

HAVE YOU BEEN A VICTIM OF PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN YOUR HOME?

Then Women's Aid can help you.

What is domestic abuse?

Hull Women's Aid define domestic abuse as ***"the actual or threatened physical, emotional, psychological, sexual or financial abuse of a woman by a partner, family member or someone with whom there is, or has been, a close relationship. This abuse also relates to the perpetrator allowing or causing a child to witness, or be at risk of witnessing, domestic abuse."***

Domestic abuse can be physical - such as slapping, punching, kicking, pushing you around, pulling your hair. It can be sexual abuse - forcing you to have sex, abuse of your children. It can be emotional abuse - calling you names, putting you down, humiliating you in public, stopping you from going out or seeing your friends and family, turning your children against you or controlling your life.

Domestic abuse essentially involves the misuse of power and exercise of control by one person over another with whom there is or has been a close relationship.

Domestic abuse occurs irrespective of gender, race, class, age, religion, sexuality, mental ability, physical ability, income, lifestyle or geographical area of residence.

About Us

Hull Women's Aid (HWA) has been established for 35 years. HWA is a member of the Women's Aid Federation of England, (a national organisation that co-ordinates the work of individual groups and regions to provide temporary refuge and support to victims and survivors of domestic violence).

HWA is the sole provider of safe and secure refuge accommodation on the north bank of the Humber for women and children fleeing domestic violence. We support women and children who are experiencing/fleeing domestic violence by providing; temporary accommodation, telephone and direct advice and individual support to any woman who requests it

What we can offer

- Someone to talk to who understands the emotions and turmoil you are feeling,
- Someone who understands how difficult it is to leave and how difficult it is to stay,
- Someone who will listen and support, and who will not judge you.
- Trained staff in areas relating to domestic violence.
- Advice on benefits, housing, legal, court matters and accessing other services.
- Provision of emotional support and counselling

The refuge

A refuge is a safe house for women and children escaping domestic violence. Every woman in the refuge is escaping abuse, therefore they can share their experiences and offer each other support in an environment where they feel safe and free from abuse. **Peer support can sometimes be the most beneficial support a woman can receive.**

Floating Support Service

Our Floating Support Worker's role includes the provision of one-to-one emotional and practical support to women in their own home who have experienced domestic violence. The support is tailored to each individual woman's needs and may include practical support, e.g. tenancy support, accessing services and legal issues. It can also include;

- Providing a listening ear
- Discussing the options available
- Support with issues related to children or parenting
- Confidence building
- Helping women access legal advice and other support available to them
- Support with court orders
- Support and information about safety measures



Children's Services



HWA Children's Services offer outreach support for young people aged 0-19 years. They offer someone to talk to on a one to one basis about their experiences of living with or witnessing domestic abuse and also to understand their feelings, build confidence, self esteem and recognise that they are not the only one to have experienced domestic abuse. The children's workers in the refuge provide regular play sessions in the refuge and outings in the holidays and after school. Most importantly, they offer children and young people the opportunity for someone to listen to them giving them the opportunity to talk about their feelings.

Facts about domestic violence

One incident of domestic violence is reported to the police every minute.

In 2008 Humberside police responded to more than 550 incidents of domestic violence each month.

Domestic violence accounts for between 16% and one quarter of all recorded violent crime.

In any one year, there are 13 million separate incidents of physical violence or threats of violence against women from partners or former partners.

At least 1 in 4 women experience domestic violence in their lifetime.

At least 750,000 children a year witness domestic violence.

On a typical day, 3615 women and 3,580 children are resident in refuge accommodation in England.

Useful Telephone Numbers

Hull Women's Aid	01482 446099
Hull Women's Aid Children's Services	01482 475112
Hull Domestic Abuse Partnership	01482 318759
Rape Crisis	01482 329990
Hull Royal Infirmary	01482 875875
Police (non emergency)	0845 6060222
Emergency Duty Team	01482 788080
Preston Road Women's Centre	01482 790310
Women's Aid National Domestic Violence Helpline	0808 2000 247

IN AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS RING 999



www.hullwomensaid.org



Information for women who are experiencing domestic violence

