PLEASE REMEMBER TO COMPLETE THE DOMESTIC ABUSE CHAMPIONS SURVEY FOR ALL CHAMPIONS TRAINED MORE THAN THREE MONTHS AGO: HERE

CHAMPION TRAINING EVENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th &amp; 11th October</td>
<td>Breckland Council, Dereham</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th &amp; 17th October</td>
<td>South Norfolk DC, Long Stratton</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st &amp; 8th November</td>
<td>Hunstanton Children’s Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th &amp; 24th November</td>
<td>Great Yarmouth Town Hall</td>
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<td>21st &amp; 28th November</td>
<td>Broadland Council, Norwich</td>
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<td>30th November &amp; 7th December</td>
<td>Thetford Children’s Centre</td>
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Contact da.change@norfolk.gov.uk for further details. Further Champions training courses will be advertised as and when they are arranged.

CHAMPION NETWORK EVENTS:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event details</th>
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<tr>
<td>4th October</td>
<td>9:30-1:30pm</td>
<td>Meet Up Café, Redcastle Furze Community Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thetford</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th October</td>
<td>9:30-1:30am</td>
<td>The Lecture Theatre, Queen Elizabeth Hospital,</td>
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<td>Kings Lynn</td>
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Listen to speakers, meet other Champions, discuss issues, promote your services and highlight best practice over a cuppa and cake. Please contact Zoe Harding on zoe.harding@norfolk.gov.uk or on 07920 830824 for further details and to book a place.

Sadly Kate Biles had her last day as a Domestic Abuse Change Co-ordinator on Friday 23rd September. She says “Just a quick goodbye and thank you to all the lovely people I have met over the past year for the fantastic support, especially our wonderful Champions who are making a real difference to people affected by domestic abuse. I am very sad to be leaving, but I hope to be continuing to make Norfolk a safer and more responsive place in my new role and I look forward to seeing many of you in the future”.

LOCAL NEWS

DASH/ MARAC Forms - From Monday 19th September an adapted DASH and MARAC referral form has been rolled out across Norfolk. Please familiarise yourself with this form and note the additional stalking and harassment questions when victims say YES to Question 8. Do not count these additional questions in your overall score. Please also note the change in layout, as there is no longer a column for ‘don’t know’. You can access the adapted forms here.

On Monday 3rd October at 6pm Norfolk Community Law Service and Leeway are hosting an Annual Public Law Lecture at The Cathedral Hostry, Norwich. Vera Baird, QC Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria will be the guest speaker. Tickets are £10 and £5 for students. Email supporters@ncls.co.uk to book a place.
Victim Support are running a Domestic Violence Relationship and Abuse Project across Norfolk. This is aimed at children aged 4-18 who are affected by Domestic Abuse, and children under the age of 18 who are in an abusive relationship. There are different services for children including group work, individual advocacy, emotional support and practical help. Contact details:
Central, South Norfolk kara.shingleton@victimsupport.org.uk 01603 756852.
East and West Norfolk juliette.johnston@victimsupport.org.uk or 07939 944300.

Ormiston Families’ are running a Parental Presence programme which is intended for parents currently experiencing challenging, disruptive or violent behaviour by their children. The course will be delivered by 2 facilitators over 10 weeks to groups of up to 12 parents or carers with each session lasting 2 hours. The programme will commence on Friday 14th October 10am-12pm at 13/14 South Quay, GY, NR30 2QX. Please contact beryl.beane@ormiston.org or on 01493 745253.

Both Zoe Harding and Christen Williams attended a 4 day course looking at the approach of Non Violent Resistance when working with parents experiencing child violence. We will be looking at how we can forge stronger links with Ormiston Families in implementing this approach.

Family Action Swaffham are running a FREE group for parents experiencing change on Monday 4th October 10.15-12:30. The course aims to support parents recognising change and the impact this can have on families. It will look at coping strategies and tool kits for parents to utilise to manage the impact of change. For more information please contact Family Action Swaffham on 01760 720302 or 01760 725801.

Leeway Domestic Abuse Charity held a powerful conference, with inspirational speakers on Friday 23rd September. For more reflections and images, have a look at their Twitter Feed.

Our DA Champion Sinead Murray cycled 54 miles from London to Brighton to raise money for the Daisy Programme. Overall she has raised an amazing £1,012. If you would like to look at her Facebook Page click here. To find out more about the Daisy Programme click on this link.

GENERAL NEWS AND INFORMATION

In the first 6 months of the Coercive and Controlling legislation being introduced it was used just 62 times. Eight forces across the UK had no charges, and nine forces had less than 2. However in Norfolk it has been reported that there have been 10 prosecutions. Lucy Hastings, a director at the independent charity Victim Support, said: “These findings demonstrate that there is still some way to go in improving the support provided to victims and witnesses, before they will be getting the information they need and the respect they deserve”. For the full article, please click here.

