

Happy New Year!

Newsletter

Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid

OCT - DEC 2022
ISSUE 03

Welcome to Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid newsletter for October - December 2022.

Domestic Abuse Animation - Police Scotland

As part of our 16 days of activism campaign, Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid worked in partnership with Police Scotland to develop a domestic abuse animation.

The animation informs women experiencing domestic abuse that they are protected from abuse within Scots law and encourages them to phone Police Scotland. The animation targets migrant women who may be worried about leaving their abusive partners because of their insecure immigration status and having no recourse to public funds as well as women constrained by honour abuse.

The animation is accessible via HGWA YouTube channel. It is available in 9 different languages - Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, Hindi, Polish, Punjabi, Russian, Ukrainian, Urdu. There is also a version with a British Sign Language interpreter. All versions of the animation are available to view at the following link

<https://www.youtube.com/@hematgryffewomensaid>

The animation was funded by The University of Strathclyde and the Scottish Government in respect of the translation costs.

Grateful thanks are extended to Police Scotland, Dr Rhonda Wheate and Mhairi McGowan.

// It doesn't matter where you're from, or what language you speak, you are now protected by the laws of this country and its police force, Police Scotland.

Quote from animation, above.



Still from Animation, above.

Honour Based Abuse Research

We are currently involved in honour-based abuse research.

The research team is a collaboration between Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid, Police Scotland, The University of Strathclyde and experts working in the violence against women sector. We are keen to hear from professionals working in the field of Honour Based Abuse, as well as survivors. If you would like to get involved, please visit the link below.

<https://www.honour-abuse-research.co.uk>

Erase The Grey - Glasgow Caledonian University

On 7th December, Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid was invited to Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) campus to take part in an information session.

The event was part of the 16 Days of Activism, GCU was running a campaign called #erasethegrey.

The Erase the Grey campaign has key messages which challenge stereotypical attitudes and behaviours and reiterates a zero-tolerance policy towards gender-based violence.

Different organisations attended the information session alongside us, including Glasgow and Clyde Rape Crisis, SAY Women, White Ribbon Scotland and TARA. The session was held in the Campus Life Lounge, between 11am-2pm to raise awareness and learn about support for those impacted by gender-based violence.

It was great to interact with students and other organisations.

Thank you to Glasgow Caledonian University for inviting us!

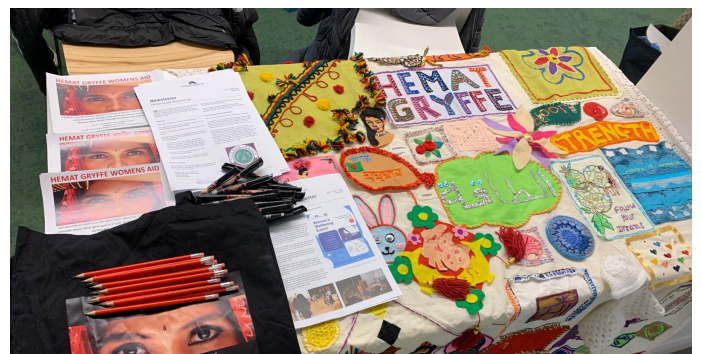


Image from Information Session, above.

Referrals

There were **12** women in refuge during this quarter between October - December.

There were **87** new referrals for support for women.

40 women living in the wider community received crisis/outreach support.

17 women had an insecure immigration status and had no recourse to public funds, denying them access to housing and welfare benefits.

10 entered the UK on a spousal visa and were supported to access the destitution domestic violence concession whereby they were granted leave outside the rules, cancelling their spousal visa and allowing them access to public funds.

7 woman could not access refuge, insecure immigration status.

Training and Development

In October we lectured Family Law Students at the University of Strathclyde in relation to improving their knowledge and understanding of cultural awareness when dealing with victims of domestic abuse from South Asian backgrounds. We focused upon; Family and Community, Family Honour, Socio-cultural traditions and behaviours, Immigration Status, No Recourse to Public Funds, Intimate Partner Abuse and Honour Abuse.

We provided training to Glasgow East Women's Aid in November. Glasgow East Women's Aid facilitated an Unpaid Workers course to train their new volunteers and staff about Domestic Abuse. Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid attended to provide a guest session explaining the barriers BME women are likely to face when accessing help. We represented the organisation and contributed to the Police Scotland Strategic Stakeholder Forum.

We met with Linda Holmes, our new Commissioning Officer with Glasgow City Council for the first time. We are looking forward to working with Linda!

We contributed to and participated in Glasgow Health and Social Care Partnership's new strategy on violence against women for the city.

We provided five awareness-raising sessions with Community Links Practitioners working at Alliance Scotland. This involved HGWA service provision and referral process.

We participated in the Standing Group on Violence Meeting.

We attended a Scottish prison service information event. The event was called *'The Visioning Day'*. The event was to discuss potential opportunities with the Lilius Centre and the local community. We received a tour of the new female custody unit took part in a workshop to discuss how female prisoners could benefit from local community groups and services.

Recruitment

We successfully recruited a new Women's Support Worker. We are thrilled to have her onboard!

We hope you have enjoyed reading our newsletter. If you have any questions, comments or feedback feel free to get in touch at womensaid@hematgryffe.org.uk

We wish all of our readers a happy new year, and all the best for 2023!

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