

Welcome to the December newsletter from Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid!

As the end of the year approaches, we wanted to look back on the successful service provision of Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid during 2024. We particularly wanted to celebrate the excellent projects that have come from partnership working and thank those who have been involved.

There are many great projects we can mention, including our local partnership work with the Council of Ethnic Minority Voluntary Organisations (CEMVO), collaborating with us to provide vulnerable women victim-survivors of domestic abuse with financial and economic know-how in bespoke webinars to allow them to manage their finances. Thanks also to Volunteer Glasgow for showing the women how volunteering can improve their access to jobs and the employment; BrightHer for working with the women delivering workshops on self-care and taking the women's group on a walking tour around Glasgow City Centre – and that's just to name a few!

There are two big standout projects that have really paved the way for women, children and young people this year, which we would like to dedicate a special mention.

Working with ESOL Scotland

We want to give a huge thank you to English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Scotland for its ongoing work with us, providing women in refuge and outreach services with English-language classes. We have worked together for several years, and the partnership continues to be invaluable for the organisation and the women we support.

We have seen firsthand how this partnership makes a significant difference to the women's confidence. Some women starting the classes have little or no English whatsoever and have gone on to achieve national qualifications at college and university education. This is a powerful resource that helps women to settle into their



This year, ESOL has gone above and beyond for the vulnerable women that we support. The team have provided free laptops to the women to advance their English education. Together, we also organised a coffee making workshop at the Language Café and Hub in Glasgow City Centre, which was another success.

new lives having escaped from domestic abuse and allows them to plan for their future in Glasgow as they have the ability to communicate with individuals and services that they need. The classes also assist migrant women assimilate within Scottish society safely thereby increasing the confidence of the women to live as citizens.

We look forward to continuing to work with ESOL Scotland in the new year and finding new engaging and exciting ways to provide direct support to women.

Honour-Based Abuse Animation – Police Scotland

As part of this year's 16 Days of Activism to raise awareness of Gender-Based Violence against Women and Girls, Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid worked in partnership with Police Scotland to develop the second animation in its series – with a focus on honour-based abuse.

The animation informs women, children and young people experiencing domestic abuse and honour-based abuse that they do not have to suffer in silence and that they can talk to someone they trust to get help.

The creation of the animation was the result of findings from honour-based abuse research conducted by Dr Elaine McLaughlin, Dr Rhonda Wheate (University of Strathclyde), Dr Scott Grant (University of West Scotland), Professor Elizabeth Gilchrist (University of Edinburgh) and Mhairi McGowan, an expert on violence against women in Scotland.

The project was funded by the University of Strathclyde, Scottish Universities Insight Institute and supported by police officers from the Police Scotland Domestic Abuse Unit, Glasgow. Special thanks are given to everyone taking part in the research which was a successful collaboration between everyone involved in the project from start to finish.



The animation outlines the different ways honour-based abuse may arise. It is a unique form of abuse with subtle and manipulative (mis)behaviours which can result in extreme types of abuse and mistreatment. The animation signposts children and young people to safeguarding professionals for support including Police Scotland, Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid, schoolteachers, university lectures and healthcare professionals.

Although the animation is aimed at children and young people, it is also useful for women and families and wider society to bring more awareness, education and prevention for this type of abuse within families and communities.

This animation has been shared across social media, with other organisations promoting it across further social media channels. Requests to show the video at events by other organisations have been made which we welcome particularly during the 16 days of activism.

We look forward to promoting this fantastic project with all new partnership projects in 2025. Watch this space!

A huge thank you to our partnerships and contributors. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the whole team at Hemat Gryffe.

[Watch the animation here](#)

Other news from Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid

Referrals

311 women accessed the service between April - December.

17 women stayed in refuge between April - December.

234 referrals for support were received for women who have not accessed the service before.

86 received ongoing support through the outreach service.

90 women with an insecure immigration status and no recourse to public funds, could not access housing and welfare benefits.

24 women applied for support via the Migrant Victims Domestic Abuse Concession (MVDAC) enabling them to access public funds and apply for indefinite leave to remain as victims of domestic abuse.