

WARWICKSHIRE AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE

NEWSLETTER

12th August 2009

WELCOME to the latest edition of the Warwickshire Against Domestic Abuse newsletter. We hope you find the information and articles useful and informative.

If you have anything you would like us to include in a future edition please contact me directly on 01926 746818, or email helenjinks@warwickshire.gov.uk. The deadline for information to be sent for inclusion for the next edition is **Friday 21st August 2009**

Please forward this newsletter onto any colleagues you think may wish to receive it, or contact me with names and email addresses of anyone to be added to the circulation list. This newsletter is also available to download from the "Professionals" page of www.talk2someone.org.uk.

Helen Jinks

Main Menu

Click on the section headings below to be taken directly to the articles that are of interest to you.

At the end of each section you will find a small box titled MAIN MENU which will bring you back to this page to select another section to read.

MAIN MENU

News & Jobs

Publications

Funding

Events

New intervention project for domestic abuse launched at “Meet & Eat!, 4th August 2009

A new one to one counselling project for perpetrators of domestic abuse launched last week at an event arranged by Warwickshire County Council.

The Domestic Abuse Counselling Service (DACS), which has provided a counselling service to Warwickshire victims of domestic abuse since 2006, launched their new ‘Perpetrator Intervention Project’ at the Meet & Eat networking event at the Techno Centre in Coventry on Tuesday 4 August.

Almost 70 professionals, representing 25 local services attended the event which was organised by the county council’s Domestic Abuse Manager, Sue Ingram.

Speaking about the day, Sue said: “This event was designed to provide colleagues from the Warwickshire Against Domestic Abuse Partnership with the opportunity to showcase their services and network with other professionals who work with families.

“Many agencies set up information stands and everyone went away armed with details of other services to offer further support to their clients.

“Domestic abuse has devastating effects on whole families, we offer all the support we can to victims but reaching perpetrators and encouraging them to seek support is another important goal for us. As such we were delighted that Domestic Abuse Counselling Service used this event to launch the new arm of their valuable service.”

DACS provides a counselling service to those who have been victimised by domestic abuse living within Warwickshire. The aim of the victim counselling is to empower those who have been emotionally disabled, and socially disadvantaged by the impact of domestic abuse, toward living full and productive lives.

The service extension for perpetrators has been made possible due to successful bid for Big Lottery funding. DACS received £430 000 to set up and provide a program of therapeutic intervention therapy for perpetrators of abuse over the next 4 years. The funding will be used predominantly for staffing to deliver the project throughout Warwickshire.

Kate Farmer, chief officer for DACS said: “Our counselling service is made possible through the use of volunteer counsellors and is available to both male and female victims and perpetrators of abuse in heterosexual or same sex relationships. We believe that the only way to ‘effect change’ is to work with both victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse to reduce repeat victimisation and work toward building safer family relationships.

“The new project offers a programme of individual therapy to perpetrators with the aim to reduce abuse by helping people to recognise their personal issues and work toward making positive behavioural changes.

“We would like to encourage perpetrators to come forward and informally call the office for information. We also accept referrals from other voluntary and statutory agencies.”

To make a referral to DACS or for further information about the service please call 0845 00 44 075, or e-mail kate.farmer@dacs.service.org.uk.

New NOS tackle domestic violence and sexual abuse

Skills for Justice has announced that the National Occupational Standards (NOS) for Preventing and tackling domestic and/or sexual abuse/violence have now been approved and are available to access via their NOS Finder Tool. The NOS Finder allows you to access and download the approved standards in Word documents format.

http://www.skillsforjustice-nosfinder.com/suites.php?suite_id=32&per_page=50

Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation

The DCSF have published new guidance for professionals (June 2009). This guidance is aimed at local safeguarding children board (LSCB) partners, practitioners and other professionals working with children and young people. It is intended to help them safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people who are at risk of, or who are being, sexually exploited. It is supplementary to, and should be used in conjunction with, the Government's statutory guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children.

[Download Safeguarding Children & Young People from Sexual Exploitation Guidance](#)

EHRC Three-Year Strategic Plan

The Equalities and Human Rights Commission has published its three-year strategic plan setting out its priorities and work programmes to March 2012. Trevor Phillips said, 'Our strategic plan prepares us for a radically changed landscape, with the Commission taking a modern approach to empower people to be their best, help organisations to act fairly and take action against those who do not.' For a copy of the Commission's strategic plan visit their [website](#).

