

Broxtowe Women's Project

Special points of interest:

- Fighting the cuts
- From the Inside Out training
- Changes in the law
- Mobile displays
- Information in other languages
- How can you support BWP?



New online support and discussion

The Derbyshire Constabulary have just launched a new online forum for those experiencing domestic violence. It helps those in violent relationships or those who fear that their loved ones might be, to **report problems via the internet and access support**. To visit the forum go to <http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/My-Local-Police/Virtual-Surgeries.aspx>

Saving BWP — where are we now?

We are working hard to ensure that BWP's vital service is able to continue, including lobbying council leaders and raising our profile through articles in the national press, as well as the local press in Nottingham, Derby, Eastwood and Kimberley.

Our Director and members of the Management Committee met with Ruth Hyde, Chief Executive Officer at **Broxtowe Borough Council**, as well as Cllr David Watts, its leader and Cllr Milan Radulovic to explain the funding problems we face and how our closure would affect the local community. We were also able to provide evidence of the quality and impact of BWP's work. A meeting is arranged with **Gloria de Peiro, MP for Ashfield** in April.

Many organisations such as BWP are experiencing heavy cuts in their funding. The Government assures us that the cuts should not disproportionately affect the vulnerable, placing the blame for any cuts to services for the vulnerable on local Councils. These vague assurances, however, do not seem to highlight the reality. Alongside BWP's own plight, Newsnight aired a segment about how many domestic violence charities are having their funding cut substantially (*Domestic violence services hit by financial cuts*, broadcast 4 March 2011).

Knowing we are in the same position as many others will be cold comfort indeed for those in need of support, but **we will continue to work hard to save our service!**

Contact us

Postal address PO Box 6660, Nottingham, NG16 3ZE

Fax 01773 765 457

Website www.broxtowewomensproject.org.uk

Telephone

Admin/Agency Line: 01773 718 555

Supportline: 01773 719 111 (10am – 1pm Mon-Fri)

Textphone: 07914 634190 (10am – 1pm Mon-Fri)

Registered Charity No: 1125946 Company Number: 6676509

Can you help...?

Have you got **anything you would like to share** with us, other women or other agencies about your experiences or your survival of domestic abuse? This can be a poem, a short story or just a few words about how you are feeling.

This will help other women who may have gone through similar experiences and may have felt that no one will understand or believe them. Sometimes just knowing you're not alone helps and encourages some women to cope with what they are going through and somehow find the strength and inspiration to leave abusive relationships.

We always welcome contributions and these will be **kept anonymous** to hide women's identity. You can email your contributions to: enquiries@broxtowewomensproject.org.uk

OR

You can post them to:
PO Box 6660 Nottingham NG16 3ZE

Alternatively if you are a woman who is currently being supported by us then you can give it to the outreach worker. If we get regular contributions, we will think about dedicating a section of the newsletter to them. Thank you for your time and support with this.



Changes in the law help those suffering domestic violence

In January 2011, the Supreme Court overturned an earlier ruling by three male judges in the Court of Appeal that had held a woman suffering from domestic violence, for the purposes of whether a Council has a duty to re-house her, was only suffering domestic violence if there was actual physical violence.

The Justices held that domestic violence is to take the same meaning as in the family law context which states: "Domestic violence" includes physical violence, threatening or intimidating behaviour and any other form of abuse which, directly or indirectly, may give rise to the risk of harm."

What this means is that **Councils cannot deny housing to a woman escaping from domestic violence just because there was no physical violence**; the ruling makes it clear that domestic violence includes other forms of abuse including psychological abuse. **This ruling is a great win for survivors of domestic violence in England and Wales and a great win for justice overall!**

'From the Inside Out' Eastwood South

Supported by the Choosing Health fund, 'From the Inside Out' is a six-week programme for women affected by domestic abuse delivered by Broxtowe Women's Project. The programme aims to help women regain self esteem and the confidence to improve the quality of their lives. Supported by colleagues from Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust and Broxtowe Borough Council, the programme will run in the Eastwood South area for six weeks from Thursday 5th May 2011, between 9.15 a.m. and 11.15 a.m. For **further information** on the programme, or to make a referral, please contact Lisa or Sue at Broxtowe Women's Project on 01773 718555.

BWP Members of Staff

Staff member	Role	Days of work
Hina	Outreach support worker	Mon, Tues, Thurs
Michelle	Information and Support worker	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
Lisa	Office and Finance Co-ordinator	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri
Lynne	Project Manager	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs
Sue	Outreach and Volunteer Support worker	Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri
Penny	Outreach Support worker – children and young people	Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri

Free information available for all!

