



The Haven Wolverhampton

E Bulletin

Supporting women and children who are vulnerable to violence and abuse

Registered Charity: 1065427 Company Ltd by Guarantee (Registered in England) 03159029

24 Hour
Helpline
01902
713001

Issue 2 – May 2010

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

Hello!

Welcome to The Haven's May E-Bulletin.

Thank you to everybody who sent us feedback about the first issue, we were pleased to see how many of you enjoyed the bulletin and hope you will continue to follow the work of The Haven through future updates.

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If there is anything you would like to see in next issue of The Haven E-Bulletin or you have any feedback on this or previous issues please contact us on publicity@havenrefuge.org.uk or call 01902 572173

Happy Reading!

Grace Lee, Public Relations Officer



[Haven witnesses rise in number of young homeless](#)

This year The Haven Wolverhampton has witnessed a rise in the number of young single homeless women referring to its accommodation support services. Between March 2009 and April 2010 The Haven recorded a total of 343 homeless women referring to accommodation services compared to 242 in 2008/09.



Whilst researching to see if figures recorded by The Haven reflected national homeless trends for refuge providers it was discovered there is no comprehensive or robust source of information on the number of single homeless people in the UK.

The available figures on the number of statutory homeless households, rough sleepers and hostel and night shelter users are all estimates and subject to limitations.

However, based on those figures that are available, it can be concluded that The Haven is not alone when attempting to accommodate more homeless single people.

For more information visit

<http://www.havenrefuge.org.uk/NewsEvents/NewsArticles/Younghomeless.html>

Michaila Tope, Head of Accommodation & Support Services

[Show Domestic Abuse the Red Card](#)

On Sunday 11th April Haven staff and volunteers took part in a balloon release at Wolverhampton Wanderers FC. The balloons were released on the pitch before kick-off and participants held banners reading 'Show Domestic Abuse the Red Card'. The release was organised by Wolverhampton Transport Union and aimed to raise awareness about violence against women in the City. Thank you to all who were involved in making the day a success!

Grace Lee, Public Relations Officer



Haven continues to provide specialist Addiction Support Services

Whilst Adult drug treatment services in Wolverhampton are changing, The Haven continues to provide and maintain a high standard of support for women that suffer with alcohol and substance misuse issues as a result of experiencing Domestic Violence.



Substance misuse is often a manifestation of underlying issues caused by traumatic events in an individual's life. We at The Haven strive to support women through all aspects of the treatment journey from first contact to community integration,

including maintenance. Fully trained staff based in a specialist refuge support women on a one to one basis and work with external agencies to provide group work, workshops and outreach facilities to aid and expand the knowledge of those with substance misuse issues.

The Haven liaises with external agencies in order to provide a rounded level of support and encourages women to develop individual support plans in which they set realistic, achievable goals and are able to mark their progress throughout their stay at The Haven.

For more information on addiction services at The Haven please call **01902 572140** or email info@havenrefuge.org.uk

Charlie Lloyd, Family Support Worker Alcohol Lead

Domestic Violence Awareness Training

The Haven Wolverhampton is an accredited provider of National Open College Network (NOCN) Domestic Violence Awareness training programmes. Training is designed for individuals and organisations who are interested in learning more about Domestic Violence.

The Haven Wolverhampton runs Multi Agency Training Day's throughout the year which are designed to give individuals from various agencies and organisations the opportunity to learn about various aspects and manifestations

of Domestic Violence and cost **just £50 per person** to attend.



Places are still available for the next Multi Agency Day which will take place on 11th May at Friends Meeting House, Summerfield Road, Wolverhampton. To secure your place please call **01902 572128** or email training@havenrefuge.org.uk

Elvira Wilson, Head of Business Support Services

Improving Women's Lives in Wolverhampton



Women's networking organisation 'Women of Wolverhampton' (WOW) have launched a draft action plan for improving women's lives in Wolverhampton. The action plan identifies 4 key areas for improvement; Health, Personal & Community Safety, Rights at work and Life/Work balance and aims to work with key personnel and decision makers in the City to sign up to the action plan and facilitate positive change.

