



DOMESTIC ABUSE CHAMPION TRAINING COURSES:

Education staff only

7 th Feb & 19 th March	Breckland District Council
16 th & 23 rd March	North Walsham, Victory Housing
13 th & 20 th June	The Willow Centre, Norwich

Healthcare staff only

29 th Jan & 6 th Feb	Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn
15 th & 21 st Feb	Norfolk & Norwich Hospital, Norwich
12 th & 19 th April	Broadland District Council, Norwich
18 th April & 2 nd May	The Willow Centre, Norwich
9 th & 10 th July	Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn
6 th & 18 th Sept	NNUH, Norwich (NNUH staff only)
19 th Sept & 3 rd Oct	The Willow Centre, Norwich

Contact da.change@norfolk.gov.uk for further details and to book a place.

DASH Refresher Workshops

After popular demand from our champions, we have set up DASH refresher workshops across the county and throughout the year. **These courses are open to champions only.** If you feel you lack confidence in completing the DASH, or it's been a while since you accessed the training come along. Also if you complete them regularly, want to touch base and share learning and experiences, this would be suitable for you.

- 20th February – 9:30 – 12:30 – South Norfolk DC
- 13th March – 9:30 – 12:30 – South Norfolk DC
- 16th April – 1:30 -4:30 – Great Yarmouth Town Hall
- 2nd May – 9:30 – 12:30 – Breckland DC
- 19th June – 9:30 – 12:30 – North Walsham, Victory Housing
- TBC – Kings Lynn



Contact da.change@norfolk.gov.uk for further details and to book a place.

Local News

Daisy Programme will be holding their next domestic abuse forum on Wednesday 14th March 10.30 am to 12.30 at Wayland House, High Street, Watton, Norfolk. IP25 6AR (Next to the Police Station and have plenty of free parking).



Norfolk DA Champions Network

Local News and information
Page One/Two

General Domestic Abuse News and information
Page Three/Four

Useful resources
Page Four

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#IWalkedaway

Website here:
[I Walked Away](#)

January 2018

The community Fire Safety team in Norfolk gives advice to People on fire safety in the home. We go to their houses when requested and have a chat and inspect the house to see if we can find anything that might be a problem. We are usually in the home for around 45 minutes. We install smoke alarms for them if needed. We visit mainly people over 60 and the disabled. We also give fire safety talks to groups and schools. We hold our Crucial Crew events for year 6 students 7 times a year around the county. The students attend various safety presentations from organisations such as UK power and Saint John's Ambulance, and the Domestic Abuse Change Co-ordinator team will be doing talks on healthy relationships.



We can be contacted for a home fire safety check by calling 08009178137.



Terrence Higgins Trust Norfolk (THT) is the largest voluntary sector provider of HIV and sexual health services in the UK. In Norfolk they provide a number of free services such as Sexual Health Workshops (16+), HIV Testing (16+), Condoms (13+), Chlamydia Screening (15+) and C-Card Condom Scheme (13-24). They also provide a range of fantastic training for professionals (which I had the pleasure of attending this week, so can vouch for!) For more information either email norfolksexualhealth@tht.org.uk or call

01603 226666.

The Caring Dads Programme is an intervention for fathers whose parenting is abusive or neglectful. It is designed to help fathers replace these parent-centred approaches and with child-centred parenting strategies. Although it is not a domestic violence perpetrator programme, Caring Dads places a strong emphasis on the necessity for fathers to build positive and respectful relationships with their children's mothers, whether or not they are still a couple. **When and Where:** The next Caring Dads Programme will run for 18 weeks on Tuesday evenings starting on April 10th, 2018. It will meet between 18.30 and 20.30 at The Men's Shed, 43-51 Pitt St, Norwich NR3 1DE. Please send all referrals to caringdadsnorfolk@gmail.com **NO LATER THAN March 16, 2018.** For further information, please contact Mark Bond-Webster, the Caring Dads, Norfolk, Project Coordinator, on 07817 570 471 or caringdadsnorfolk@gmail.com



High Risk Domestic Abuse Cases; MARAC letters - The Norfolk Police and Safeguarding Children Team and the Clinical Commissioning Groups have agreed an information sharing letter which the Police will be sending out when a potential victims are referred to MARAC (Multiple Agency Risk Assessment Conference). This will alert GP's to high risk patients and also request them to share anything they feel might be pertinent to the case. **It is vital that these victims are not contacted as a result of these letters as this could potential increase their potential risk further.** Click [here](#) for sample MARAC GP letter.

National News

We talk on our training about the importance of campaigning to make positive changes in relation to domestic abuse. Women's Aid have something called "Campaign Champions" who support national campaigns on a local level, give survivors of domestic violence a voice and help to ensure that politicians and other key decision makers are listening. You might sign a petition, send a tweet,



write to your MP, set up a local meeting or event to raise awareness, secure local media coverage or attend and support national events. Women's Aid will send you all the information, resources and materials that you might need. To sign up to be a Women's Aid Campaign Champion, follow this [link](#).

Women in prison have often been victims of much more serious offences than those of which they have been convicted, a new report published by the Prison Reform Trust on 4th December 2017 reveals. Fifty-seven per cent of women in prison report having been victims of domestic violence. More than half (53%)

January 2018

report having experienced emotional, physical or sexual abuse as a child compared to 27% of men. Because many women fear disclosing abuse, both figures are likely to be an underestimate. The charity Women in Prison report that 79% of the women who use their services have experienced domestic violence and/or sexual abuse. Read more, and access the report [here](#).

