

Calderdale Staying Safe

Information for Professionals



To make a referral or to contact the team:

Phone: **01422 323339** Out of hours **07590 884206**

Email: dvteam@womenscentre.org.uk



Three year accreditation by SafeLives



IDVA
Independent
Domestic
Violence
Advocate

The IDVAs provide support to male and female victims at high risk of domestic abuse. The aim is to provide support at the point of crisis, working with clients to plan appropriate safety strategies, with the emphasis on reducing immediate risk; implementing an individual safety and support plan and supporting victims through the criminal justice system and the daily Hub/MARAC. **Professionals should make referrals direct to the team.**

Domestic
Abuse
Case Workers

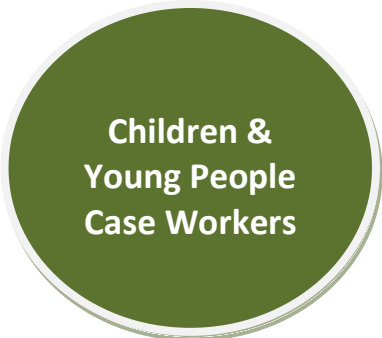
Caseworkers provide support for women and men aged 16 and above who have been subjected to domestic abuse. Support is available regardless of sexuality, gender, disability, religion or ethnic group. Support workers will assess the level of risk faced from the abusive partner/ex partner and will work together with the victim to develop an appropriate safety and support plan. Support is provided individually both face to face and by telephone. **Professionals should make referrals direct to the team.**

Male
Victims

Additionally there is a male support worker for male victims of domestic abuse. This service is available for heterosexual, gay, bisexual and transgender men of any ethnicity who live separately to, or with, their abusive partner in Calderdale. Support is tailored to meet the needs of each service user. At the point of referral, needs are assessed and appropriate support strategies are established. Work will be one to one both face to face and by telephone. Group work will be provided if there is a need. **Professionals should make referrals direct to the team.**

YPVA
Young People's
Violence
Advocate

The YPVA provides support for **13-19 year olds** who are victims of domestic abuse in their own relationship. The YPVA will assess the level of risk and provide an age appropriate safety and support plan for each young person. Support is provided one to one both face to face and by telephone. The YPVA will use appropriate community venues to meet with young people. **Professionals should make referrals direct to the team.**



Children &
Young People
Case Workers

We offer an independent confidential support service for children and young people (**from 5yrs and under 18 years**) affected by domestic abuse within their own home. An assessment will be completed with the non-abusive parent prior to the work starting and the child will be introduced to the worker by the parent. Up to six sessions will be undertaken one-to-one with the child in a suitable venue, often school. **Referral is only via the Early Intervention Panels (EIP'S) for professionals.**



LGBT
Victims

The service is LGBT friendly and will be developing new ways of reaching and supporting LGBT victims of domestic abuse. The team will link with relevant agencies to develop these areas of work. Appointments will be available across Calderdale to meet need, as appropriate.



Group
Programmes
e.g. Freedom
Programme

The **Freedom Programme** is a weekly support group that runs 3 times a year for 12 weeks on a rolling programme. Each week the group explores different types of abusive behaviour and the impact on adult victims and their children, enabling women to learn about domestic abuse in a safe environment. The programme is available to any woman living in the Calderdale area that has been affected by domestic abuse. Professionals should make referrals by completing the Freedom Programme referral form and sending it directly to the team.

We are currently developing a **Recovery Group Work Programme** to follow on from the Freedom Programme and one to one work. Information will be circulated when available.

Additional Information

Languages other than English - We have a skilled, experienced and diverse staff team. Some staff/volunteers speak other community languages. If we do not have the language skills required we will make every effort to provide language support through interpreters.

Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence - Support is available from the team although the team may need to refer to more specialist services if required.

Freedom Programme (women only) - There will be two groups running in school term times:

- Monday morning 10.00am –12.00pm – Crèche available (places are limited, must be pre-booked and are subject to availability)
- Tuesday evening 6.00pm – 8.00pm - NO Crèche

The course is run very informally and whilst we would encourage women to attend all of the sessions, it is fine if they don't make it to all of them, and can access missed sessions the next time the course is run. Each session lasts for approximately two hours.

Open Access - available for men and women.

Women - open access is on Wednesday 10.00am to 12.00 midday at WomenCentre, 23 Silver Street, Halifax . **Please ring the team if you know that someone will be attending open access.** It can be very busy and it helps the team if they are aware of who to expect each Wednesday.

Men – open access on Wednesday 10.00am to 11.00am at Bull Green House, Halifax (Together Housing Office).

Outreach – Todmorden Outreach access point is based in Todmorden College. When - every Thursday 10.00am to 12midday. The support is available for men and women.

Out of Hours Phone Support – 07590 884206 will be available at the following times:

- **Thursday & Friday evenings (5.00pm until 10.00pm)**
- **Saturday day (9.00am until 5.00pm)**
- **Sunday day (9.00am until 5.00pm)**

Please Note: This service provides urgent safety planning and advice directly to victims following an incident of domestic abuse. This will include addressing immediate safety issues; liaising with other out-of-hours services such as Housing and EDT when appropriate; offering initial emotional support and signposting on to both our own and other relevant services that are available during office hours.

Website: www.calderdalestayingssafe.org.uk

Calderdale Staying Safe is based at Womencentre, 23 Silver Street, Halifax, HX1 1JN.

Phone: 01422 323339 Fax: 01422 330210



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