



Helpline: 01902 713001

The Haven Wolverhampton

E Bulletin

Supporting women and children who are vulnerable to violence and abuse

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Issue 6 – October 2010

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

Welcome... to The Haven's October E-Bulletin.

October is well know for a number of reasons – Halloween...the end of British Summertime ☺ but this October The Haven will be celebrating and aiming to raise awareness of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, or NDVAM, originated in the States in the early 90's and has become increasingly popular across America and further afield. The Haven will be playing its part in raising awareness of this campaign by holding a number of fundraising and awareness raising events in the City.

We also tell you how you can get involved with our Harvest appeal supporting women and children at The Haven.

Happy Reading!

Grace Lee, Public Relations Officer

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Originating in the States, Domestic Violence Awareness Month (NDVAM) is an international campaign which encourages organisations and individuals to speak out against Domestic Violence. Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) evolved from the "Day of Unity" in October 1981 conceived by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The intent was to connect advocates who were working to end violence against women and their children. The activities that are conducted throughout the month are varied and diverse but all have common themes connecting those who work tirelessly to end Domestic Violence and raise much needed awareness about the issue.

For more information on Domestic Violence Awareness Month visit <http://dvam.vawnet.org/index.php>

Walk a Mile....In Women's Shoes

The Haven Wolverhampton invites you to come and enjoy a leisurely stroll around Wolverhampton's West Park with your family and friends. **All we ask...is that you wear women's shoes!!**

The 1 mile sponsored walk aims to raise awareness about Domestic Violence and encourages men to speak out about the issue. Originating in the USA, Walk a Mile in Women's Shoes is an event which encourages all the family to come together to raise awareness.

There's an old saying – *'You can't really understand another persons experience until you've walked a mile in their shoes'*. It's not easy walking in these shoes, but it is fun and it gets the community talking about an important issue – Domestic Violence. All funds raised from the event will go towards supporting the women and children of The Haven Wolverhampton.



The sponsored walk will take place on **Sunday 17th October**, from **12.00pm** onwards, at **West Park**. Shoes are available to hire on the day (unless you want to bring your own!). Please encourage your husbands / boyfriends / brothers / uncles etc to come along.

For more information and to register visit <http://www.havenrefuge.org.uk/NewsEvents/Walk%20A%20Mile.html>

Harvest Appeal

This Harvest The Haven is appealing for donations of tinned food and vegetables for use in our 5 refuges. The Haven currently supports up to 46 women and 100 children in refuge and we aim to encourage sensible, healthy living.

If you are able to spare a couple of tins of food, or pick up an extra couple of items whilst out shopping please get in touch on **01902 572140** or email info@havenrefuge.org.uk

We also appeal to our supporters to make financial donations in order for The Haven to continue to provide vital support services to victims of Domestic Violence. Make your donation online at <http://www.mycharitypage.com/thehavenwolverhampton> or send a cheque made payable to The Haven Wolverhampton to PO Box 105, Wolverhampton, WV1 4LP

Thank you

Get in Touch

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 or call **01902 572173**.

We would also like to hear from you if you have any ideas/contributions for future issues.

Bark in the Park

There is increasing research and clinical evidence to suggest that there are links between the abuse of vulnerable children and adults and animals.

"I brought him a bird for his birthday. It was a cockatiel I brought him with the cage and everything. His flat mate used to come in and whistle to the bird so naturally the bird would copy him. I told my ex partner he needed to start whistling and talking to the bird if he wanted the bird to copy him. One night my ex had been drinking and was going off on one as per, so I decided to go to bed. He came into the bedroom to wake me to show me he had killed the bird. When I looked at him, he had stabbed the bird with a knife and he was holding the knife in front of me with the bird on top. He threw it out of the window of the 8th floor flat we lived in."

In order to raise awareness of this issue The Haven Wolverhampton has teamed up with Sunnyside Kennels to organise a sponsored dog walk. We are asking participants to raise sponsorship which will be evenly distributed between the two charities.

The four-legged friendly walk will take place on **Sunday 10th October**, from **10.30am** onwards, at **East Park**.

We hope that this will be one in a long line of events that will be get people talking about the link between Domestic Violence and animal abuse.



For more information and to register visit

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

For more information on Sunnyside Kennels visit

<http://www.birminghamdogshome.org.uk/>

Join the discussion – The Haven is currently discussing the link between Domestic Violence and Animal Abuse on its facebook page. Tell us your thoughts at http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Haven-Wolverhampton/87505372825?v=app_2373072738#!/topic.php?uid=87505372825&topic=17162



Words from Women

" Today will never come again. Be a blessing. Be a friend. Encourage someone. Take time to care. Let your words heal, and not wound. Today will never come again "



Contact Us



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Don't forget...



Join us on Facebook & Twitter

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-HavenWolverhampton/87505372825?v=wall>

<http://twitter.com/TheHavenWton>

Coming Soon.....

We count down to the '16 **Days of Activism Against Gender Violence**' international campaign and exhibit the poetry and artwork of some of our current and former service users. A poignant and unique exhibition designed, produced and organised by those directly affected by Domestic Violence will feature at the **Light House Media Centre** from **25th November to 10th December**.

For more information please contact Grace Lee on publicity@havenrefuge.org.uk or call **01902 572173**

