



NIWAF MAILING

March 2004



NI Women's Aid Events and News

NIWAF will be carrying out Refuge Online training and consulting on Client Link with local Women's Aid groups in April. Contact Charlene **E:** info@niwaf.org or **T:** 02890 249041 for more info

NIWAF Training Workshops are available on:

- The impact of domestic violence on the child.
- Protective Behaviours.
- Prevention Strategies.

The Impact of DV on the child

This training examines the possible causes and effects of children's stress and in particular children's experience of domestic violence.

Time: 10.00am—4.00pm

Date: Friday, 28th May 2004

Protective Behaviours

'Protective Behaviours' is about empowerment, communication, self esteem and other life skills. 'Protective Behaviours' concepts and strategies are based upon two main themes.:

We all have the right to feel safe all the time.

There is nothing so awful or so small that we can't talk about it with someone.

Time: 10.00am—4.00pm

Date: Thursday, 17th June 2004

Prevention Strategies

Has been designed to introduce facilitators who have accessed training on step 1 and step 2 to materials developed by NIWAF as a strategy for the prevention of abuse of children and young people. It is about safety, empowerment, self esteem, assertiveness and valuing yourself.

Time: 10.00am—4.00pm

Date: Friday, 18th June 2004

Cost of Workshops is £60

To register contact moe@niwaf.org T: 02890 249041

Meetings this Month

- **Regional Forum NI** (20th April)
- **Law Sub-Group Regional Forum NI** (21st April)
- **NIWAF Management Board** (13th March)
- **Federation Forum** (21st April)

And don't forget **NIWAF's internal training** –

Child Protection (25th April)

Introduction to Counselling Skills has been **cancelled** by OCN. A new course is being devised and details will be distributed when available.

Other News

EWL meeting of the policy and action development group on violence against women (former Think Tank) - The Group, which brings together representatives of the European institutions, the WHO (World Health Organisation), as well as experts of the EWL Observatory on violence against women, met on 13 February and discussed the urgent need to have a legal basis in the future EU Constitution, enabling the EU to address all forms of violence against women, including trafficking in women for the purpose of sexual exploitation. During the meeting, participants also discussed the first national/European report on violence against women which will be produced by the Irish national observatory. This report is expected to be launched during the Irish Presidency's conference on violence against women on 24-25 May in Dublin - Before that meeting, a group of experts met together in order to work on violence against women as a public health issue, and decided to examine some indicators related to this area. The work will be developed with WHO and the EWL's observatory on violence against women. It should be finalised in November this year - For more information, please contact EWL Action Centre on Violence Against Women
E: centre-violence@womenlobby.org

Experience of Domestic Violence in Northern Ireland: Findings from the 2001 Northern Ireland Crime Survey. The Northern Ireland Office has published Research and Statistical Bulletin 1/2004 - Experience of Domestic Violence in Northern Ireland: Findings from the 2001 Northern Ireland Crime Survey. The data for the research was gathered through a self-reporting domestic violence module that was included in the 2001 Northern Ireland Crime Survey, a personal interview survey of the experience of crime and attitudes to crime of adults living in private households throughout Northern Ireland. It aimed to determine the extent of domestic violence; investigate the risk factors associated with domestic violence victimisation; and identify the responses to and perceptions of domestic violence. Children were recognised as the silent victims of domestic violence and the survey revealed that in a quarter (24%) of the worst incidents children in the household were aware of what was going on, by either seeing or hearing the incident. A copy may be obtained from T: 028 9052 7534

Cherie Booth warns of 'crisis in confidence' as criminal justice system fails women.

Women are being failed by a criminal justice system that has been designed principally by men, and remains principally for men, according to the final report of Fawcett's Commission on Women and the Criminal Justice System. The report, the result of a year-long Commission, was launched on 31 March at a conference addressed by Cherie Booth QC, who warned of a "crisis of confidence" in the system.

<http://www.fawcettsociety.org.uk/News.htm>

Children and Young People's Commissioner invites participation of NGOs in Research Study 3/04

The Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People, Mr. Nigel Williams, has commissioned Queen's University to undertake a major research study to compare children's rights and welfare in Northern Ireland against the framework of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The research which is due to be published later in the year will inform the Commissioner's priorities for action, highlighting specific issues or fields of activities where children's rights are being ignored, coming under threat, or are undervalued in Northern Ireland compared to other nations. The Commissioner is particularly concerned that the voice of NGOs working directly with children and young people should be heard as part of the research process. NGOs are invited to complete a research questionnaire which can be downloaded by following the link below.

