



BRADFORD WOMEN'S AID ANNUAL REVIEW 2008

bradford women's aid

support, assistance and accommodation for women
and children experiencing domestic violence



Supported by

The National Lottery[®]
through the Big Lottery Fund

Charity No 1099351 Company No 4802152



CHAIRS REPORT

In January 2008 I took on the role of Chair of Bradford Women's Aid, Diane Bridgewater took on the role of Treasurer and Sheila Asgari Tourzan took on the role of Secretary. Throughout this year we have met regularly with the Manager and the other Management Committee members to give due consideration to the management and development of Bradford Women's Aid. We have worked towards the Investors in People Standard and we hope to achieve this later on in the year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff and all our supporters, stakeholders and funders for their support over the year.

Lisa Reynolds
Chair



MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- Lisa Reynolds - (Chair from Jan '08)
- Sheila Asgari Tourzan - (Secretary from Jan '08)
- Maggie Warwick
- Diane Bridgewater - (Treasurer from Jan '08)
- Julie Barbor - (appointed 10 Jan '08)
- Margaret Streets - (Treasurer until Jan '08)
- Chris Wardman - (Chair until Jan '08)
- Donya Byrne - Accent Partnership (Advisor)



MANAGERS'S REPORT

This year has seen Bradford Women's Aid grow significantly with the help of a 3 year grant from Reaching Communities. This grant enabled us to recruit a Team Leader for each of our services and in November we welcomed Lavena Lawrence (Outreach Team Leader), Ameena Mirza (Resettlement Team Leader) and Mary West (Refuge Team Leader) into their new posts. We also were able to recruit new Asian Resettlement Worker Nazia Tabassum and new Asian Refugee Worker Naureen Akhtar who came into post towards the end of the reporting year. The addition of the 3 substantive posts has meant that Bradford Women's Aid now has a much more effective and efficient management structure, a change that has been welcomed by both management and staff!

In the New Year we were pleased to hear that we would be commissioned by Bradford and Airedale teaching Primary Care Trust to continue to provide our Outreach Services for 3 years. The security offered by a 3 year contract is hugely beneficial to an organisation and it means that energies can go into improving the service provision, how it is managed, monitored, evaluated and sustained rather than constantly being directed into looking for funding.

We have had some changes to the Management Committee and in November we welcomed the return of Lisa Reynolds who had stood down for a time (now Chair of the organisation) and we welcomed Julie Barbor as a new Committee member.

It is with much sadness that I report the loss of our much loved Refugee Worker Sandra Schofield on 17th August 2007. Our November Annual General Meeting was a tribute to Sandra who was a founder member of Bradford Women's Aid and to her life-long commitment to supporting women and children who have suffered domestic abuse. She will be missed by us all but especially by the Refugee Workers with whom she worked alongside for many years.

Sally Deane
Manager

TREASURER'S REPORT**Treasurer's Report**

I took over from Margaret as Treasurer this year and although there are still aspects of the role of Treasurer to explore, I have so far found this role to be a rewarding one. We have established a finance sub-group which is useful as it gives us a more in depth knowledge of the financial aspects of the organisation and enables us to report our findings to the Management Committee. The organisational skills and dedication of the staff of BWA and are much appreciated. The funding we receive from donations is very encouraging (and received gratefully).

Grants and Commissions

Whilst a major source of funding for Bradford Women's Aid comes through Bradford Council's Supporting People programme we also have several other funding streams. Last year the Big Lottery Fund granted us £499,050 over 3 years (Nov '07- Nov '10) which has provided a major boost to the organisation and funds posts throughout the entire service. The Refugee Children's Workers posts are funded through grants from Children in Need (£81,969 over 3 years - Aug '06 - Sept '09) and from Bradford Council's Commissioning Body (£24,351 to take us to April 2008). The Outreach Service continued to be commissioned from the Domestic Abuse Partnership (Bradford Council) through a grant of £60,000. We were also commissioned by the Worth Programme (for abusive men) for a second year through a grant of £13,254, to provide women's support services and programme observation on a part time basis (until June 2008). The Tudor Trust continued to support our Asian Outreach Worker post with a grant of £47,000 (received in November 2006) and which takes us up to April 2009.

