

# WARWICKSHIRE AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE

## NEWSLETTER

11<sup>th</sup> February 2009

**WELCOME** to the ninth 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](mailto:helenjinks@warwickshire.gov.uk). The deadline for information to be sent for inclusion for the next edition is **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 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](http://www.talk2someone.org.uk).

Helen Jinks

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### **New domestic violence leaflet offers support and advice**

The Home Secretary has launched a new leaflet with information on how to support a friend or relative who is in a violent relationship. The purse-sized guide explains how you can recognise if someone you know is suffering from domestic violence, and what practical support is available in order to help them.

#### **Banks working to support independence**

The Home Office has also been working with the British Banker's Association to provide additional banking support for victims. The new measures will allow victims to open an independent account without the usual requirements for multiple proof of identity or address.

#### **More funding for support services**

Other measures introduced today include:

- a further £3.5m to stop interpersonal violence
- £860,000 to support domestic violence helplines
- a fast-track service and updated training for Jobcentre Plus staff so they can better identify and support victims.

To view the press release in full and download the new leaflet go to:  
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/about-us/news/domestic-violence-leaflet>

### **New research undertaken in Ireland by COSC (The National Office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Ireland) examines the public's attitude to domestic violence**

According to the findings, just over 70% of people surveyed believe that domestic abuse against women is fairly or very common, while 42% believe that such abuse is also common against men. Some 44% said that they knew somebody who had personally been a victim of domestic abuse. Over 90% of people would help a friend who was being subjected to domestic abuse. However just 38% would help a neighbour in the same position, a major new report has found and respondents said they were significantly less likely to become involved if the person being abused was not a friend. The respondents were also asked whether they thought other people who had witnessed domestic abuse would report it to the Gardaí (police) 74% thought this was unlikely.

COSC is currently running a national public awareness campaign, 'Your Silence Feeds the Violence'. It is aimed at strongly encouraging the public to take an active role in supporting people who are experiencing domestic abuse. The campaign message illustrates that we are all complicit if we allow domestic violence to continue unchallenged.

[Click here](#) to download the Attitudes to Domestic Abuse in Ireland report

## Map of Gaps 2

Map of Gaps is a unique campaign by the [Equality and Human Rights Commission](#) and the [End Violence Against Women coalition](#) which maps services for women who have experienced violence.

These are vital services that help women name and recognise violence, flee to a place of safety, support them through the justice system (if they choose to report what's happened), advocate on their behalf with other agencies and help them rebuild their lives.

What services are mapped?

We have mapped services that work primarily on violence against women and provide significant support to female victims/survivors. This includes voluntary sector services, such as Rape Crisis Centres and domestic violence refuges, as well as statutory services such as Specialist Domestic Violence Courts and Sexual Assault Referral Centres.

To read the report and use interactive maps go to: <http://www.mapofgaps.org/>

## NSPCC Domestic Violence Campaign - 6 Feb 2009

The NSPCC has launched a campaign calling on the government to see domestic violence from a child's point of view. Every year over 750,000 children experience domestic violence and this can cause serious emotional harm. In homes where there is domestic violence, children may also be physically and sexually abused themselves. To find out more about the NSPCC's campaign and sign the petition: [www.nspcc.org.uk/dvcampaign](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/dvcampaign)

## Home Office Statistical Bulletin 02/09 - *Homicides, Firearm Offences and Intimate Violence 2007/08 (Supplementary Volume 2 to Crime in England and Wales 2007/08)*

[Download a copy of this bulletin](#)

This bulletin is one of a series of supplementary volumes that accompany the main 2007/08 crime volume, Crime in England and Wales 2007/08, which is available at [The Home Office Statistical Bulletin](#)

It contains chapters on homicides and firearm offences, which contain mostly statistics of crimes recorded by the police. Headline figures for both measures were published in the main 2007/08 crime volume, but these chapters contain underlying detail that has not been published before. There is also a chapter on the extent of intimate violence from the 2007/08 British Crime Survey (BCS) self-completion module.

BCS figures for overall violence and other crime types are reported in the main 2007/08 crime volume.