<http://www.childpolicy.org.uk/news/index.cfm?ccs=87&cs=10053>

Does Sex Make a Difference? An equalities pack for young people on International Women's Day

The Women and Equality Unit have developed this pack which is aimed at teachers, personal advisors and those who work with young people aged approximately 14 years old. Updated for 2004, the pack contains useful statistics and some general information on International Women's Day, women in the labour market, the gender pay gap, women's representation and domestic violence. To assist teachers they have also included a number of lesson plans to support each of the main topic areas. Copies can be downloaded from their website **W:** <http://www.womenandequalityunit.gov.uk/>

Northern Ireland Review of Police and Criminal Evidence Legislation. NIO Minister Jane Kennedy has announced that Northern Ireland's Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) legislation and accompanying Codes of Practice are being reviewed. The review is being conducted in light of the changes made to PACE legislation in England and Wales in 2002. The NIO plans to issue a draft Police & Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order and associated Codes of Practice for consultation in Autumn 2004 with the aim of them becoming operational by summer 2005. Click on the link below for more info **W:**

<http://www.childpolicy.org.uk/news/index.cfm?ccs=87&cs=9888>

The Homelessness Directorate (Home Office) have produced the briefing paper *Housing Associations and Homelessness*, which aims to encourage Housing Associations to reduce the use of B&B accommodation for families with children as part of their commitment to prevent and tackle homelessness. Download the full paper here

http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_homelessness/documents/page/odpm_home_023783.hcsp

A joint study on domestic violence services by the H.M. Inspectorate of Constabulary and the Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate published on 19 February, finds that about 50% of incidences of domestic violence reported to the police go unrecorded as crimes and there are inconsistencies in the ways that police forces and prosecutors handle the incidents. Of the 463 incidences where police were called in 2003, only 118 were recorded as crimes. The CPS and Inspector of Constabulary estimated that the total should have been 260. http://www.acpo.police.uk/news/2004/q1/Domestic_violence.html

The Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 came into force on 3rd March 2004. It replaces the Prohibition of Female Circumcision Act 1985. The Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 strengthens and amends the 1985 legislation. It makes it an offence for the first time for UK nationals or permanent UK residents to carry out FGM abroad, or to aid, abet, counsel or procure the carrying out of FGM abroad, even in countries where the practice is legal. The 2003 Act also increases the maximum penalty for committing or aiding the offence from 5 to 14 years' imprisonment. <http://www.info4local.gov.uk/searchreport.asp?id=18916&heading=e-mail+alert>

The "Unborn Victims of Violence Act" in the US is a bill that would create a separate crime if a "child" is injured or killed in the course of DV. However the only way to protect an unborn victim from violence is to protect the mother from violence. VAW groups in the States say it pretends to be a domestic violence bill when in fact it is an anti-abortion bill. It does nothing to protect pregnant women from abuse, while it redefines a "child" as a fertilized egg. Check the following link for more information -

<http://www.stopfamilyviolence.org/sfvo/uvva.html>

Supporting People - How Much? After a varied reaction to the Independent Review of the Supporting People programme, the ODPM has released a report looking at how the policy and costs of the programme have developed. Summary: http://www.spkweb.org.uk/Evolution/5.1.1DocumentDetail.asp?Doc_ID=17432

'Violence' film shown in schools. A film depicting the effects of domestic violence on the lives of young people is to be shown in every school in County Durham.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/wear/3504688.stm

Police alarm on domestic violence. The Metropolitan Police has said some health and social service workers are hindering attempts to reduce deaths resulting from domestic violence.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/3531637.stm

Make it Big with Sky. Sky would like to build a long-term charity partnership - starting with a film. All you need to do is send an outline for a film brief telling the story of how your charity supports young people aged 11-19 in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Once Sky has seen your idea and found out more about the work you do, Sky will shortlist ten charities and work with them to make three minute films of their stories to be shown on The Community Channel on Sky 684. That's when the action really hots up. Sky will be asking the charity that it feels most shares its big vision to be its partner for the next three years.

For further details and an application form, click on www.sky-makeitbig.com

Money Matters

Daphne - EU programme to combat violence against children, young people and women. The DAPHNE programme is now over. It was launched in 2000 to prevent violence against children, young people and women, provide support to the victims of violence and prevent their future exposure to violence. So far, 303 projects have been funded and 79 are still running. At the beginning of 2003, the Commission put forward a proposal for a second phase of the programme (DAPHNE II, 2004-2008) with an increased budget. The European Parliament and the Council have to co-decide on this proposal. The next call for proposals may occur around mid 2004.

