

Welcome to Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid organisational newsletter. This issue contains information in relation to referrals, training and development, honour-based abuse research, and media appearances between January 2023 and March 2023.

The Women Who Changed Modern Scotland

Established in 1981, Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid is Scotland's first feminist Asian, Black and Minority Ethnic Women's Aid organisation.

We are pleased to share that one of the founding members, Indu Maini, has been featured in the new BBC Scotland series **'The Women Who Changed Modern Scotland'**.

We are proud to have been included and recognition given to the organisation and Indu in relation to the services that we have provided to women, children and young people for over 40 years.

The first programme in the series highlights the women who made a difference for all women across Scotland in the 1960s and 70s. Presenter Kirsty Wark discovers how activists from the women's liberation movement worked to establish the first refuges for survivors of domestic violence in Scotland. Research by Rebecca and Russell Dobash was crucial as it influenced policy and practice and brought about recognition of this serious social problem on a global scale.

During her interview, Indu recalled a question she was asked by a woman she had supported.

'Are you Hindu? Are you Muslim?'

I said, 'I am what I am. We are all human beings and we are all sisters. I am going to help you.'

- Quote from Indu Maini

This quote reflects the founding ethos of Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid which we maintain today, recognising the importance of diversity in our staff team and all aspects of our service.

All episodes in the series are available to watch online on BBC iPlayer. You can find them by following the link below.

www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001jhb9



(Indu Maini appearing on 'The Women Who Changed Modern Scotland')



(Stills from 'The Women Who Changed Modern Scotland', pictured 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 excited to share that our research report has been completed and will be published soon.

If you would like to find out more information please contact us at

womensaid@hematgryffe.org.uk

Referrals

There were **12** women in refuge between January 2023 - March 2023.

There were **84** new referrals for support for women and **6** new admissions to refuge.

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

20 women had no recourse to public funds, denying them access to housing and welfare benefits.

19 women entered the UK on a spousal visa,

1 woman could not access refuge as she had a student visa.

There were **1676** incoming calls and **1721** outgoing calls between January 2023 - March 2023

Training and Development

Women's Outreach Development Worker attended a 'Train the Trainers' course on 16th January. The training session was held over zoom and discussed tips on how to facilitate training.

Management attended ACAS Training.

Attended the Standing Group on Violence Against Women Forum on Jan 17th and the partnership meeting in the City Chambers on Jan 24th.

Workers attended 'At the edge - women, vulnerabilities and cost of living' on 1st Feb. A webinar run by the Women's Support Project. The event highlighted the impact of the cost of living crisis on women facing disadvantages, such as migration and sexual exploitation.

Attended Police Scotland Stakeholder forum and Domestic Abuse forum.

On March 1st, attended West College Scotland's Student Wellbeing Day at their Paisley campus. Held an information stall, and shared information with the students in relation to services provided and how students can contact the organisation to make a referral.

Attended SafeLives and ASSIST's research workshop on March 9th. The research team engaged with professionals who support individuals whose partner or ex-partner is involved in the Criminal Justice process due to domestically abusive behaviour. The aim of the research is to establish domestic abuse court advocacy standards in Scotland.

Attended Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership Provider Event on 23rd March at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall.

Training Needs

Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid offers information and awareness raising sessions and training. These sessions inform attendees about our service and how we can support women, barriers BME women face, how agencies can make a referral, forced marriage, NRPF and honour-based abuse. If you are interested and think this would be beneficial for you or for your organisation, please email

womensaid@hematgryffe.org.uk

Current Vacancies

Would you like to help improve the lives of women, children and young people primarily from the Asian, Black and Minority Ethnic communities who have experienced domestic abuse, forced marriage and honour-based abuse?

Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid are seeking to recruit suitably experienced, qualified, and skilled women to join our Board of Directors.

If you would like to find out more, please follow the link below

<https://hematgryffe.org.uk/current-vacancies/>

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