

**Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence support in Croydon**

**One Croydon Training – Meeting Notes**

**11 October from 10:30 to 12:30**

It was great to see you all at the training session. A big thank you to all who shared with informative presentations, and the DASV support your organisations offer to Croydon residents. Sharing this information was a huge benefit to us all in increasing our understanding, and knowledge.

**Recording:** Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence support in Croydon session <https://youtu.be/6XCUdgSH924?feature=shared>

**Guest Speakers**

Helen Hills, FJC (Formerly the Family Justice Centre, Croydon)

Presentation: <https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/fjc-presentation-10-10-23%20>

Effects of Child Abuse and Exposure to Domestic Violence on Adolescent Internalising and Externalising Behaviour Problems <www.risemutual.org/children-and-young-children-affected-by-abuse>

E: [fjc@croydon.gov.uk​](fjc@croydon.gov.uk​%20) | T: 0208 688 0100​ | National Domestic Violence Helpline: ​ 0808 2000 247​

Sarah Middleton**,** DRIVE Team Leader (Croydon)

Presentation: <https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/drive-presentation-dasv>

E: Service Manager: Kelly McDonagh - [kelly.mcdonagh@risemutual.org](mailto:kelly.mcdonagh@risemutual.org)

E: Team Leader: Sarah Middleton – [sarah.middleton@risemutual.org](mailto:sarah.middleton@risemutual.org)

Brian Reilly, Training Manager Southern England, National Centre for Domestic Violence (DCDV)

Presentation: <https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/ncdv-presentation-br-croydon>

E: [brian.reilly@ncdv.org.uk](mailto:brian.reilly@ncdv.org.uk) : W: [www.ncdv.org.uk](http://www.ncdv.org.uk)

Abby Preston, Training, Prevention and Outreach Manager, RASASC

Presentation: <https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/rasasc-sexual-violence-and-ras>

T: 020 8683 3311 | E: [info@rasasc.org.uk](mailto:info@rasasc.org.uk) | W: [www.rasasc.org.uk](http://www.rasasc.org.uk)

24/7 Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Line: 0808 500 2222 W: [www.247sexualabusesupport.org.uk](http://www.247sexualabusesupport.org.uk)

Seema Desai, Helping Hands Coordinator Merton & Croydon, Jigsaw4U

Presentation: <https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/croydon-hhp-presentation-1>

Helping Hands Flyer: <https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/jigsaw4u-helping-hands-leafl>

Referral Form: <https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/form-1-merton-and-croydon-re>

Volunteer Recruitment Poster <https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/hhhp-volunteer-recruitment-pos>

Jigsaw4U have about 18 projects and expanding all the time, due to the need in the community.

T: 07497 149470 | E: <seemadesai@jigsaw4u.org.uk> | W: <www.jigsaw4u.org.uk/what-we-do/helping-hands>

Emma Lamond,Training and Engagement officer Bromley & Croydon Women's Aid

E: [training@bcwa.org.uk](mailto:training@bcwa.org.uk) | <youngpeople@bcwa.org.uk>

* Presentation: [https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/bcwa-domestic-abuse-sexual-v](https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/bcwa-domestic-abuse-sexual-v%20)
* Cheat Sheet: [https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/bcwa-cyp-cheat-sheet](https://cvalive.org.uk/assets/documents/bcwa-cyp-cheat-sheet%20)
* Young People’s Services: 11-24 years, support groups take referrals

<https://www.bcwa.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Young-Peoples-Services-Leaflet-2020-1.pdf>

* ‘Keys to Freedom’ Support Groups for survivors of domestic abuse: W: <www.bcwa.org.uk/support-groups>
* Japanese Service: BCWA, in partnership with the Japanese Embassy in London, offers outreach advice in Japanese to Japanese survivors of domestic abuse who need help and support around domestic abuse,

family law, housing etc. W: [www.bcwa.org.uk/japanese-service](http://www.bcwa.org.uk/japanese-service%20)

