Migrant women in general and Roma women in particular face significant barriers to obtain meaningful employment. 3500 of Scotland’s total estimated 5000 Roma reside in Govanhill (SM Gateway, 2013). In Govanhill 3,796 (25.6%) of the adult population are ‘income deprived’, whilst 2,300 (22.5%) are ‘employment deprived’ and 38.2% of adults do not have any qualifications, (Census 2012). Due to severe levels of poverty and exclusion Roma integration is a concern locally for the NHS and Glasgow City Council. Peña aims to create a programme of learning and which supports Roma women to develop knowledge and skills which enable them to access meaningful employment and in doing so alleviate poverty.

As a result of this project Roma women collaborated in the production of an accredited AAA course and participated in the development of local and international events.