



## The Haven Wolverhampton E Bulletin



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Helpline: 01902 713001

Supporting women and children who are vulnerable to violence and abuse

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Keeping you up to date with the latest news, events and developments at The Haven Wolverhampton

### Welcome...to The Haven's June E Bulletin

Currently 35 % of people in England participate in some form of informal volunteering activity at least once a month. This issue of The Haven E Bulletin highlights the importance and impact of volunteering and also provides information on how you can get involved in a number of new and exciting volunteering opportunities available at The Haven Wolverhampton. We also update you on the success of The Future Jobs Fund at The Haven and launch a brand new campaign – Haven Heroes!

Thanks for reading!

### Why Volunteering?

Volunteering can offer a number of benefits and advantages. For those who choose to volunteer it offers the opportunity to learn new skills, boost your CV, meet new people and give back to the local community. Volunteers also provide valuable support to charities and community organisations to improve their services and make a true and lasting difference.

I ❤️  
**Volunteering**

On average, two-fifths of adults volunteer formally once a year and a quarter of adults volunteer at least once a month. The value that volunteering adds to the UK economy is in excess of **£21.5billion** (*Third Sector Foresight 2011*)

The Haven Wolverhampton was established in 1973 with the support of two volunteers. These volunteers were the first of many whose contributions have become a permanent, essential and valued part of the organisation. In a recent study The Haven interviewed 7 volunteers who had given their time to support varying Haven services. The report found that the volunteers had contributed a total length **3,966 hours** service which, if costed at national minimum wage, would equate to a contribution of **£21,350.70**



The Haven Wolverhampton continues to run a successful volunteering programme which nurtures volunteers in their desire to learn and most importantly help women and children affected by Domestic Violence. All Haven Volunteers receive Domestic Violence Awareness induction training and are also given the opportunity to achieve a recognised level 3 NOCN accredited qualification in Domestic Violence awareness after having completing 6 months of service.

Information on the different volunteering opportunities currently available at The Haven can be found later on in the bulletin.

### Let's hear it from our Volunteers



Andy Howell has been a volunteer at The Haven for 6 months. He has worked closely with the Public Relations Officer supporting a range of awareness raising events and campaigns including the development of The Haven's first ever campaign film 'Home Sweet Home?' ([www.homesweethomefilm.com](http://www.homesweethomefilm.com)). Volunteering at The Haven has enabled Andy to gain valuable work experience as well as the opportunity to meet new people.

Andy believes; *"Volunteering at The Haven has quite literally changed my life."*

Georgina Esene has been a Haven volunteer since March 2010 and has worked in The Haven refuges helping to support various activities which help residents to come to terms with their experiences of Domestic Violence. She has supported the Children's Play & Support Worker and also supports calls on The Haven Helpline. Georgina said *"the experience I have had has been priceless!"*



## Volunteer of the Year

The Haven Wolverhampton would like to congratulate Victorine Ngamsha who was awarded The University of Wolverhampton Volunteer of the Year Award at the Annual Employment and Volunteering Awards in May this year.



Victorine (pictured centre) was nominated by The Haven for the award following her support of the organisations ICT services.

Victorine has volunteered at The Haven since August 2010 as part of her University work placement and has supported staff and residents with IT activities such as repairing computer equipment and helping with IT induction training.

As part of the award Victorine was presented with a cheque for £500 for herself and also given a further £500 for her placement organisation – The Haven! The Haven will use this money to develop a Haven website for children and young people affected by Domestic Violence.

Victorine said 'I have received so much support from everyone at The Haven. I feel like I am on an endless journey of knowledge.'

The Haven would like to thank Victorine for her contribution over the last few months and wish her all the best for the future.

## Future Jobs Fund Update

In March 2011 the Future Jobs Fund, the £1 billion government scheme which supported the creation of jobs for long term unemployed people and those who faced disadvantage in the labour market, came to an end. However, despite the scheme being largely branded 'a failure' by Government Ministers, The Haven Wolverhampton has found the Future Jobs Fund to be a resounding success. The Haven Wolverhampton has employed a total of 14 workers since February 2010 through the scheme. The Future Jobs Fund workers have proved a valuable addition and provided much needed support across the many Haven services including Helpline, Refuge, Community Team and Office / Admin Support.