***DASV Support groups in the borough who*s*hared their service updates***

Ada Ibezi (Founder & CEO) Against Domestic Abuse E: [ada@againstdomesticabuse.org](mailto:ada@againstdomesticabuse.org) | T: 0790 384 0033

**Raising awareness about Domestic Abuse (affecting 1 in 4 women in the UK), and supporting women and children affected by Domestic Abuse through various initiatives:**

* **Delivering talks and training to organisations such as the Met Police, Charities and Schools.**
* **Peer support groups and the ‘Freedom Programme to empower women who are Domestic Abuse**
* **Survivors, where domestic abuse survivors can connect, share experiences and foster a sense of belonging that counteracts isolation.**
* **Against Domestic Abuse, Drop-In Support Groups (Thrive Thursday Coffee Mornings)**

**Purley Baptist Church: Every First Thursday each month from 10 am - 11.30 am**

**Old Lodge Lane Baptist Church: Every Third Thursday each month from 10.30 am – 12 noon.**

**Pauline Powell, Croydon & Sutton Service Manager, Hestia Croydon & Sutton DAS**

**Hestia Croydon Domestic Abuse Service offers refuge accommodation and a Floating support service, for those who have, or are experiencing domestic abuse. Offering a person-centred, trauma-informed approach. Support varies from signposting, to finding a job, housing, counselling and other therapies, ESOL classes, and translation service. Challenges service users encounter range from housing, access to benefits, support with their children (access schools/nurseries), registering with a GP, or hospital, managing mental/physical health, access to further education, training, or volunteering.**

* **Hestia Referral Helpline (Freephone): 0808 16 999 75.**
* **If looking for refuge space E:** [refuge.space@hestia.org](refuge.space@hestia.org%20)**.**
* **To refer to Croydon Domestic Abuse Floating Support Service: email** <pauline.powell@hestia.org> **| T:07920 218973**
* **Hestia Bright Sky App: Safe, easy to use app and website providing practical support/information on how to respond to domestic abuse. It is for anyone experiencing domestic abuse, or who is worried about someone else.**

**W:** [www.hestia.org/brightsky](http://www.hestia.org/brightsky)

Angélique Vassell, CEO/Founder, WalkwithMeUk

E: [info@walkwithmeuk.co.uk](info@walkwithmeuk.co.uk %20) | W: [walkwithmeuk.co.uk](https://walkwithmeuk.co.uk/) *|* Mobile: 07883 654495 | Twitter: WalkwithMeUK

WalkwithMeUK support and guidance service equips parents/carers with strategies and tools to manage challenges such as violent, aggressive, destructive behaviours amongst Children and Young People (5yrs+) using the Non-Violent Resistance (NVR) approach impacted by DASV. In every 10 parents we support, 9 are often survivor's or currently experiencing DASV. We are able to address the abuse but at the early stages. Parents quite often need someone to talk to. We offer group sessions, information workshops, 1-2-1, emergency and advocacy support, sign-posting to Domestic Abuse specialist services.

**Sherica Spence, Skye Alexandra House (Had to leave before the open sharing session)**

E:  [info@skyealexandrahouse.co.uk](info@skyealexandrahouse.co.uk )| W: [www.skyealexandrahouse.co.uk](http://www.skyealexandrahouse.co.uk/)

Skye Alexandra House is dedicated to championing the rights and healing journey of girls and women who have experienced sexual and criminal exploitation. We use trauma-informed practice to ensure a safe and secure environment where practitioners actively listen and treat people as the experts of their own experience. Our mission is to empower survivors to process and overcome the profound impact of sexual violence.

We provide

* Workshops for schools/universities about sexual and criminal exploitation, trauma, and consent
* Support Groups for victims of sexual violence
* Training for professionals on how to support victims of sexual violence, language used and the effects of trauma from a victim's perspective.

