

## Essex News

### Essex Change gains RESPECT accreditation

Essex Change is a community based Domestic Abuse Intervention Programme for men who want to end their violent or abusive behaviour towards a partner or ex partner. The associated Women's Service aims to increase the safety of women and children by offering support and safety planning.

Respect is the UK membership association for domestic abuse perpetrator programmes and associated support services. Their key focus is on increasing the safety and well-being of victims by promoting, supporting, delivering and developing effective interventions with perpetrators.

Essex Change has gained RESPECT accreditation. This is great news for Essex Change and great news for Essex as they are one of only 7 fully accredited services throughout the UK (the others being in Newcastle, Brighton, Plymouth, London, Coventry and Wiltshire).

For more information on the programme please see [www.essexchange.org](http://www.essexchange.org)

### Domestic Abuse: A directory of services

The directory of services for Essex has been updated and is available at

<http://www.essexsab.org> under useful documents.

### Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) Essex

MARAC have produced their first AGR to highlight the success of MARAC across Essex and the difference it is making to high risk victims. It recognises that there is still a lot of work to be done but uses the report as an opportunity to thank all the agencies who have supported the ongoing work of MARAC over the past two years. If you would like a copy of the report please contact [michelle.williams@essex.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.williams@essex.gov.uk)

Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse (CAADA) provides practical tools, training, guidance, quality assurance of MARACs, policy and data insight to support professionals and organisations working with domestic abuse victims.

Over the past few months, CAADA has been reviewing the impact of the first four years of the MARAC Implementation Programme and have reported some notable successes:

- Around 250 MARACs across England, Wales and Northern Ireland now exist. These MARACs have reviewed over 40,000 high risk domestic abuse cases in the past year alone.
- Over a third of these cases were identified by non-police agencies.



- The four year programme has included training over 3,000 multi-agency professionals across statutory and voluntary agencies and completing quality assurance assessments for over 150 MARACs so far.
- The participation of the full range of statutory and voluntary sector agencies in these cases marks a major step forward in addressing the most serious cases of domestic abuse in the most resource effective way, as well as offering the opportunity to respond more effectively to the safety of children living in these homes.

CAADA are working in partnership with the Home Office on a new four year programme to support MARACs as they develop and improve practice. For more information on the work of CAADA and the resources available please see [www.caada.org.uk](http://www.caada.org.uk)

## Domestic Homicide Reviews

Work is underway to agree a process for meeting statutory duties in respect of Domestic Homicide Reviews in Essex. As part of this a specification on the requirements of being an Independent chair and overview writer have been developed and we would like to do some initial scoping to identify suitably qualified people. The aim would be to have a pool of available chairs/overview writers to commission when required to take on this role.

Key activities would include:

1. To chair the appointed DHR Panel
2. To draft the final "Overview" report for consideration by the Chair of the CSP and Chair of EDASG

3. Draw up a terms of reference for each homicide to scope the review process in line with guidance.

The skills and expertise required are:

- Relevant knowledge of domestic abuse issues including 'honour'-based abuse, research, guidance and legislation relating to adults and children, including the Equality Act 2010.
- An understanding of the role and context of the main agencies likely to be involved in the review.
- Managerial expertise.
- Good investigative, interviewing and communication skills.
- An understanding of the discipline regimes within participating agencies.
- The completion of the E-Learning Training Package on Domestic Homicide Reviews, including the additional modules on chairing reviews and producing Overview Reports.

