



Violence Against Women & Girls
A monthly newsletter brought to you by the
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Partnership

June 2016

Dear Partners

You may have seen the international campaign 'No More' which is focusing awareness on domestic abuse and sexual violence and had its UK launch in May. We are proud to say that the Partnership are now partners of the UK Says No More project and we have signed the pledge to say 'no more' to domestic abuse and sexual violence. We will be sharing messages and information from the campaign via our social media pages so make sure you're signed up to like or follow us to keep up to date.

We are partnering with the Safeguarding Adults Team at CCC and South Cambs Community Safety Partnership to deliver a workshop to volunteers in September which will focus on adults with care and support needs and how volunteers can identify domestic abuse. See the flyer on page 7 for more information.

I am also starting to pull together a VAWG Needs Assessment for the county in order to meet Home Office requirements for the revised VAWG Strategy. VAWG is much wider than domestic abuse and includes FGM, forced marriage and so-called honor based violence so the Partnership will need to have robust plans in place in order to meet the Statement of Expectations that will be released shortly.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and remember that you can submit articles to Amanda.warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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Freedom Programme at The Meadows Children and Family Wing

The Meadows Children and Family Wing provide the full 12 week Freedom Programme three times a year, with a crèche running alongside.

This domestic violence programme helps women to understand the beliefs held by abusive men and the effects domestic violence and domestic abuse has upon children, whilst helping them gain the confidence to improve the quality of their lives, and that of their children, along with identifying local resources that can help.

It is about enabling and empowering women to make positive future choices for themselves. Women who have experienced abuse often have little, or no, understanding of what has happened to them and it feels like a painful and confusing mess for which they may feel largely to blame. The Freedom Programme aims to start unravelling this with the women, working at their own pace, enabling them to grow and gain in confidence.

The philosophy of the programme is based on research and outlines the role played in such offending by the pursuit of power and control.

- 12 week programme working with women who are/have been victims of domestic violence
- Starts with an assessment to determine the suitability of the woman for the programme and
- Additional time given for women who need extra support and telephone support during the week
- Free crèche runs alongside in the same building
- Up to 15 women per course

To make a referral or for further details please contact us on the following:

info@mcfw.co.uk or telephone 01223 508144/07522 449895

Closure of Broken Rainbow

In May we learned that Broken Rainbow, the specialist service for LGBT people experiencing domestic abuse, sadly closed. However, their Helpline is being picked up by Galop and continues on 0300 999 5428. For more information: <http://www.galop.org.uk/news-events/>

New NHS Safeguarding App

NHS England have released new safeguarding apps – one for adults and one for children – that are a helpful tool for all frontline practitioners. The app is free and easy to download and can be accessed at www.myguideapps.com/nhs_safeguarding/cam

We are aware that the app signposts to national training rather than local so we have asked if this can be changed.

First maternity clinic for rape survivors opens

The My Body Back Maternity Clinic is the first designated maternity clinic for rape survivors worldwide, where patients receive tailored, sensitive care. The clinic is run by, Pavan Amara, consultant midwife Inderjeet Kaur, and obstetrician and gynaecologist Rehan Khan and is based at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London.

The clinic offers the following services:

- Ante-natal classes
- Pregnancy care and examinations
- Care during labour and birth
- Breastfeeding advice
- Specialist advice on ensuring mental wellbeing during labour
- Post-natal gynaecological exams
- Post-natal mental health support
- Pre-pregnancy support for women who want to conceive

For more information, email maternity@mybodybackproject.com

News from START Counselling

At START Counselling we acknowledge that the need for affordable, long-term therapy for trauma and/or abuse victims is growing. As a result of that, we are very excited to let you know that our Counselling Service is also growing. We will be shortly be taking on two more counsellors to work potentially long term with clients who have experienced trauma and/or abuse. Referrals can be made over the phone (01480 878409) or by email (info@startcounselling.co.uk) either by the client themselves or by a professional. We will then book an initial assessment session and go from there. Our criteria is that the client has experienced trauma and/or abuse and is willing to start potentially long term therapy. We charge a maximum of £40 per session but can be flexible with the fee depending on the client's financial situation.

If you would like a copy of our new flyer about the service, please get in touch and. If you would like a more informal talk or further information, please contact Elisabeth on elisabeth@startcounselling.co.uk

Sign petition to make elder abuse a crime

Action on Elder Abuse have just launched a campaign calling for an aggravated offence of elder abuse. They have set up a petition and hope to get 10,000 signatures then Government will have to respond. You can sign the petition at <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/132323>

AEA also published an article on the campaign in the Community Care magazine which you might find interesting: <http://tinyurl.com/z253vx8>

Upcoming Training

The dates and venues for Domestic Abuse training are below, to book, click on the following link and choose the 'Workforce Development Children's' option at the bottom of the page
<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/learntogether/social>

Introduction to Domestic Abuse (1.5 day course)

13-14 July 2016 12-13 October 2016 6-7 December 2016

Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment - 30th June, 11th October, 25th January 2017

Domestic Abuse Typologies – 21st June, 6th July

Details of all four levels of domestic abuse training offered in Cambridgeshire are now available on our website http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk/website/training_1/86050

Safeguarding Adults Training 2016/17

The new one day course on domestic abuse for people working with adults at risk runs monthly. The new Safeguarding Adults Training Programme, including all course dates, can be downloaded [here](#).