**Chat: Questions and Answers**

Q: Does anyone have a list of Safe Space Locations

A: UK SAYS NO MORE works with pharmacies, banks and selected jobcentres across the UK to provide Safe Spaces in their consultation rooms for people experiencing domestic abuse. Organisations providing Safe Spaces include; Boots, Morrisons pharmacies, Superdrug pharmacies, Well pharmacies, independent pharmacies, HSBC, TSB, The Co-operative Bank and selected Metro Banks. How to access a Safe Space

* Walk into any participating safe space in the UK
* Ask a member of staff at the counter to use their safe space
* You will be shown to the Safe Space which will be a private room

Once inside you can use the safe space in whichever way works for you. They provide a safe and discreet way to reach out to friends and family, contact specialist support services and start your journey to recovery. On the UK SAYS NO MORE website there is a search option to enter your location to find safe spaces in your location.

W: <www.uksaysnomore.org>

Q: Is the Freedom Programme also run by BCWA, or is if just FJC for Croydon?

A: BCWA, Yes, we also run the Freedom programme

Q: If a child is under 11 would they be considered?

A: Our 1-2-1 young people’s support and Under 25s support groups are for girls and women aged secondary school age and older. Our awareness/prevention workshops that run in secondary schools are for all genders. If a child is in primary school, they would be able to access Helping Hands if their school books BCWA to run the programme with their students. This is for all genders and for children aged 4-11.

Q: What can you do when a live-with order is being breached, along with the father refusing to communicate with mum about the child. despite multiple child safeguarding issues, MARAK have refused the referral.

A: I think it's best to call FJC on 0208 688 0100 and ask to speak to our managers Foz, Amy or Ali about the case

Q: What does IDVA stand for?

A: Independent domestic violence advocate. There can also be IGVA and ISVA (Independent gender violence advocate and sexual violence. There can also be IGVA and ISVA (Independent gender violence advocate and sexual violence

Q: Is there any service that offers support to parents affected by child on Parent Abuse.... especially as an emergency? It is helpful to be able to share a number/contact if a parent/ carer requires emergency/immediate response. Most would call the police, but this isn't always a parent/carer preference depending on the severity of the situation.

A: RASASC offers Family Support to non-abusing parents, partners, carers to help them understand sexual violence/abuse and how they can look after themselves and their young person who has experience CSA.

Our Adult counselling referrals are through the Survivors Gateway at the moment W: [www.survivorsgateway.london/](http://www.survivorsgateway.london/) and we still run the national helpline, which is now 24/7 – W: [www.247sexualabusesupport.org.uk/](http://www.247sexualabusesupport.org.uk/)

All BCWA services are open to Croydon residents.

**Croydon Simply Connect Directory**

[Searching for organisations supporting Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse in Croydon](https://croydon.simplyconnect.uk/activities?keyword=domestic%20abuse&post_code=Croydon&page=1&limit=20&sort=&type_id%25255B%25255D=2)

Go to the CVA website home page [www.cvalive.org.uk](http://www.cvalive.org.uk) → Directories Button → Find Local Activities →Type in Domestic Abuse → Press Explore. The list of organisations will appear.

[Domestic Abuse | Sexual Violence | Violence & Abuse Helplines and resources](https://croydon.simplyconnect.uk/activities/94c45a60-6d03-11ea-8d43-eb9d0ec5368b/domestic-abuse-sexual-violence-violence-abuse-helplines-and-resources?) W: <https://rb.gy/pc2us>

If you know of any organisations which should be added, or removed from this list please email [kay.rhodes@cvalive.org.uk](mailto:kay.rhodes@cvalive.org.uk)

Other useful directories can be found on the home page of the Croydon Voluntary Action website, [www.cvalive.org.uk](http://www.cvalive.org.uk)(Homeless Support, Foodbanks, Mental Health & Wellbeing, Autism, Debt Advice Services, Find Activities, Find Organisations)

Adding, or amending your activities (for those already listed on the directory) please email your changes to [connectwellcroydon@cvalive.org.uk](http://connectwellcroydon@cvalive.org.uk)

**Not listed in the Directory yet?**

If you wish to add your services/activities you will need to complete this [online form](https://forms.office.com/r/L5F8mB41dh), once your organisations details are uploaded to the database, you can add your services to the Directory.