We have information leaflets, stickers, posters and Women's Support Services in Broxtowe area (formerly known as z-cards) are now available! These cards have been hugely successful to women and agencies.

If you would like any of our publicity please contact us on: **01773 718555**

Information for Women with Sensory Disabilities

Our **text phone** service operates on the same lines as our support line from 10am to 1pm every weekday except bank holidays:

07914 634190

We have our Project leaflet available in **large print, CD, CD-Rom, Braille and talking tape**. We also have Women's Aid England's 'Getting Free from Domestic Violence' leaflets in large print, Braille, and talking tape.

We have developed **leaflets using Widget© symbols** which can help communicate ideas and information to people who have difficulty with text.

We have now also developed a leaflet for anyone who needs help with supporting women experiencing domestic violence – please get in touch for copies

Information in Polish, Mandarin and Thai

We have translations of our Project leaflets in Mandarin, Thai and Polish. The translation was kindly funded by Sure Start Children's Centre at Eastwood.

If you would like copies of these please get in touch – we are photocopying these on demand.

Mobile Displays – for you to use!

Our mobile displays aim to challenge myths and prejudices about domestic violence, raise awareness of its extent and impact and provide practical information on help available in Broxtowe Borough. The displays have been developed in an accessible way – with large fonts, powerful imagery and up-to-date information.

The displays are six by six foot lightweight, free standing folding boards suitable for reception areas, waiting rooms, libraries, schools and other indoor spaces. We can also provide an accompanying leaflet rack with additional information and publicity.

The subjects covered are:

- Definition of domestic violence
- Myths and realities
- The effects of domestic violence on a woman's physical and mental health
- Housing
- Local sources of help
- Broxtowe Women's Project Survivors poems and creative writing

How will a display help you and your organisation?

- Raise awareness of the subject of domestic violence.
- Provide a focus for discussions.
- Provide information on where to get help locally.

We also have displays that can be mounted on notice boards and walls specifically for venues where there is limited space for display boards. If you would like to book the display contact Broxtowe Women's Project by phone on **01773 718555** or e-mail to enquiries@broxtowewomensproject.org.uk

How can you support Broxtowe Women's Project?

There are a number of ways you can support our work and help to make a real difference to women and children suffering from domestic violence. All donations, no matter how small, are gratefully received.

Donate Online

You can donate online through The Big Give Website

https://secure.thebiggive.org.uk/donate/donate.php?charity_id=2285.

Alternatively you can donate to us online via the Charity Choice website.

<https://www.charitychoice.co.uk/donation.asp?ref=154459>

Select an amount and click the Donate Now button.

eBay for Charity

We are now registered with eBay for Charity which means when you sell an item on eBay you can choose to donate 10% - 100% of your sale price to us. When you list an item, look for the 'Donate percentage of sale' button and select our charity and the percentage of sale you want to donate. Once your item has sold, collect your payment and make your donation. http://donations.ebay.co.uk/charity/charity.jsp?NP_ID=34104

Gift Aid

We are now able to claim Gift Aid on any donations made to us. Please remember to tick the 'Gift Aid it' box on the above websites if you are a UK tax payer and wish for us to claim for Gift Aid on your behalf. In order for us to claim Gift Aid on donations made to us directly, please download and complete a Gift Aid declaration form from <http://search2.hmrc.gov.uk/kbroker/hmrc/forms/viewform.jsp?formId=734> and return it to us by post to: Broxtowe Women's Project, PO Box 6660, Nottingham, NG16 3ZE. If you do not have access to a printer give us a call on 01773 718555 and we can send you a form. If you pay tax through self assessment please see the HMRC website to Gift Aid your donation:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/individuals/giving/tax-return.htm>

Greetings Card Company

We are also delighted to be working with the Greeting Cards Company. All purchases made from their website: <http://www.charitycards.co.uk/home/home> will help BWP to continue its vital work with women and children experiencing domestic violence. Everything you buy from our online cardshop (operated for us by the Greeting Cards Company) benefits us, so please support us all you can. We are pleased to be able to offer you, our supporters, a fantastic range all year round, and will be delighted if you shop regularly.

**We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support.
Your donations will go to making a real difference to the women we support.**



The next edition of the newsletter will be July 2011

If you receive this newsletter by post and have access to e-mail, PLEASE let us know as this will help reduce the costs for us. If you do not wish to receive further copies of this newsletter PLEASE let us know.

Whilst every effort is taken to provide accurate information Broxtowe Women's Project does not take responsibility for any errors or omissions, or necessarily endorse any contribution.