

# WomenCentre

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**ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR 2017-2018**



*womenCentre*

# Chair & CEO Statement

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This has been another successful year for WomenCentre across all our service areas with new developments in services and communications as well as an increase in membership. I would like to thank all our dedicated staff and volunteers & strong board who work extremely hard to support the many projects that support women.

We have exciting new opportunities ahead!

Chair

**JUDY GANNON**

We have had a positive year across WomenCentre. We have strengthened governance, internal & external communications to ensure women's voices are heard but most importantly we continue to deliver high quality services. We are a resilient organisation that continually learns and helps shape best practice nationally by listening & working alongside the women we support. The challenges remain great as the circumstances of some women are increasingly complex, although I am confident our amazing team of staff, volunteers and trustees will continue to move us forward with the many exciting developments & new projects ahead.

Chief Executive Officer

**ANGELA EVERSON**



# A year at a glance



We have had a great year working with partners and community organisations. We were charity of the Year and recieved donations and support from a few local Womens Institutes. Many other organisations have also been supporting us with fundraising, increasing our unrestricted funds and helping us to maintain our services and sustain projects.

## WOMENCENTRE BECOMES MINDFUL EMPLOYER PLUS



## CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERS WEEK

Across the centres we celebrated all our amazing volunteers, as part of volunteers week. WomenCentre could not support all the women we do without all the hours they dedicate.



## ALLOTMENT GARDEN PARTY

The allotment is a great place to meet. Over the summer the walking group, music group and sewing group came along to celebrate with music and cake, a great day.



## CRAFTY GROUP SUCCESS

Over the summer we held a series of craft sessions for women. A chance to create whilst having a chance to talk and relax. We recieved amazing responses from the women.



## 1325 BODY CONFIDENCE

Across Kirklees and Calderdale the outcomes were really positive. All the girls who participated said their self esteem had increased along with their confidence.



# Raising our profile



## MOTHERS APART ON WOMEN'S HOUR

Three of the women from the Mother's Living Apart from their Children Group were interviewed on Woman's Hour talking about stigma and their experiences.

## COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARDS

WomenCentre was shortlisted in two categories for Calderdale Community Spirit Awards hosted by the Community Foundation for Calderdale, a great accolade.



## WOW VOLUNTEERS @ ASDA DEWSBURY

Some of our amazing volunteers did a bag back at Asda Dewsbury and raised over £250 as well as telling everyone about the fantastic work of WomenCentre.

## SOUNDWOMEN

The Sound Women music event was held at Small Seeds in Huddersfield this year with music from the local community, Lisa Luxx, an acclaimed poet presented the event.



## 100 YEARS SINCE THE FIRST VOTES FOR WOMEN

We helped celebrate the fact that some women were given the vote 100 years ago!

## GREAT PUBLICITY ON TV & RADIO

We had some great publicity locally and nationally with interviews on ITV, on BBC Radio 4 Woman's Hour, on Sunrise Radio and on Pheonix Radio raising awareness of the issues women face and the profile of WomenCentre.





# INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY

This year we planned the shoe event and we were supported by over 20 organisations in our communities, including schools, businesses and other voluntary groups. We raised over £2000.

# VAGINA MONOLOGUES

A truly fantastic show put together in aid of WomenCentre. Produced by Kate Radford held at Hebden Bridge Trades Club. Performances from many women came together to make us laugh and cry, and raised over £700 for WomenCentre.



# HIDDEN FIGURES

Holly Lynch MP organised a showing of Hidden Figures for International Women's Day and raised over £500 for WomenCentre



# SOCIAL MEDIA

Various campaigns such as grow your tenner, Giving Tuesday and International Womens Day have helped us increase our social media profile.



Reach 6.3k+  
Followers 721



28k+  
1763

MAKE THIS A YEAR ABOUT WOMEN

**If every Woman in  
Kirklees &  
Calderdale was a  
member - we  
would never need  
funding again**

FEEL HAPPY THIS SPRING 2018!

# MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

This year we have had a focus and campaign on increasing the membership at WomenCentre. This has now more than doubled and is steadily rising giving us unrestricted funds and a wider group of supporters.

# Calderdale Services



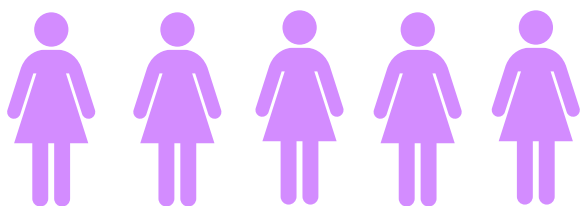
Calderdale Staying Safe, the Domestic Abuse Service has continued to work with victims at all levels of risk. The services also provides domestic abuse support to children and young people . Over the year 1,228 adults & 52 children and young people have been supported.

Counselling was offered to 152 women and 6 women were supported by a new Eating Distress Group.