Una Padel Award

The Centre for Crime and Justice Studies is for the third year launching the Award in memory of Una Padel. The award seeks to reward unrecognised commitment, determination and potential. Nominations are invited in support of those people or organisations you feel have made, or show the potential for making, a real contribution to helping improve the lives of offenders, victims, families and communities. Deadlines for nominations: Tuesday 3 November 2009.

[Click here for more information on the award and details of how to nominate](#)

[MAIN MENU](#)

Who does what to whom?

The University of Bristol in association with the Northern Rock Foundation have published new research into the gender of domestic violence perpetrators. The research, funded by the Northern Rock Foundation, was carried out by Marianne Hester, Professor of Gender, Violence and International Policy at the School for Policy Studies and Co-director of the Violence Against Women Research Group.

[Click here to download a copy of **Who Does What to Whom? Gender and Domestic Violence Perpetrators**](#)

Violence against Women in South Asian Communities: Issues for Policy and Practice

Jessica Kingsley publishers have published a new book edited by Ravi Thiara and Aisha Gill on violence against South Asian women. The book explores the key theoretical and empirical issues involved in gendered violence, ethnicity and South Asian communities. The editors draw together leading researchers and practitioners to provide a critical reflection of contemporary debates and consider how these reflections can inform policy, research and practice. The contributors consider the primacy of religion and culture, and how South Asian women face multiple and intersecting forms of violence. Future directions for facilitating improved services for survivors of violence against women from different racial and ethnic backgrounds are also proposed.

[Click here for more information about the book and to order your copy](#)

Domestic violence and abortion

A new paper by Gill Aston and Susan Bewley, to be published in *The Obstetrician & Gynaecologist* examines the relationship between abortion and domestic violence. The authors call for greater awareness about domestic violence, and underline the need to support women seeking to terminate unwanted pregnancies associated with intimate partner violence.

A significant number of women requesting an abortion have been, or still are, in violent relationships. The widespread disparities and inequalities in access to abortion under the NHS may be particularly difficult for women who fear disclosing pregnancy or termination to violent partners, and for women who have been isolated from sources of social support.

The authors stress that some women are protected by abortion from continuing with unwanted pregnancies and are enabled to escape violent relationships. Proposed liberalisation or restrictions of abortion law may particularly affect those women presenting late, in violent relationships or with little social support or financial resources. The article may be purchased from their [website](#).

Comic Relief UK grants 2009-2012 announced

Comic Relief has chosen a number of focus areas for its UK grants programme for 2009-2012 which are now open and include: mental health; young people experiencing domestic and sexual abuse; refugee and asylum seeking women; sport for change; young people facing sexual exploitation or trafficking; young people with alcohol problems; young people with mental health problems, and local communities. View more information on the aims, outcomes and how to apply [here](#). The next two application deadlines are Friday 13 November 2009 and Friday 05 March 2010.

[MAIN MENU](#)

Events

Please find below a selection of events taking place in the UK. Further details for any of the events below, plus the full listing of events can be found at www.talk2someone.org.uk. To add your events to this webpage please send all details to helenjinks@warwickshire.gov.uk

SEPTEMBER

Teenage partner violence in intimate relationships 2nd September 2009, London
([Click here for further details](#))

Bright Ideas Conference 15th September 2009, London ([Click here for further details](#))

Recovering from the Impacts of Domestic Violence: Injured Self Esteem 25th September 2009, London ([Click here for further details](#))

OCTOBER

Basic Counselling Skills 1st October 2009, London ([Click here for further details](#))

How should we most effectively tackle domestic violence, abuse and sexual exploitation 5th October 2009, London ([Click here for further details](#))

Parenting following domestic violence 15th & 16th October 2009 ([Click here for further details](#))

NOVEMBER

What did I do wrong? 9th & 10th November 2009, Bristol ([Click here for further details](#))

Domestic Violence Perpetrator Work 16th – 20th November 2009 ([Click here for further details](#))

[MAIN MENU](#)