Women and women's groups are invited to send their comments, amendments, additions and suggestions for the action plan which can be downloaded from www.wowonline.org.uk by 21st May to chris.irvine@wowonline.org.uk

The Haven will be coordinating a formal response to the action plan which will be available to download from The Haven website by the end of the month.

Grace Lee, Public Relations Officer

Mini Bus Appeal Update

Thank you to everybody who has contributed so far to The Haven's Children's Mini Bus Appeal. The total currently stands at £4000 – a great start to reaching our £15,000 target!

To make a donation please call **01902 572173**.

Get ready for Summer!

This year The Haven will accommodate and take care of up to 100 children in the various Haven refuges across the City. Every year The Haven produces a Summer Play programme to keep the children and young people active and engaged during their time away from School. In order for us to be able to do this we need your help! We appeal to you to provide donations of games, toys or event tickets to local attractions. Financial donations will also allow Children to go on day trips and take part in various activities across Wolverhampton. If you would like to make a donation please call **019052 572140** or write to info@havenrefuge.org.uk

Grace Lee, Public Relations Officer



Bringing an end to financial abuse

This year, The Haven will launch its Financial Inclusion Project with the aim of raising awareness and bringing an end to victims of Domestic Violence suffering financial abuse.

Financial abuse centers around an abuser taking control over their partners' finances, and/or bullying a partner into taking credit out in their name. Women who have been victims of financial control may not initially recognise that they are/have been a victim of Domestic Violence. The recent economic downturn has resulted in an increase in the number of women experiencing financial abuse and has also made it more financially difficult for women to leave abusive relationships.

Through the Financial Inclusion Project The Haven aims to provide holistic support for women experiencing financial abuse. Debt and money management services will be offered in conjunction with assistance with claiming benefits. Training and workshops on financial and life skills will also be available to educate women on benefits, savings, credit and budgeting to help them make informed choices about future finances. In addition the project aims to raise awareness about the impact of debt and financial abuse to organisations to help alleviate the suffering experienced by victims.

The Financial Inclusion Project which is funded by the Nationwide Community Foundation will be officially launched in Summer 2010.

For more information please visit

<http://www.havenrefuge.org.uk/NewsEvents/FinancialInclusionProject.html>

Melloney Brown, Financial Inclusion Coordinator

Service Profile

'Beyond Surviving' - Counselling

'Beyond Surviving' provides generic as well as specialist Counselling support for women and children affected by Domestic Violence. Big Lottery funding has enabled The Haven's Counselling service to expand and reach out to groups who may experience barriers to DV support services.

Mark, our Counsellor for Boys, focuses on issues that boys from 8-17 have experienced through family abuse. He has established strong links with local schools and has gathered feedback which suggests that this is a much needed service.

Narinder Sandhu, our Asian Women's Counsellor provides a culturally specific service for Asian Women and our Senior Counsellor, Sol, speaks Spanish and Portuguese, therefore support is available to a diverse section of the Community in Wolverhampton.

A detailed account of the 'Beyond Surviving' Counselling will be available in The Haven's Summer Newsletter which is due out in June.

In the meantime, for more information on The Haven Counselling service please visit www.havenrefuge.org.uk or call 01902 572151

Tracey Hughes, Counselling Coordinator

Fundraising News

We are currently looking for support from all you daredevils out there. The Haven will be arranging a tandem skydive which will take place in Whitchurch, Shropshire on Saturday 24th July and again on Saturday 21st August. The jump will be overseen by professionals from UK Skydiving Ltd. Participants are asked to raise sponsorship money of which proceeds will go to The Haven Wolverhampton.



If skydiving isn't your thing, why not take part in the 2010 Carver's Marathon around West Park, Wolverhampton on behalf of The Haven?

If you are interested in taking part in any of the above activities, or would like to organise your own event to raise much needed funds for The Haven visit <http://www.havenrefuge.org.uk/Support%20Us/Fundraising/FundraisingIdeas.html> and download our fundraising pack. Alternatively call 01902 572173 or write to pd@havenrefuge.org.uk for more information.

Palie Dulai, Fundraising Officer



Words from Women

"Without The Haven I would not have coped. It gave me space, time and security at the hardest time in my life. I was allowed to cry and express myself – to be myself without prejudice."



Contact Us



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