Victims of domestic violence will get more support in taking abusive former partners to court, the Ministry of Justice announced in December. The current 5 year time limit on abuse evidence in the family courts will be scrapped, while the range of documents accepted as evidence of abuse will be widened to include statements from domestic violence support organisations and housing support officers. The changes will come into effect from January. Read more [here](#).

Some written agreements in domestic abuse cases are “tantamount to victim blaming”, the national director for social care at Ofsted has said. In a [blog this week](#), Eleanor Schooling gave examples of ineffective use of written agreements, particularly in domestic abuse cases where there is coercive control. She said some agreements seen by Ofsted “place responsibility for managing the risk to children with the victim or make them responsible for policing the behaviour of the perpetrator”. Read more [here](#).

At the beginning of this month, a man named Theodore Johnson pleaded guilty to murdering his ex-partner – the third woman he has killed. Theodore Johnson first killed a woman in 1981. He tipped his wife Yvonne over the balcony of their ninth-floor flat. The second woman Johnson killed was Yvonne Bennett, in 1992. He strangled her with a belt while their baby slept. Then, in December 2016, Angela Best became the third victim of Johnson, 64, and he was sentenced for her murder earlier this month. The Guardian explore how this happened, and what has changed since his first murder in 1981. Read the full article [here](#).

Dame Julie Walters has urged Theresa May to personally intervene to prevent changes to women's refuge funding. The actress told ITV News that more women would be killed by violent partners unless the government **reconsidered plans** to stop families using their housing benefit to pay for refuge. She branded the decision "short-sighted" and called on Mrs May to properly recognise the "vital" lifeline that refuges provide. Read more [here](#).

Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children's Board released a Serious Case Review this month in relation to a



two year old who was murdered by his mother's partner. The mother was a known victim of domestic abuse and her partner's views on physical chastisement of children was also known. Many of the learning outcomes are in relation to domestic abuse. They recommend that professionals should gather an in-depth overview victims previous DA relationships. The risk of previous relationships can indicate victim vulnerability and repeat victimisation. They also call for a better use of Clare's Law to identify repeat offenders of domestic abuse (and the importance of recording perpetrators names). To read the full SCR and recommendations, follow this [link](#).

Confessions of a Gaslighter - Greg, a Canadian lawyer, is 28 but he's already had 11 serious relationships. He says each of those relationships ended with infidelity, on his part, and severe self-doubt on the part of the women. He is a self-confessed "gaslighter". Greg states that "From my experience it's not true that it is vulnerable or insecure women who are susceptible to gaslighting. These were successful women but that came with a perception of what they thought a 'successful' relationship should look like and they shared that. They gave me a blueprint to what they were looking for in a man." Read Greg's account [here](#).

A man who subjected his wife to a 25-year long campaign of domestic abuse has been jailed for three years. A jury found the 67-year-old guilty of 12 charges of assault committed between 1979 and 2004. Ormond, of Montrose, denied a total of 15 charges of assault on his ex-wife and a child. A jury took two hours to find him guilty of 12 of the charges, with the remaining three found not proven. Read more [here](#).

January 2018

London Mayor Sadik Khan has recently challenged the Parole Boards decision to release John Warboys from prison. Warboys, was jailed for a minimum term of eight years in 2009 for drugging and sexually assaulting female passengers who accessed his cab. 5 days after Warboys trial, a total of 85 women came forward with disclosures to the police. Read more [here](#).

Are banks still failing domestic abuse victims? More than two years have passed since financial abuse became a recognised form of domestic aggression that was clearly defined in law under the Serious Crime Bill. Over that time you might expect that banks and other financial providers would have updated their protocols and practices to provide appropriate support for those escaping financial abuse and other forms of coercive control. Some banks have certainly taken big steps to protect vulnerable customers but others have left those customers trapped by red-tape. MP Lisa Cameron raised a case in parliament recently about her constituent who had been unable to shut down a joint bank account unless she visited the bank with her violent ex. Read more [here](#).

RESOURCES



Toolkit for Work with Male Victims of Domestic Violence: Respect has published the second edition of a toolkit for professionals working with men experiencing domestic violence. The purpose of this toolkit is primarily to support and inform work with male victims of domestic violence. Hard copies are available at £10 per copy, or free PDF chapters can be downloaded from their website. Click [here](#) to access the resources.

The NSPCC highlight three ways in which organisations can safeguard children; recognise gaps in their service, improve how you protect children and continually evaluate practice. They explore more in depth as to how organisations can do this, with suggestions such as; staff training, learning from other services, reviewing policies and procedures. Read more about this by following this [link](#).



The Royal College of Nursing have published a Modern Slavery Guide for nurses and midwives. This resource has been developed as many victims of trafficking will access health care. The guide looks at; why people are trafficked, applicable law, signs of trafficking in both adults and children, health issues associated with trafficking and how to support victims. Access the resource [here](#).



Areyougettingit.com is a fantastic website which talks about safes sex. They have a section for C-card information which looks at how young people can access free condoms, how to use condoms, and it debunks myths of why people don't wear condoms. It also has a section for chlamydia screening and how to access these locally, what chlamydia and how young people can protect themselves against chlamydia. Access this information and advice [here](#).



Please send any news about domestic abuse from your organisation for inclusion in next month's newsletter to da.change@norfolk.gov.uk. If you would like to be added to the distribution list for this newsletter, please email da.change@norfolk.gov.uk with "Newsletter" in the title bar.