BT Community Website Builder allows UK non profit organisations to build and maintain their own website free of charge. All you need is a computer, Internet connection and a web browser. Contact: 08700 112850 or support@ik.com or www.communitykit.co.uk

Community Accounting Self-Help has set up a website offering financial advice and training to small voluntary organisations and community groups. Website: www.cash-online.org.uk

IT Training – 4Ts project and spend your Peace money *ackling Trauma Through Training - Free IT Training for Victims/Survivors.*

The Tackling Trauma Through Training (4T's) Project is dedicated to delivering free ICT (Information and Communications Technology) training to people defined as 'Victims' by the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM). Victims are defined as: "*Those physically or psychologically injured by violent, conflict related incidents, and those close relatives or partners who care for them, along with those who mourn people killed during the Troubles.*" ITxp (IT Experience), the company behind the project in partnership with the Conflict Trauma Resource Centre (CRTC), has developed this project, aimed at victims/survivors, from areas of social need that have been polarised greatly by the conflict, resulting in high unemployment and lack of training and support for victims attempting to reintegrate into society and therefore returning to the workforce. ITxp also identifies that the program is a cross community project with funding already secured from The Community Foundation of Northern Ireland (CFNI) courtesy of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland (PEACE)

EQUAL Programme: Proteus is calling for applications for the EQUAL Programme. The programme has themes of Employability and Equal Opportunities. It closes on 30 April 2004. T:(028) 9037 1023, W: www.proteus-ni.org

Events/Training		
<p>Children first, offender second? Facing an agenda of rapid change with regard to children at risk and early prevention, as well as the new Criminal Justice and Anti-social behaviour legislation, the conference will review the relationship between the youth justice system and wider children's services and will consider how these services might evolve in the future.</p>	<p>Host: NACRO Date: 21-23rd April 2004 Venue: Loughborough University Cost: £123-£342</p>	<p>T: 01162388354 W: http://www.nacro.org.uk/</p>
<p>Fathers: The Good, The Bad and The Myths.</p>	<p>Host: The Men's Project Date: 21st April 2004 Venue: Omagh Cost: £10-15</p>	<p>T: 02890310891 W: http://www.pachelp.org</p>
<p>Strengthening Local Health and Crime Reduction Partnerships From April 2004 Primary Care Trusts will have a statutory duty to participate in Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships. This conference, held in association with Crime Concern and NHS Alliance, will look at practical ways of engaging health and other partners in these Partnerships, and in within Local Strategic Partnerships in order to deliver effective crime reduction services. Topics for discussion will include; child protection, domestic violence, drug and alcohol misuse, the mental needs of crime victims and perpetrators, and assessing the links between poor health, including diet, and offending behavior.</p>	<p>Host: Crime Concern Date: 22nd April 2004 Venue: London Cost: £205-£464</p>	<p>W: http://www.neilstewartassociates.com/sh151</p>
<p>Making Connections: Human Rights and Mental Health.</p>	<p>Host: NI Human Rights Commission Date: 22nd April 2004 Venue: QUB Armagh Cost: Free</p>	<p>E: bernadette.rooney@nihrc.org</p>
<p>The Impact of Parents on Children. Parents Advice NI 25th Anniversary Conference.</p>	<p>Host: Parents Advice NI Date: 11th May 2004 Venue: Hilton Hotel, Templepatrick. Cost: £60-85</p>	<p>T: 02890310891 W: http://www.pachelp.org</p>
<p>Vulnerable and Intimidated Victims and Witnesses -Developing Effective Partnerships of Support.</p>	<p>Host: Victim Support Date: 13th May 2004 Venue: London Cost: £205-£464</p>	<p>W: http://www.neilstewartassociates.com/li183</p>

Feminism Contesting Globalisation Women's Studies Association 17 th Annual Conference	Host: WERRC Date: 8-10 th July 2004 Venue: University College Dublin Cost: 35-150 Euro	T: 035317168571 E: ailbhe.smyth@ucd.ie
Training for working with perpetrators of domestic violence or with women who've experienced abuse.	Host: DVIP Date: July 5th – 9th 2004 Venue: Sunderland, Tyne and Wear Cost: £380 -560.	T: 020 8748 2229.

New Publications to the Library

CAJ Handbook – Civil Liberties in Northern Ireland (2004). Committee on the Administration of Justice.	T: 02890961122 E: info@caj.org.uk W: www.caj.org.uk
In Other Words? Mapping Minority Ethnic Languages in Northern Ireland. Holder, H. (2003) Multi-Cultural Resource Centre NI.	W: www.mcrc-ni.org
Statement Of Principles and Minimum Standards Of Practice For Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programmes and Associated Women's Services. Respect.	T: 020 8563 8523 F: 020 8563 8580 E: info@respect.uk.net W: www.respect.uk.net

Information Enclosed (ONLY APPLICABLE TO WOMENS AID GROUPS and POSTAL MAILING)

- Journey to Freedom Memo

If you wish to advertise a job, have some news to share or any other info then it send to Charlene @ NIWAF.

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