We are unable to specifically recommend or guarantee the quality of any of the courses, services or interventions listed in this newsletter as we neither have control of, nor accept any liability for other organisations. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, email “unsubscribe” to da.change@norfolk.gov.uk.
However, The College of Policing recognise that Coercive Control may be one of the highest risks of abuse leading to long term physical and psychological injury. They have therefore introduced a pilot where officers from 3 forces will have specified and in depth training to focus their attention on dangerous patterns of controlling behaviour. Read more about this pilot on their website - http://www.college.police.uk/News/College-news/Pages/Police-support-victims-of-coercive-control.aspx

A Commons Committee have advocated the availability of restorative justice, whereby victims of crime have the opportunity to meet with their perpetrator in a safe manner. Restorative justice brings those harmed by crime and those responsible for it into contact, the idea being that dialogue heals the victim and helps prevent the criminal reoffending. However, there are some concerns that this approach would not be suitable for domestic or sexual abuse victims, as it can be manipulated by the perpetrator to maintain control over the victim. Read more about this approach here and here.

Scotland is to become one of the first countries in the world to criminalise psychological abuse. Justice Secretary Michael Matheson was speaking as MSPs debated the new Domestic Abuse Bill in the Scottish Parliament. He used the debate to condemn the "pernicious, coercive and controlling behaviour" of perpetrators. Police Scotland recorded almost 60,000 cases of domestic abuse in 2014-15. The majority (79%) of cases involved a male perpetrator and a female victim. The new bill will create a specific offence of "abusive behaviour in relation to a partner or ex-partner". Read more here.

Adele Bellis, who survived an acid attack perpetrated by her ex-boyfriend has released a book ‘Brave’ earlier this month. Adele hopes this book can support young people in abusive relationships, and educate them about healthy relationships. Adele’s book focuses on the early stages of the relationship where there was high levels of coercion control and violence. Read more about her book here.

Female Perpetrators of Domestic abuse - Statistics released by the Attorney General show 177 women are convicted of domestic abuse every week. A record 5,640 wives and girlfriends were convicted of assaulting their male partners last year — up from 1,850 in 2007. Read more here and Polly Neate, Chief Executive of Women’s Aid response.

Too often the impact on the child is lost within the system, however, Women’s Aid Child First campaign calls on the family courts and the Government to put the safety of children back at the heart of all decisions made by the family court judiciary. Child First launched in January 2016 alongside the report, Nineteen Child Homicides. On 16th September 2016, the first Child First debate was heard in Parliament. Read more about it here.

Relief for fans of The Archers as Helen Titchener is found not guilty of attempted murder.

The climactic verdict, and Helen storyline as a whole, has been highly praised by domestic abuse charities for its portrayal of violence against women. As Chief Executive of Women’s Aid Polly Neate said in The Telegraph: “Well done, Helen and all those who supported you through this hellish ordeal. The Archers trial week will surely do down as one of the biggest cultural moments of 2016. The nation has been gripped and moved by her story.” Further coverage here.

Success as refuges are exempt from housing benefit changes - This month, in a triumph for the Women’s Aid SOS Campaign, and the Give Me Shelter campaign which was developed with The Sun, the government has announced that domestic violence refuges will be fully exempt from two planned welfare reforms – the Local
Housing Allowance (LHA) cap on housing benefit rates in supported accommodation, and the requirement for social landlords to reduce rents by 1% each year from 2017-2020. Further information here.

The Crown Prosecution Service is prosecuting and convicting a record number of rape, domestic abuse, sexual offences and child abuse cases, according to a report published this month. The CPS’s annual Violence against Women and Girls report shows that rape, domestic abuse and sexual offences now account for 18.6 per cent of the CPS’s total caseload and this figure has been increasing year-on-year. In 2015/16, the CPS prosecuted 117,568 defendants for all crimes grouped together as Violence against Women and Girls (VaWG).

RESOURCES

The Tackling FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) Initiative is the largest ever UK investments in grass-roots FGM prevention work, with a budget of £2.8 million over six years. The Initiative is funded by: Trust for London, The Esme Fairbairn Foundation, ROSA, Comic Relief, and the Kering Foundation.

Best Practice Guidance, an Evaluation of the initiative, peer and case studies, and an interactive app giving guidance on running an FGM session with young people can be found here.

Women who experience domestic abuse are twice as likely to experience depression. (World Health Organisation (WHO) 2013) - Often this further stigmatises victims of domestic abuse and creates another barrier in them accessing and receiving the right support. In recognition of World Mental Health Day on Monday October 10th, Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) England are calling on everyone to ‘Take 10 Together’. Check in on someone - a friend, a family member, a colleague or student - and have a 10-minute conversation with them about their mental health and wellbeing.

This Toolkit includes various templates and ready-to-use materials that businesses, Mental Health First Aiders, charities, schools and other organisations can use in the lead up to World Mental Health Day on 10th October 2016. There are also other resources including; A short film, Web Banners, Graphics for Social Media or Website use, Email Signatures, Infographics, Wall Chart and Content for Schools.

All these resources can be accessed via the link above or on their website.

Forced Marriage - In 2015, The Forced Marriage Unit (FMU) gave advice or support relating to a possible forced marriage in 1,220 cases. The FMU also received approximately 350 calls per month in total. More information about the statistics can be found here. It is estimated that approximately 8,000 to 10,000 forced marriages of British citizens take place every year often result in devastating long term consequences for the victims.

The Safeguarding E-academy have produced this resource pack to raise awareness across organisations. The resource pack contains a poster, footer for emails, facts and figures infographic and a guide to Forced Marriage legislation.

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.