Cambridgeshire LSCB 2016/17 Training Programme

The LSCB have launched their 2016/17 training programme.

All course and application information is now available on the LSCB website where you can also apply for the courses via Booking Bug.

You will also find the LSCB training principles and information relating to non LSCB courses and LSCB single agency validation www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/lscb

Police to publish Sexting guidance for schools

Senior police officers are to publish guidance to schools and forces in England and Wales over how to deal with sexting, taking in a Home Office directive to avoid criminalising children who engage in the practice.

The National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC), which is working in partnership with the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre and the UK Council for Child Internet Safety, told MPs that it aimed to issue the guidance in time for the new school year.

Earlier this month, the NPCC reported an escalation in classroom sexting offences being reported to police and said pupils did not understand the meaning of consent. It said the availability of online pornography and the absence of sex and relationship education in schools were key factors altering the behaviour of young people.

Guidance to police forces in England and Wales will cover the basis for mounting an investigation into alleged sexting offences and the use of a new Home Office crime code, outcome 21, which allows discretion to take no further action in certain cases.

Women's Aid Annual Survey

Women's Aid carry out an annual survey into the work of the domestic abuse centre and have just published their 2015 Annual Survey.

Key findings:

- Women with mental health support needs made up 27.82% of the women using community-based services and 33.74% of those in refuge accommodation.
- Women with physical health support needs accounted for 5.29% of women using community-based services and 6.12% of those staying in refuges.
- Women with drug and alcohol issues made up 10.24% of women using community-based services and 9.76% of women in refuge accommodation.
- Women requiring multilingual (interpreting) support accounted for 4.15% of women using community-based services and 13.25% of women in refuge accommodation.
- Whilst Domestic abuse-related crime represented a third of all recorded "assault with injury" crimes and accounts for 13% of all sexual offences, it only accounts for 14.1% of all court prosecutions.
- Financial abuse, a core element of coercive control, which became a criminal offence in 2015, is increasing with high numbers of women report this as part of their abuse.
- The 'census day' found over 1800 women and over 1800 children being housed in refuges on that specific day.

To read the full report, please visit <https://www.womensaid.org.uk/research-and-publications/annual-survey-2015/>

Space Project at six months

The Space Project, which supports women who have had children permanently removed from their care, has just reached the six month point. So far, the project has received 28 referrals – six of which didn't meet criteria and two where the mother didn't consent to working with the project. Of the twenty active cases, almost all have violent or controlling partners or ex-partners and six have learning disabilities or difficulties. Some early successes include eight mothers agreeing to long acting reversible contraception, housing-related support provided for several mothers and assistance with benefits and finance provided also.

The project is still taking referrals so if you are working with a mother who has had (or is in the process of having) a child under 2 removed, please get in touch

SpaceProject@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Tackling domestic and sexual violence/abuse in Cambridge continues

The Cambridge Community Forum on Domestic and Sexual Violence/Abuse, which was officially launched in February 2015, brings together leading figures in Cambridge city, drawn from diverse facets of city life, to help tackle domestic and sexual violence/abuse by raising awareness of the issues, with the aim of increasing reporting rates.

Forum members have busy diaries, so it was a pleasure that 22 were able to make the Forum meeting on 17 June. Five of our seven White Ribbon Ambassadors were also in attendance. Our Speaker for the day was Danielle McLeod from SafeLives (formerly CAADA) who gave an enthralling talk.

After almost 18 months, it was clear that the enthusiasm and fervour on which the Forum was founded, and the passion in our WRAs to make a difference, continues unabated.

I am pleased to say that our activity in Cambridge has not gone unnoticed and has, on a number of occasions, been referred to in the House of Commons as an exemplar of what can be done!

Date for the diary

Our White Ribbon Ambassadors will be hosting a stall at Cambridge United Football Club's Open Day on Sunday 24 July 10am - 4pm, Abbey Stadium, Newmarket Rd, Cambridge CB5 8LN.

Cllr Ann Sinnott
Cambridge City Domestic and Sexual Violence/Abuse Forum

What do you know about domestic abuse?

Save the date!
Tuesday 27th September 2016
Cambourne

**Free event
for
volunteers
in South
Cambs**

This event is for people who volunteer in their community in South Cambs. It will explain:

- What domestic abuse is
- How it can affect adults with care & support needs
- What you can do if someone needs support

More details will be publicised shortly. To register an early interest please email DASV@Cambridgeshire.gov.uk

This event is open to volunteers working in South Cambridgeshire, particularly those who come into contact with adults with disabilities or older people