## **VACANCY: Social Worker (Domestic Violence) Ref: CYPF.5020**

**Bedworth Children's Team, Full time, 37 Hours, Permanent**

**£21,937 - £28,270 per annum (up to £30,456 dependant on qualifications and experience)**

This is a unique post in Warwickshire County Council. It is based at Bedworth Children's Team but you will be, with another colleague, offering a county wide service.

The post itself involves working directly with children who have experienced domestic violence in the family, working with victims of domestic violence and offering risk assessments of perpetrators of domestic violence.

You will have opportunities to be involved in professional training around domestic violence issues. You will also have the opportunity to shape and influence the County Council's service delivery and policy in respect of domestic violence.

**You should be registered by the General Social Care Council (or undertake registration), prior to commencement in post.**

To apply online please visit our website [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/jobs).

**This is our preferred method of application.**

Alternatively application forms and further details are available from the HR Service Centre, telephone 01926 738500 (24 hour answer phone) or by email [recruitment@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:recruitment@warwickshire.gov.uk). Blind/visually impaired applicants may request further details on audiotape by telephone 01926 416896. Deaf/hearing impaired applicants may use our Minicom (01926 412277).

**Closing date: 23 February 2009**

**Interview date: 19 March 2009**

**COMMITTED TO EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

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## Consultations

### Department of Health (DoH) - share your views

[Click here](#) to have your say on health guidance on prevention of domestic violence!

The DoH has asked the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) to develop and publish Public Health Guidance including **Preventing domestic violence**.

### WRC: Survey of organisations interested in or currently working on FGM

The Women's Resource Centre has been asked by a group of independent charitable funders to conduct an assessment of voluntary and community organisations and projects in the UK which are currently working in the FGM (female genital mutilation) field, or supporting women and girls affected, or which are interested in, or have the potential to work in this area. The survey closes on Tuesday 17 February at 3pm.

If you want to help shape decisions about possible future funding, please [click here](#) to complete this very brief survey.

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## Publications

### Homicides, firearm offences and intimate violence 2007/2008: supplementary volume 2 to crime in England and Wales 2007/08.

**Summary:** Further analysis and detail on homicide and gun crime published in Crime in England and Wales 2007/08. Includes breakdowns for homicides on age and sex of victim, method, circumstance, relationship of victim to principal suspect, and court outcome. Presents the intimate violence findings from the 2007/08 British Crime Survey (BCS) self-completion module on partner abuse, family abuse and sexual assault.

**Publication details:** London: Home Office. Research, Development and Statistics Directorate, 2009 pp 94

**ISBN:** 9781847268754

**Authors:** Povey, David ed. et al

To download a copy of this publication please [click here](#)

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## Young women, money, debt and financial abuse

Most young people make financial mistakes; it is part of learning and growing up. Many can rely on their families to help sort a problem. But girls and women from disadvantaged communities have no such safety net and are at risk of losing much more. Girls and women from disadvantaged communities often have very little money. They work hard to try to manage what they have, but their lower incomes and caring responsibilities mean poverty often hits them harder than it hits men.

Young women who are financially dependent on men (their husbands, partners, fathers, brothers, uncles) are at risk of financial abuse - having money denied to them or only given in return for something. These unequal power balances in their relationships puts them at very high risk of abuse; with no money of her own it is very hard for a woman to leave a violent partner.

[Read the facts of the matter](#) or download YWCA's free two-page information sheets: [young women and financial abuse](#) and [girls just wanna have funds](#).

## Factsheets about local government policy

The Women's Resource Centre has developed a range of easy-to-read factsheets about some of the key local government policies and mechanisms women's organisations need to know about. They will be adding to these resources, so if there are key local issues you would like them to create a factsheet on, please contact Darlene by [email](#) or call 020 7324 3036.

Fact sheets include:

- Greater devolution of decision making from Whitehall to local authorities and local people: Opportunities for influencing
- Duty to involve
- Local Strategic Partnerships
- Local Area Agreements
- Participatory Budgeting

WRC has also produced [guides for women's groups](#) on engaging with local agendas.