Issues such as employment status, length of contract and any remuneration would need to be discussed and agreed on a case by case basis. If you would like more information please email [michelle.williams@essex.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.williams@essex.gov.uk)

## Community Group Programme Training

The Children & Young Peoples sub group have been considering providing training to enable staff to deliver the Community Groups Programme for children and young people affected by domestic abuse and for their mothers. A request was made for appropriate staff to be nominated to attend this who would then have permission to coordinate or run a programme- if you are interested in this please contact [michelle.williams@essex.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.williams@essex.gov.uk). There is an opportunity to learn more about the

programme through **Basildon Women's Aid Conference on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July**- further details are available at [www.basildonwa.org](http://www.basildonwa.org)

## Publications and resources

### Broken Rainbow

Broken rainbow is a charity and runs a helpline providing support for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people experiencing domestic abuse. They have a number of free posters and resources available to download at <http://www.broken-rainbow.org.uk/posters.html>

**Letting Children be Children - Report of an Independent Review of the Commercialisation and Sexualisation of Childhood**  
[www.education.gov.uk](http://www.education.gov.uk)

**"Leaving"** is a social film drama that tells the story of Helen and her attempts to leave an abusive relationship.

Copies of the DVD which includes the licence to use these for awareness raising and training are available to loan to agencies across Essex. Please contact the Essex Domestic Abuse Coordinator for more information.  
[michelle.williams@essex.gov.uk](mailto:michelle.williams@essex.gov.uk)  
[www.socialfilmdrama.com](http://www.socialfilmdrama.com)

### Female Genital Mutilation Guidelines

Guidelines on the Foreign and commonwealth office website support frontline professionals such as teachers, health professionals, police officers and social workers in preventing female genital mutilation (FGM)

[www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)

**Coordinated Community Response Model- online toolkit**  
[www.ccrm.org.uk](http://www.ccrm.org.uk)

### Teenage relationship abuse

Earlier this year the Home Office ran a campaign to challenge the attitudes of teenagers to violence and abuse in relationships. Recent research revealed concerning levels of abuse in teenage relationships:

- nearly 75 per cent of girls and 50 per cent of boys have reported some sort of emotional partner abuse
- 33 per cent of girls and 16 per cent of boys reported some form of sexual abuse (NSPCC and the University of Bristol, 2009)

The following documents contain advice for schools and teenagers on dealing with issues around teenage relationship abuse.  
[www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk)

The **Government's Forced Marriage Unit (FMU)** has launched a **free online resource to help frontline professionals** who work with or may become involved with potential victims of forced marriage. The Forced Marriage E-learning is available at [www.fmelearning.gov.uk](http://www.fmelearning.gov.uk)

**The Men's Advice Line Booklet**  
[www.mensadvice.org.uk](http://www.mensadvice.org.uk) or  
[www.respectphoneline.org.uk](http://www.respectphoneline.org.uk)

## Consultations

**What do you think of this newsletter?**  
A brief survey is available to complete at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GRH778>

X to get your views on this newsletter and any ideas for improvements. The survey will run from the 1<sup>st</sup> July- 30<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

## Training and conferences

### Domestic Abuse basic awareness E'Learning Package

An E'Learning package is available on the Essex integrated workforce website. To access this you need to register at:  
[www.ecclms.co.uk/goecclms.asp](http://www.ecclms.co.uk/goecclms.asp)

### Domestic Homicide Review E'Learning

[www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk)

The **Government's Forced Marriage Unit** (FMU) has launched a **free online resource to help frontline professionals** who work with or may become involved with potential victims of forced marriage. The Forced Marriage E-learning is available at [www.fmelearning.gov.uk](http://www.fmelearning.gov.uk)

### Basildon Women's Aid 2011

#### Domestic Abuse Training Days

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2011- Key note speaker: **Joanna Sharpen** - nationally respected author and children's specialist from the AVA Project, London. **Linda Finn** - highlighting the Local Government and London Borough response to children involved in domestic abuse

**18<sup>th</sup> November 2011**- Its time to talk.

[www.basildonwa.org](http://www.basildonwa.org)

### Colchester & Tendring Women's Refuge Domestic Abuse Training Day

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> July or Fri 30<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Time: 9.30 – 4.00 pm

Venue: Colchester & Tendring Women's  
Refuge

**Email:** [e.porter@colchester-refuge.org.uk](mailto:e.porter@colchester-refuge.org.uk)

**Post:** For Women, 35 East Street,  
Colchester, CO1 2TP

**Fax:** 01206 867235

**Telephone:** 01206 867120

### The National Stalking Training

**Academy** is a partnership between **The Network for Surviving Stalking** and **The Safety Net Associates Group** it brings together an expert team of advisors and consultants with years of expertise in this field. The first offering from the National Stalking Training Academy is a one day training course, being delivered at 24 venues across the UK and with the option of "in house" delivery to any agency organisation or partnership.

