves for the amazing role it plays in binding society together. This would mean there would be more resources available to increase the impact of what we do. This would enable it to realise its power, and, to support people better to bring about positive social action for themselves and each other, rather than delegate to the state.

### **What has been your proudest moment?**

One of my proudest moments is when one of the groups I worked with called the Gap Action Partnership set up a community event and stood up and told their community all about the plan for improving the local area based on the consultation they had done within the community. 12 months before they didn't even know each other, let alone have the skills and confidence to do this. They are still going strong today.

Of course having my new baby daughter Gabriella is probably my most proudest moment!

### **What was your greatest disappointment?**

Too much to do and not enough time!

### **What was the most useful mistake you've ever made and how was it useful?**

In my work I am always making mistakes for example; I never deliver the same training session twice because I always learn something about how to improve it the next time. On a personal level, the best mistake I ever made was when I got stuck in a canal lock in Napton, and I came to Leamington in 1999 and I haven't looked back since!

### **What would your motto be?**

You only regret what you don't do.

### **What is your favourite colour?**

Purple – its not as fiery as red and not as cool as blue. As Alice Walker said 'Womanism is to feminism as purple is to mauve'.

**Contact Details: Tel: 07889 034 221**  
**e-mail: maria@consultmosaic.co.uk**