The factsheets and other resources can be downloaded from:

[http://www.wrc.org.uk/resources/help\\_for\\_your\\_organisation/working\\_locally/factsheets.aspx](http://www.wrc.org.uk/resources/help_for_your_organisation/working_locally/factsheets.aspx)

# Funding

## Merlin's Magic Wand

The Merlin Entertainments Group - of which Alton Towers is a part - has launched its own charity called "Merlin's Magic Wand". This has been set up to provide magical experiences for children who are seriously ill, disabled or disadvantaged and who might not otherwise be able to attend any of its attractions worldwide. Grants may be made towards the cost of travel and accommodation if needed, in addition to providing entrance passes to the attraction or experience. Applications for awards can come from individuals or organisations. For an application form, please call 0207 487 0288 or email [hilary.birkinshaw@merlinentertainments.biz](mailto:hilary.birkinshaw@merlinentertainments.biz).

## Southall Black Sisters No Recourse Fund

Women fleeing domestic violence desperately need emergency accommodation, support and protection. However those subject to the 'no recourse to public funds', because of their insecure immigration status (i.e. they are not UK residents), cannot access any form of emergency accommodation, including refuges, as they are not able to claim housing benefit, income support and other state benefits. They are also prohibited from accessing any form of social housing through the local authority. The result is that they are faced with stark choices: leave and face destitution or stay and risk their lives. In recognition of the plight of hundreds of women and children in this situation, Southall Black Sisters, have, with funds provided by London Councils and the charity Oxfam, set up a small 'last resort fund' called the 'SBS No Recourse Fund' (SBS NRF). For more information and to download an application pack please visit: <http://www.southallblacksisters.org.uk/>

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## FEBRUARY

### **How the Perpetrator Operates**

#### **A two-day programme**

Organisation: Sea Change

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> February 2009

Venue: Sydni Centre, Leamington Spa

Course covers:

- Exploration of the typical belief systems and values of the male heterosexual domestic abuse perpetrator, including other minority cultures
- Exploration of the cultural and historical context in which the perpetrator commits abuse
- How these belief systems influence the perpetrator's parenting
- The links between domestic abuse, sexual abuse, and child sexual abuse
- Key risk factors for domestic abuse; risk assessment tools and systems
- Links between domestic abuse and stalking
- Developing skills in engaging with perpetrators; use of key learning and analysis tools e.g. critical thinking

Cost: £200 plus VAT

Refreshments and lunch provided.

For more information and bookings please contact Laura on 01242 580702 or email [laura@seachangedv.co.uk](mailto:laura@seachangedv.co.uk) or visit our website for further course information

<http://www.seachangedv.co.uk/>

### **Sexual Violence**

#### **An interactive seminar for agencies and practitioners**

Organisation: Sea Change

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> February 2009

Venue: Taunton Somerset Cricket Club

Topics covered:

- Global perspectives on sexual violence
- Gender based violence and power - an overview
- Domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Cultural influences on sexual and domestic abuse
- Domestic violence and child sexual abuse – the connections
- Escalation and risk
- Currently emerging responses to sexual violence, domestic violence and child abuse.

Cost £150.00 plus vat

For more information and bookings please contact Laura on 01242 580702 or email [laura@seachangedv.co.uk](mailto:laura@seachangedv.co.uk) or visit our website for further course information

<http://www.seachangedv.co.uk/>

# MARCH

## **Working with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence – 5 day training course**

Date: March 23rd - 27th 2009

Organisation: Partnership Abuse Interventions (PACT)

Venue: Walnut Tree Walk, Kennington, London, SE11 6DN

Details: PACT offers a wide range of bespoke training courses on all aspects of domestic violence intervention work.

PACT courses are run by some of the most experienced workers in the field of domestic violence intervention. They are participatory, memorable and practical.

They incorporate diverse teaching methods, including drama to experiential exercises, in order to meet a broad range of learning styles. They are designed to change people's practice, rather than just increase their knowledge base.

