

FREEDOM TO SING

Choir information pack

www.hearmeoutmusic.org.uk



**HEAR
ME
OUT**

Music from
Immigration Detention



WHO ARE HEAR ME OUT?

We are a UK registered charity devoted to supporting the mental wellbeing of the people locked in immigration detention and to changing attitudes to migrants in the communities around them.

WHAT IS FREEDOM TO SING?

Firstly, thank you for showing an interest in taking part in Freedom To Sing. It means so much to us to know that people like you, want to bring hope to those trapped in immigration detention centres.

Freedom To Sing is a national campaign, asking choirs to learn a song written in detention during one of our sessions called 'Never Give Up.'

Choirs can then perform the song to help free the voices and stories of those who wrote it. Have a look at this [video](#) of choirs taking part during Refugee Week 2021.

WHY?

Young or old, resident or refugee, 28,000 people every year are locked in UK immigration detention centres with no end date. Their lives are stopped while authorities decide their fate.

Hear Me Out take music-making into these centres to release the words, music and life stories of the people held inside. We want more people to hear this and that is where you can help!



THE SONG

The song we are asking choirs to learn is called 'Never Give Up'. This song was written by Porchlight service users and performed by detainees at Dover Immigration Removal Centre. One of the Porchlight group sent the detainees the message of: "never give up the fight" and detainees jammed around this theme and came up with this song. During the exchange they had their experiences with one another and through finding commonality in their experiences sent messages of hope to each other, this song's message is to never give up.



MEET LAMIN

Lamin Joof is one of the detainees who helped to write this powerful song. He said "There was a time when I was very very depressed, sad, thinking that I would never see my family again. I was so down that I didn't want to leave my cell, but when

Hear Me Out came to Dover, where I was held, I joined the sessions and recorded my voice. When I had the opportunity to do this, it gave me courage and I started to come out of myself and exercising. Music gives me hope!" You can read Lamin's full story [here](#).

Watch an interview with Lamin about why the track [here](#).



NEVER GIVE UP RESOURCES

Listen to Never Give Up on our website [here](#).

[Download the full version of Never Give Up](#)

[Download Never Give Up - Alternative Intro
and Outro](#)

[Download Never Give Up - Instrumental](#)

[Download Never Give Up - No Chorus](#)

[Download Never Give Up - Full Score](#)

[Download Never Give Up - Basic Score](#)



NEVER GIVE UP LYRICS

Never Give Up

G D/F# C/E D/F#

G D/F#

Spend years and years locked up in a jailhouse,

C/E D/F#
I just wanna go home,

G D/F# C/E D/F#
Got mouth to feed, people to look after, I just wanna be on road.

G D/F#

So nothing happen only waiting for meself jah jah
C/E D/F#

God come help me out

G D/F# C/E D/F#

Never give up, never give up, never give up the fight!
Never give up, never give up, never give up on life!

Eh Eh, the fittest must survive,
Life is a road with lots of signs,
Choose right, do right, the truth must prevail.
One door must close, now another one open.

Stand firm, do right, the truth must prevail. Eh Eh, *I man* will never give up,
No matter what life throws on me now. *Eya, eya.*

Never give up, never give up, never give up the fight!
Never give up, never give up, never give up on life!

Piccadilly to Tottenham Road, walking with a different boat
Tottenham Road to Oxford Circus getting a twenty five number bus,
China Town to Trafalgar, Singing like a G-Star
Trafalgar to Holborn, Oxen bound from Stanmore
to Chancery Lane, no problem, all my fam
Chancery Lane to Kings Cross, walking,
changing like a boss. Kings Cross to Camden Town is not far away, get some food,
Camden Town to *Twickenham* Road, very far away get me boat.

Never give up, never give up, never give up the fight!
Never give up, never give up, never give up on life!



THE PERFORMANCE

Here are a few things to consider when arranging / rehearsing / performing the song.

1. We would love for you to focus on playing with, layering, harmonising, extending, repeating the chorus "never give up."
2. Be creative. We would love for you to put your own spin on the song. We are looking for versions in all musical genres and with different atmospheres. Feel free to be creative and make it your own.
3. We have provided sheet music and a demo to guide you in arranging the song.

HOW TO FILM IT

This is not compulsory but we would love if you could record your choir performing 'Never Give Up.' This could be via Zoom or with your phone, if you are able to safely perform in person.

Here are a few things to consider when you are filming the song.

1. Make sure that your phone is set to record in the highest quality possible.
2. The brighter the better! Film outdoors to near a natural source of light.
3. Hold your phone upright and stable as possible.



4. Have the sun behind the singer and not in front. This stops people from squinting and makes it brighter.
5. Stand back - Stand around 2 metres away from your singers and slowly pan around the group as they are singing.
6. The more camera the better - if you can find more than one person and have them film from a different angle. Then we can edit them all together at the end.
7. If possible, also film short snippets asking the choir members why they are taking part in 'Freedom To Sing.'

DON'T FORGET TO SHARE YOUR VIDEO AND TAG HEAR ME OUT IF YOU SHARE IT ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

Facebook - @hearouteoutmusic

Twitter - @hearouteoutuk

Instagram - @hearouteoutmusic

LinkedIn - Hear Me Out Music



HOW TO FUNDRAISE

We are so grateful that you have decided to take part in 'Freedom To Sing.' There is absolutely no obligation to fundraise. However, if you are able to - that would be brilliant! Every penny you raise will help to bring hope to those trapped in immigration detention centres.

- To set up your choirs fundraising page visit <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/freedomtosing?invite=true>
- Click on the orange 'Start Fundraising' button on the right of the page.
- If you haven't already, set up a JustGiving account - its really simple but if you need help email emma@hearmeoutmusic.org.uk.
- Click on 'Doing your own thing' and fill in the details. Try and make it as personal as possible and don't forget to include your choirs name.
- Your page will now be linked to the 'Freedom To Sing' campaign and all money raised will come straight to Hear Me Out. Don't forget to share it with the choir and encourage them to share it with their friends and family.

If you prefer to fundraise offline or would like to make a donation via cheque or our website, please email emma@hearmeoutmusic.org.uk.

Thank you so much!



FAQ'S

Can we do this at another time in the year?

Absolutely! You are very welcome to support Freedom To Sing whenever works best for you. Just make sure that you let us know.

Can you come and talk to the choir about the event?

We would love to come and talk to the choir about why they should get involved and the difference it will make. Whilst we might not be able to do this in person, we can be there virtually.

How else can we support Hear Me Out?

Besides fundraising, we are always working to increase our awareness. So please, share our website and tell people about the work we do and the people we help.

Can we change the song?

We have chosen this song because we feel the message is very strong. If you would like to perform a different song, please contact us.

Can I perform it with more than one choir?

Yes, please do! Share with your choir friends. The more, the merrier!

**If you have any more questions, please email
emma@hearmeoutmusic.org.uk**



THANK YOU



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