[www.cspacademy.ac.uk](http://www.cspacademy.ac.uk)

call 0845 299 7144 or email

[learning@cspacademy.ac.uk](mailto:learning@cspacademy.ac.uk)

### 'Effective responses to domestic and sexual violence/abuse'

OCN accredited qualification

[www.womensaid.org.uk](http://www.womensaid.org.uk)

### CAADA Training

CAADA offers a range of training to public agency and voluntary sector professionals working within the domestic abuse field.

[www.caada.org.uk](http://www.caada.org.uk)

### AVA training

The AVA Training programme is available via website

[www.avaproject.org.uk](http://www.avaproject.org.uk)

**Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Honour Based Violence (DASH 2009) Risk Masterclass and Train the Trainer**  
[www.dashriskchecklist.co.uk](http://www.dashriskchecklist.co.uk)

**Women's Aid Annual National Conference 2011 -Surviving together: partnership and good practice**  
Thursday 7th and Friday 8th July 2011,  
University of Warwick, Coventry  
[www.womensaid.org.uk](http://www.womensaid.org.uk)

## Job Vacancies

### Independent Domestic Violence Advisor

**Based in Ingatestone, Essex but covering the Southend area**  
**37.5 hours per week**  
**£23,500 pa plus 5% employers pension contribution**  
**This is a fixed term appointment until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012**

You will provide a proactive service for victims of domestic abuse, based upon risk assessment and safety planning. You will need to work effectively within a multi-agency setting to represent the best interests of the victim.

You will have experience of working with vulnerable people and a good understanding of risk management as a minimum. Understanding domestic violence, the criminal justice system and support networks would be an advantage.

You will need access to personal transport as you will be expected to cover the Southend area

Closing date: 8am Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2011  
Interviews: 19<sup>th</sup> July 2011

Please email  
[sharon.green@victimsupport.org.uk](mailto:sharon.green@victimsupport.org.uk) for an application pack

## List of useful contact details:

**National Domestic Violence Helpline,**  
0808 2000 247 (24 hours, freephone)  
[www.womensaid.org.uk](http://www.womensaid.org.uk),  
[www.refuge.org.uk](http://www.refuge.org.uk)

**Men's Advice Line:** 0808 801 0327 (Mon-Fri 10am-1pm and 2-5pm, freephone)  
[www.mensadvice.org.uk](http://www.mensadvice.org.uk)

**Broken Rainbow**, support for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people experiencing domestic abuse: 0300 999 5428 or 08452 60 44 60(Mon and Thurs 2-8pm, Wed 10am-1pm, freephone)  
[www.broken-rainbow.org.uk](http://www.broken-rainbow.org.uk)

**Forced Marriage Unit Helpline:** 020 7008 0151

**National Centre for Domestic Violence**  
How to get help with getting an injunction.  
0844 8044 999

**Victim Support Essex**  
Helpline: 0845 456 5995 (open Monday – Friday 8am to 8pm)  
E-mail: [Essex@victimsupport.org.uk](mailto:Essex@victimsupport.org.uk)  
Website: [www.victimsupport.org.uk/](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk/)

**Helpline for stalking victims** 0300 636 0300 email service  
[advice@stalkinghelpline.org](mailto:advice@stalkinghelpline.org) and website  
<http://www.stalkinghelpline.org/>

**If you have any comments,  
contributions or questions please**

**contact:**

Michelle Williams- Essex Domestic Abuse  
Coordinator

Telephone: 01245 436934

Email: [Michelle.Williams@essex.gov.uk](mailto:Michelle.Williams@essex.gov.uk)

The information contained in this  
newsletter can be translated, and/or made  
available in alternative formats, on request.