Roseanne Davis was employed as an Administration Assistant through the Future Jobs Fund for six months. Of her time at The Haven she said 'This work has given me a broad insight into the work of The Haven. Not only have I gained administration experience it has also changed my way of thinking towards Domestic Violence.'

## The Haven Needs You!

The Haven Wolverhampton is looking to recruit volunteers to take on specific roles and support the many different areas of work within the organisation.



Do you have the skills and experience to take on one of the following roles? Are you able to volunteer some of your time to The Haven? If so....get in touch!



### **Maintenance Volunteer**

Are you a dab hand at DIY?

If so The Haven Maintenance team needs you! Whether you are a DIY pro or a keen learner you could support The Haven to deliver

essential maintenance care and repair support across our refuge and office sites. We are looking for both male and female volunteers to support this area of work.

### **24 Hour Helpline Volunteer**

The Haven is looking for volunteers to support its 24 Hour Helpline service providing confidential support and practical help to women experiencing Domestic Violence and / or Homelessness.



Volunteers will be required to work as part of a team covering 24 Hour / 7 days a week rota system. Volunteers must have exceptional communication skills and be able to demonstrate an

awareness and understanding of the health and safety issues related to this post.

### **Children's Services Volunteer**

The Haven is looking for volunteers to assist the Children & Young People's Services department with planning, preparing and carrying out play sessions with children and young people at The Haven allowing them space and freedom to play and develop. Children's Services Volunteers should have experience of working/interacting with children.

### **Volunteer Marshals**

As one of the nominate charities for this years Carver Wolverhampton City Marathon we are looking for volunteers to marshal the event on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September, between 8.30am and 1.30pm. Volunteers should also be able to attend a marshal meeting on either the 16<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> June at Colton Hills School from 4pm onwards.

**For more information on any of the volunteering opportunities listed above please click [here](#)**

## Haven Heroes

On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> June The Haven unveiled a new campaign which celebrates local heroes and highlight the importance of positive male role models in the city.



The 'Haven Heroes' campaign encourages members of the public to put forward the names of males who they believe have made a positive difference or act as an inspiration to the local community, for an award.

From the nominations received The Haven Wolverhampton will choose one individual who will be awarded the first ever 'Haven Hero Community Award' trophy and certificate.

Often the first place we learn about role models is in the home. There are currently hundreds of children living in refuges throughout the UK who have been exposed to abuse from a male family member, leaving children with very negative impressions of families and relationships.

The Haven has launched the 'Haven Heroes' campaign as a way of promoting positive male role models and also to acknowledge those in Wolverhampton which we feel children, young people and adults can look up to.

Anybody can be nominated for this award – whether it's a member of your family, friend, colleague or even local celebrity – just tell us why you think they are a hero!

To nominate a male for The Haven Hero Community Award simply click [here](#) to read the campaign terms and conditions and to complete a nomination form. Completed nomination forms should be sent to **Grace Lee, Public Relations Officer, The Haven Wolverhampton, PO Box 105, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LP**. Alternatively you can email your nomination form to [info@havenrefuge.org.uk](mailto:info@havenrefuge.org.uk) or fax it to **01902 572144**

The closing date for nominations is **1pm on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June**.

Alongside The Haven Hero Community Award, The Haven will also be distributing two further awards; **The Haven Hero Board of Trustees Award** will be awarded to one individual currently living or working in Wolverhampton who has supported The Haven to deliver quality services to women and children affected by Domestic Violence and chosen by The Haven Board of Trustees.



**The Haven Hero Children's Award** will be awarded to a male living and / or working in the UK who has been an inspiration during difficult times to the children and young people currently in contact with The Haven's services. This winner of this award will be chosen by the children and young people themselves.

**All Winners will be announced via The Haven website on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July.**

For more information on The Haven Heroes Campaign please call 01902 572173

### Feedback

If you have any comments or feedback about this or any previous issues of The Haven E-Bulletin please get in touch on [publicity@havenrefuge.org.uk](mailto:publicity@havenrefuge.org.uk) or call **01902 572173**

### Contact The Haven

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