The Women Making Changes Big Lottery funded project has helped vulnerable and marginalised women in Calderdale to have financial security, suitable accommodation and social support to live better lives and avoid future hardship. 77 individual women recieved support.



Learning courses encouraged 160 women to share their experiences, helping them feel less isolated and start to build a more positive future.



## Crisis Funds

Small grants from the Bearder Charity and the Community Foundation for Calderdale has provided WomenCentre with an additional fund to offer financial support for food, utility costs and more to women who access our services in Calderdale.



# Kirklees Services

Our Mental Health & Wellbeing Service has supported over 850 individual women across our Huddersfield and Dewsbury bases.

The WOW group continue to inform and shape our direct work and embed co-produced approaches.

We have also been working with Syrian women as part of the Syrian Resettlement programme.

A part of our wider offer in Kirklees, the Mother's Apart group has offered training and consultancy to wider audiences across the country.



## Women in Exile

Our Women In Exile Service for refugee and asylum seeking women continues to support women to rebuild their lives & achieve a greater sense of safety & belonging within the local community.

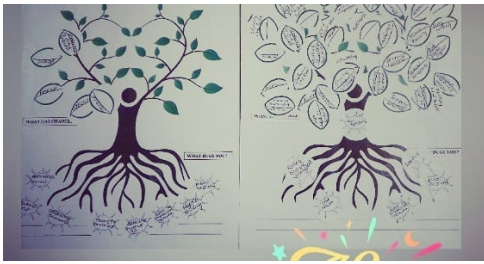
## PUBLICITY

We have developed new publicity materials across all services including infographics, new leaflets and banners to help us spread the word at events and to increase fundraising opportunities.

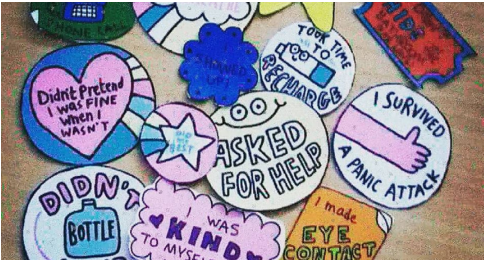




1325 GIRLS & YOUNG  
WOMEN PROJECT



Across Calderdale & Kirklees the 1325 Girls and Young Women Project funded by the Big Lottery offers a range of early intervention approaches to help girls and young women focus on times of distress and significant transitions in their lives.



There are fantastic examples of increased confidence with some amazing results including gaining an apprenticeship and getting paid work.



# CONNECTING OPPORTUNITIES



# Bradford Service

In Bradford, WomenCentre delivers Bradford Maze (the Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme) which aims to increase the safety of victims (female and male) and children by working with perpetrators of domestic abuse.



# A WOMAN'S STORY

"The counselling I received was absolutely fabulous in terms of my self acceptance & self development. I feel I have got the tools to keep me moving forward positively. It has been very rewarding & empowering, thank you."

## FIGURES

Womens Mental  
Health referrals up

**54%**

during the year!

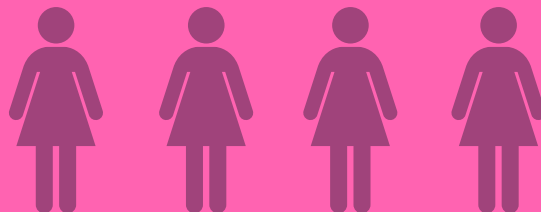
Calderdale Services

**5,124**

through the door!

## STUDENTS

4 social work students each added over  
100 days capacity to WomenCentre!



## VOLUNTEERS

75 Volunteers have delivered

5810 hours

Valued at £79,863 (in kind)



# Feedback from women



## TESTIMONIALS

"It is rare to see so many women from so many different cultures, ages, skill level, get up on stage and perform, make us laugh, make us cry and feel more connected to our humanity"

— **Mother of performer with long term mental health needs**



"It's the best thing in Dewsbury for us women, all ages and it give us lots of confidence. The WomenCentre is a safe and happy place to come."

— **Music Therapy**

"I honestly wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for the group. They have kept me going through really hard times."

— **Sew Good**

## ONE WOMAN'S STORY

"My situation has now improved, before I came to WomenCentre for help I had no food or heating.

My benefits had been sanctioned and I did not have any idea for how long, and I did not know when my sanction for universal credits was going to end and when they were going to start paying me again, so I had no money at all. I was very stressed when all this was happening. I know that Women Making Changes can still help me but I am positive I can now manage on my own."

