



## **A monthly newsletter brought to you by the Cambridgeshire Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Partnership**

**May 2015**

Dear Partners

Welcome to the May newsletter.

Our new website has had over 700 visits since it launched a month ago! If you haven't had a look yet, you can find information for the public, professionals and a national resources directory. We will also be adding a new section to the Professionals area where we will upload the latest research documents on domestic abuse and sexual violence. The new elearning module will be ready in time for the June Newsletter so look out for emails announcing the go live date.

You can find us at [www.cambsdasv.org.uk](http://www.cambsdasv.org.uk)

We continue the preparations to create short films/pod casts in collaboration with Cambridgeshire Police and our Drug and Alcohol Action Team colleagues. If you would like to be involved – either to help with script writing, acting or for your service to join the project, please contact Amanda (details below)

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and remember that you can submit articles to [Amanda.warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Amanda.warburton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

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AVA are running a number of courses for professionals working with adults and children and young people over the next few months.

For information on other training from AVA, visit <http://www.avaproject.org.uk/our-training--events/open-training.aspx>

## **Trauma, Dissociation and Recovery Training**

START (Survivors Trauma and Abuse Recovery Trust) is a Cambridgeshire based charity with a vision to enable people to recover from childhood abuse and lead healthy lives, physically and mentally. Through our PODS project (Positive Outcomes for Dissociative Survivors) we offer a range of resources including training courses.

Our training day, **Trauma, Dissociation & Recovery: Working with Dissociative Identity Disorder and Complex PTSD** will take place in Huntingdon on **20<sup>th</sup> June 2015**. The day will look at the issue of working in clinical practice with people who have suffered complex and chronic childhood trauma, resulting perhaps in a range of diagnoses such as Dissociative Identity Disorder, psychosis, complex PTSD or borderline personality disorder. Whilst focusing more specifically on what has become to be known as Dissociative Identity Disorder, this training day will look at how it presents in the therapy room, the challenges for the therapist, ways of working to foster collaboration and recovery, and the three-phase recovery plan. Is recovery possible? Should you talk to 'parts'? How can traumatic material be processed safely? What is 'integration' and 'fusion' and are they realistic and desirable outcomes? What part does disorganised attachment play and how can it be managed?

For more information, visit our [www.pods-online.org.uk/training-20jun2015.html](http://www.pods-online.org.uk/training-20jun2015.html) or call 01480 878409

## **First refuge for Middle Eastern and North African women**

On Friday, 1st May 2015 in London, the Iranian & Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO) opens the first specialist refuge for Middle Eastern and North African women. The refuge will accommodate and support vulnerable single women at risk of "honour" based violence, forced marriage, female genital mutilation and domestic violence.

Women in the refuge will receive specialist support from IKWRO's expert team who speak six community languages as well as English and provide advice, advocacy, training and counselling. Last year IKWRO assisted over 780 clients face to face and gave advice to over 2500 clients and professionals over the telephone.

## **Forced marriage film receives awards**

Our Girl, a short film on forced marriage, directed and produced by Animage in collaboration with AVA won the Gold United Nations Department of Public Information Award and Bronze World Medal in Social Issues at the 58th New York International Television and Film Awards.

The film is also accompanied by a Resource Pack aiming to provide additional information about forced marriage, as well as offering ideas for activities to raise awareness of forced marriage among professionals, young people and wider communities.

You can view the film on [vimeo.com](https://vimeo.com) (search Our Girl).

## **National Learning Disability and Autism Awards**

Our work with the Speak Out Leaders at VoiceAbility to create an Easy Read booklet about domestic abuse for people with learning disabilities was nominated in the Breaking Down Barriers category of the awards and reached the finals. Sadly, we didn't win on the night but the Speak Out Leaders represented the Partnership at the finals on 15<sup>th</sup> May and, as you can see from the picture below, it looks like they had a great night.