For more information visit: [www.partnerabuseinterventions.co.uk](http://www.partnerabuseinterventions.co.uk)

## **Working with Perpetrators**

### **A Five-day Programme**

Organisation: Sea Change

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> March – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2009

Venue: Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

Course will cover :

- Prioritising the safety of victims and children
- Multi-agency context as pre-requisite of running the programme
- Techniques for individual work with perpetrators prior, during and post group participation, especially the development of critical thinking and dealing with denial
- Exploration of theory, structure, and good practice in the implementation and delivery of group-work models
- Techniques for running groups, in particular key learning tools
- Assessing risk and information sharing
- Key messages concerning working with the influence of culture, links with child sexual abuse, stalking and harassment

Cost £500.00 plus Vat

For more information and bookings please contact Laura on 01242 580702 or email

[laura@seachangedv.co.uk](mailto:laura@seachangedv.co.uk) or visit our website for further course information

<http://www.seachangedv.co.uk/>

# APRIL

## Men's Involvement in Children's Lives

A 2 day conference to explore responsible fathering, contact, risk and the positive contribution men can make to children's lives

**31 March and 1 April 2009 at Park Inn, York**

### Speakers confirmed to date

**Dr Oliver Williams** - Director of the Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community, Professor Social Work at the University of Minnesota

**Johnny Rice II** - Baltimore, USA - Responsible Fathering Programme

**Lisa Nitsch** - House of Ruth, Baltimore, USA Domestic Violence Prevention Programme

**DAY ONE** of this event will look at domestic abuse and child contact and includes a question time style panel which will give the audience the opportunity to debate with the speakers and each other.

**DAY TWO** will focus on men's involvement in children's lives and developing shared agendas between father's groups and women's groups.

### **Conference fees**

Statutory / private sector £190 per day                      Voluntary sector £150 per day

### **\*\*Discounted rates for Respect members\*\***

Statutory / private sector £160 per day                      Voluntary sector £130 per day

**20% early bird discount for *all* bookings received by 5th March**

### **Booking Information**

Conference booking forms can be downloaded from the Respect website:  
<http://www.respect.uk.net/>

For further information phone Sarah Read: 020 7022 1853 or email: [events@respect.uk.net](mailto:events@respect.uk.net)

## The Recovery Toolkit

Organisation: Sue Penna Associates

Dates: 20 & 21 April 2009

Venue: Engineers House, Bristol

Cost: £250 per delegate + VAT @15%

Details: Sue Penna Associates is facilitating an exciting new group programme for women who have experienced domestic abuse/violence. This two day course aims to enable individuals to be able to deliver this exciting and new group programme for women recovering from domestic abuse/violence.

The training is aimed at individuals working in this sector who would like to deliver a group programme to women who have experienced domestic abuse/violence.

The Recovery Toolkit uses a psycho educational model believing that by giving individuals knowledge we enable them to better understand and deal with their previous experiences.

The individuals own strengths, resources and coping skills are reinforced contributing to their own health and wellness on a long term basis.

To book a place or obtain further details contact: Sue Penna Associates, Unit 3, Penwith, Business Park, Long Rock, Penzance [admin@supenna.co.uk](mailto:admin@supenna.co.uk) or phone 01736 365656.

Accredited Training Programme

## **‘Appropriate Responses to Domestic Violence’**

**A four day programme in two units**

**Fully Accredited by Open College Network to Level 3**

### **Course details for 2009**

23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> April and 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> May 2009

**Venue:- Hesters Way Community Resource Centre, Cheltenham**

- Domestic Violence - the facts
- Dynamic of violent relationships
- Perpetrator's tactics and motivation
- Effects on Victims and children
- Links between domestic violence, sexual abuse, child abuse and child sexual abuse
- Holistic approaches – male victims/same sex relationships, other minority groups
- Risk factors, asking the question, responding to disclosures, information sharing
- Advocacy skills
- Remedies – police response, the criminal justice system
- Other agencies and their roles and responsibilities
- Multi-agency partnerships
- County and national initiatives and practical resources

**Current Fee £220.00** + vat per unit  
(inclusive of registration and assessment fees)

Discounts available for the voluntary sector agencies; please call to discuss

Contact [laura@seachangedv.co.uk](mailto:laura@seachangedv.co.uk) or 01242 580702

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