— **Woman from Women Making Changes**

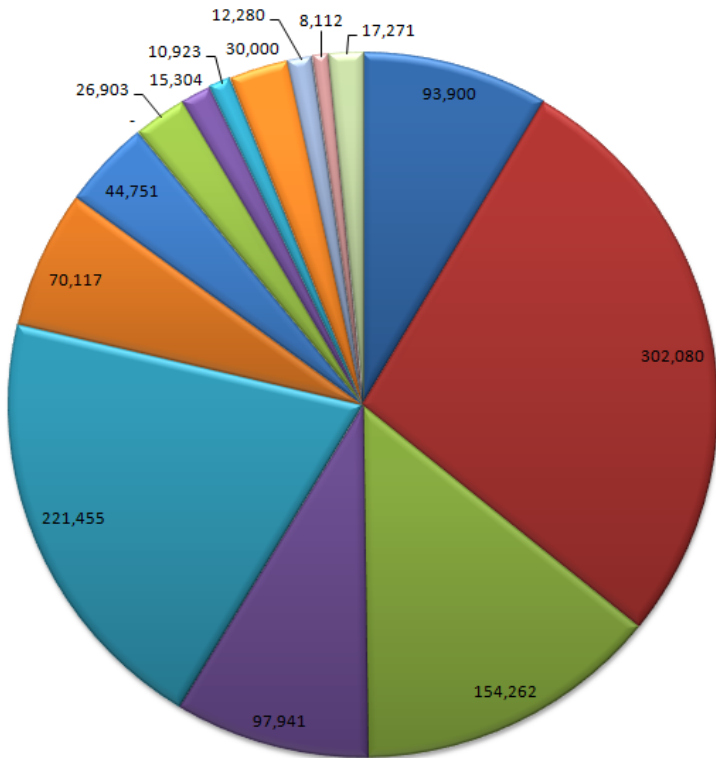




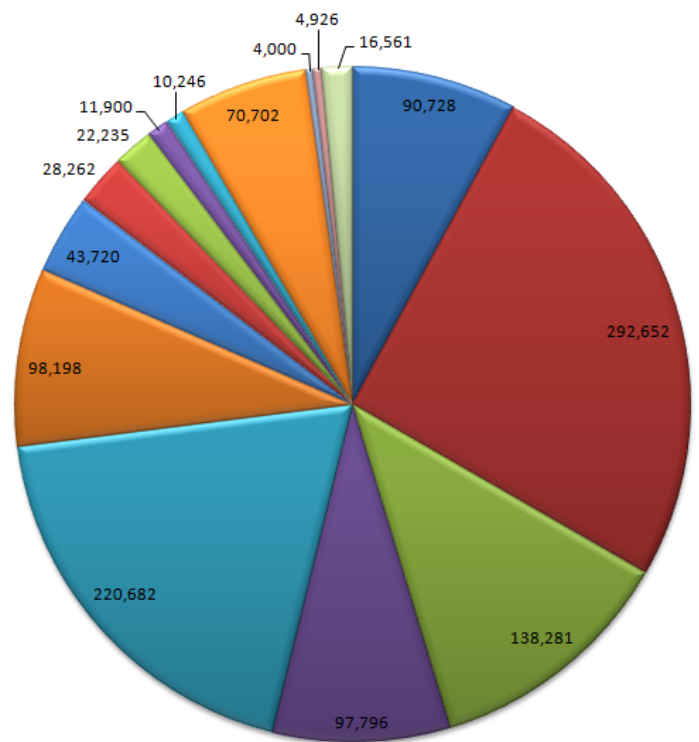
# Financial Overview

This is a brief overview of the accounts. Full report of the trustees and financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2018 is available on request.

**INCOME 17/18**



**EXPENDITURE 17/18**



- BRADFORD MAZE DOMESTIC ABUSE PREVENTION
- CALDERDALE STAYING SAFE
- 1325 BIG LOTTERY GIRLS & YOUNG WOMEN
- WOMEN MAKING CHANGES BIG LOTTERY PROJECT FOR WOMEN IN CRISIS
- WOMEN'S MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING PROJECT
- OTHER DOMESTIC ABUSE SUPPORT SERVICES
- OTHER WOMEN'S MENTAL HEALTH & WELL BEING SERVICES
- OTHER WOMEN'S SUPPORT SERVICES
- MIGRATION YORKSHIRE
- LEARNING & WELLBEING CALDERDALE
- SMALL GRANTS FOR WOMEN
- COMMUNICATIONS AND CORE COSTS FUNDED BY TRUSTS
- DEVELOPMENT OF VIDEO LINK ROOM & OTHER CAPITAL
- CONSULTANCY & TRAINING
- OTHER UNRESTRICTED INCOME

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This Annual Report is  
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# CONTACT US



[info@womenscentre.org.uk](mailto:info@womenscentre.org.uk)



[www.womenscentre.org.uk](http://www.womenscentre.org.uk)



[www.calderdalestayingssafe.org.uk](http://www.calderdalestayingssafe.org.uk)



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@womenCentreCK

Charity Number 1118366

Company Number 06084795



23 Silver Street, Halifax HX1 1JN Tel: 01422 386500

15 Lord Street, Huddersfield, HD1 1QB Tel: 01484 450866

First Floor, Empire House, Dewsbury, WF12 8DJ Tel: 07590 445846



The  
Coutts  
Foundation