## **16 June: Duty to Care? Domestic Abuse, Mental Health & Adult Safeguarding**

### **Domestic Violence Coordinators' Network Conference**

**Date:** Tuesday 16th June 2015

**Location:** Friend's House, Euston

**Cost:** Free for members, £75 for non-members (Please note membership is on an individual basis, not organisational) (email [admin@dvcn.org.uk](mailto:admin@dvcn.org.uk) if you are unsure about your membership)

### **[Book Online Now](#)**

Last year saw the implementation of The Care Act and the release of preliminary findings from a proportion of domestic homicide reviews. What they highlight is the need to focus on three areas of practice: adult safeguarding, mental health, and their intersection with domestic abuse.

The DVCN has seized this as the perfect moment to discuss these new guidelines, and to shed light on some examples of good practice. More importantly, at this conference we open up the conversation to opportunities for implementation of good practice.

### **Aims of the Conference:**

- Set out the overlap between domestic abuse, adult safeguarding and mental health
- Explore approaches to domestic abuse that can be used in safeguarding and mental health contexts
- Highlight opportunities for improved integration of domestic abuse work within these sectors using examples of good practice
- An opportunity to explore ways of implementing learnings in your local area

### **Confirmed Speakers**

Dr. Lindsey Pike - Research and Development Officer, Research in Practice for Adults (RiPfA)

Louise Butler - Westminster Safeguarding Adults Lead, Tri-Borough Professional Standards Safeguarding Team

*Final line-up to be confirmed shortly! Speakers will include mental health researchers and professionals.*

## **Mental Health takes centre stage in May**

Mental Health Awareness Week on 11- 17 May heralded a number of events in the county.

Professionals from across Cambridgeshire met on 12 May at a Mental Health Care Design Group on 12<sup>th</sup> May to help shape the way mental health services are delivered across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Stakeholders, including GPs, clinicians, patients, voluntary organisations and providers of services attended to give ideas for improving local mental health services, based on their insight and experience.

The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has set up a System Transformation Programme with other local health and care commissioners and providers to develop plans to improve mental health services, and to shape the way these services will be delivered over the next five years with leaner conditions and more innovation.

The Programme has been engaging with patients, clinicians and other key stakeholders for the past six months, looking to understand the key current issues and to seek ideas and views on opportunities for improvement.

In other mental health news there are now four specialist mental health workers supporting victims of crime across the county. Thanks to the efforts of the Police and Crime Commissioner, there are now two Community Psychiatric Nurses working with the IDVA Service, one at Wisbech Police Station and one at the Victim's Hub. Sir Graham Bright said - "I am committed to the principle that we need to meet the needs of vulnerable people in mental health crisis by providing them with the right care in the right place at the right time. By funding Community Psychiatric Nurses to work with the victims of crime we can provide the right level of support, ensuring that qualified professionals are on hand to help this vulnerable group cope and recover from their experiences."

## **Hospital based IDVAs helping with research**

THEMIS is a multi-site, quantitative and qualitative study which aims to evaluate hospital-based Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) services, and evaluate the model of domestic abuse advocacy used within different hospital settings and across different service delivery models. A key part of the research explores whether hospitals may be valuable places to situate future services.

Present data suggests that key differences exist between hospital-based and non-hospital services, as they serve different client types. During the course of the THEMIS study, data is collected from patients who are referred to hospital IDVA services at intake, at exit, then at 3, 6 and 12 months after exit from the service. The whole process takes approximately 15 months, with victims asked to fill in health questionnaires at each stage.

They are also asked to take part in a semi-structured interview, as are IDVAs and hospital staff, which helps build profiles of users, how services are run, and the impact they are having.

Addenbrooke's and Hinchingsbrooke Hospitals, both in Cambridgeshire, host two of the five hospital-based IDVA services around the country chosen to be THEMIS research sites, all of which are overseen by Dr Sue Jones, Chief Investigator for the study. Initial monitoring data suggests that hospital-based services are reaching more 'hidden victims', i.e. those who have not sought help from the police concerning abuse (including more male victims), than non-hospital services. It is common for victims to take up to three years to independently seek help, whereas this process takes approximately two years within hospital services. A greater understanding of this phenomenon is needed in order to understand whether there would be cost savings for acute health services as a result of placing IDVAs within hospitals, but also to discover which models are most effective in both human and financial terms.

Dr Adrian Boyle (CRN Eastern Speciality Lead for Injuries and Emergencies) heads up the Cambridge site as Principal Investigator, with support from Dee Reed (Manager of the Cambridgeshire IDVA service), and a highly skilled team of clinical research professionals and domestic violence advisors. Dr Boyle says, "This is a really interesting and important study. We're supporting this because it deals with a significant problem that causes much preventable misery. Hopefully, the results will be useful in shaping the way we look after victims of domestic abuse. It also shows that it is possible to recruit people who would not normally end up in research studies".

The team are already registering recruitment success with 6 of the 25 cases registered nationally in the first three months of recruitment at Addenbrookes. Dr Sue Jones, stated: "This is a good success rate for such a vulnerable group who are at crisis point".

New cases will be recruited until the end of October 2015, and participant follow-up will continue until the end of December 2015. As more and more services are now being set up across Britain, the THEMIS research team aims to discover what works, what barriers and challenges exist, and how these might be overcome in order to draw up guidelines to help others with the feasibility and set up of such services.



## Female Genital Mutilation Workshop

It is recorded that; the World Health Organisation estimates that 3 million girls undergo some form of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) each year (Dorekenoo et al 2007). Female Genital Mutilation is illegal in the UK but still affects a significant number of British girls and foreign nationals from a variety of cultures.

This workshop launches the Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Local safeguarding Children Board Female Genital Mutilation resource pack and is aimed at; all those professionals (voluntary and statutory) who work regularly with children and families, and / or adults who are parents /carers and for those who have a greater degree of role accountability and responsibility for safeguarding children's welfare, for fostering and adoption and for managers who have responsibility for staff supervision (Groups 2, 3 and 4).

### **Aims:**

To introduce the practice of FGM in girls and women, exploring why it is practiced, the different types of FGM, its prevalence and its acceptance, along with how to recognise the signs and indicators and make appropriate referrals.

### **Trainers:**

**Dr Emilia Wawrzkowicz, Designated Doctor and Consultant Paediatrician**

### **Date:**

19 June 2015, Doddington Hospital 10.00 – 11.30

### **To book:**

Email [lscbtraining@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:lscbtraining@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or call the LSCB on 01480 373522.

## Chelsea's Choice returns

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is identified, by the government and the LSCB, as an area for focus for the effective protection and safeguarding of children and young people. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough LSCB have a joint CSE and Missing Children Strategic Implementation group which sets out in its action plan the need for training for multi-agency staff. Cambridgeshire LSCB has provided commissioned awareness-raising events; specific training in the use of the CSE risk assessment tool; and has planned courses on Child Sexual Exploitation.

As part of the continued programme of awareness about CSE, the Cambridgeshire Area Partnerships, local schools and the Drug and Alcohol Action Team have commissioned several performances to which will be offered to selected secondary schools and out of school provision in identified areas of Cambridgeshire in July, September and November 2015.

Chelsea's Choice is a theatre production by a company called Alter Ego. The play is aimed at raising awareness amongst targeted pupils across Cambridgeshire about CSE. It tells the story of a group of three young people who discover the diary of a girl called Chelsea. The interactive production is acted by young actors and takes about 30 minutes to an hour with a 20 minute actor lead discussion. The play was well-received by young people who attended the tour last year and from professional attendees.

If you would like to know more about this year's programme please contact Gill Hanby, Area Partnership Manager for Cambridgeshire County Council: email: [gill.hanby@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:gill.hanby@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

**Cambridgeshire LSCB is offering a further opportunity of three 'taster' performances of 'Chelsea's Choice', on 22 June 2015**, prior to the performances for children and young people due to take place in Autumn. These taster sessions are aimed at the all professionals, voluntary and statutory agencies who work with children, young people and their families.

If you wish to apply for the **taster sessions** please email LSCB training with your name / job title / agency and preference of time; [lscbtraining@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:lscbtraining@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or call the LSCB on 01480 373522.

**Monday 22 June 2015** – Histon Football Association, Bridge Road, CB24 9PH

Session One: 10.00 – 11.30

Session Two: 12.30 – 2.00

Session Three: 3.00 – 4.30