Donations

We received substantial donations both financial and in kind from many organisations and individuals throughout the year. Financial donations usually fund trips and outings for the mums and children and donations of household goods, bedding etc, provide women with essentials when they leave the refuge. A special Resettlement Fund enables some assistance to be offered with removals expenses. Donations enable us to provide birthday and other gifts for women and children throughout the year. We are extremely grateful to all the organisations and individuals who have supported us and they are listed in the acknowledgement section of this review.

Diane Bridgewater
Treasurer

REFUGE WORKERS REPORT

This has been a year of many changes for the Refuge. During the year we have accommodated 26 women and 33 children. The current housing situation is such that families are waiting much longer in the Refuge for re-housing. We continue to work very closely with external agencies both statutory and voluntary in order to provide services to our residents. We have successfully re-housed 10 families with various social housing providers and referred on to our Resettlement Service.

Resident women from the Refuge have been involved with the assessment of student social workers at Bradford University this year by way of attending the department and observing videos of students work re domestic abuse. This was very successful and gave a great sense of achievement to the women concerned.

Residents also agreed to be interviewed for Leeds BBC News to speak about their experiences, particularly around the Christmas period and how it felt being in a Refuge for what is usually perceived to be a happy family time. Of course this can be a very difficult time for women and children, but the journalist was pleasantly surprised to see the Refuge looking very festive complete with Christmas tree and all the trimmings and presents for the women and children.

Residents have enjoyed various trips, outings and activities throughout the year which are always popular and well attended. This is also great for staff as a lot of time and effort goes into fundraising and planning for these events to take place. We have continued our re-decoration to the Refuge, and have now totally refurbished the bedrooms and bathrooms. We have also purchased new office furniture and had new computers installed.

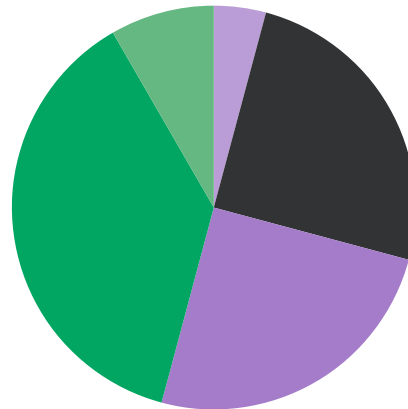
Owing to our successful funding bid from The Big Lottery I came into post as Refuge Team Leader in November and we have recruited our first Asian Refuge Worker. This is great for the Refuge and will improve our service further.

It is with great sadness that I report Sandra Schofield, our colleague and friend passed away in August this year. Sandra, myself and Sheila worked together in the Refuge for 20 years, she was an inspiration to all and is sadly missed. We have lots of happy memories, supporting each other through the good and often hard times and feel Sandra will always be a part of Bradford Womens Aid, especially the Refuge, for her total commitment to provide help to women and children suffering domestic abuse.

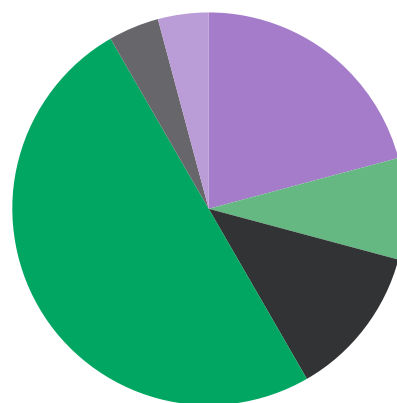
Finally I would like to thank the staff team for their continued support through this very emotional year.

Mary West Refuge Team Leader
 Sheila Bell Refuge Worker
 Lynn Vanderstock Relief Refuge Worker

No of referrals: 354 Women 362 Children
 No accommodated: 26 Women 33 Children



Ages	
16-18	1
19-25	6
26-30	6
30+	9
40+	2



Statistics	
Womens Aid	12
Self referral	5
Housing	3
Voluntary organisations	2
Police	1
Health	1

CHILDREN'S WORKERS REPORT

PICTURES: SUMMER 2007

During the year we have had 33 resident children who have stayed an average of 3.5 months. We have had 362 children referred.

It has been a really busy year we have provided 354 sessions and 56 trips and parties ranging from Scarborough, Blackpool, Flamingo Land, The Xscape, Camelot, overnight camping trip which included activities such as horse riding, orienteering and archery. Amongst all this we also had a birth in the refuge, which caused some excitement.

This year we managed to secure places on the Do it 4 Real summer camp for four of our resident girls aged 12-15yrs. Although their families had been re housed by the time they were due to go, they still managed the trip which was great, they really enjoyed it.

When Bradford Community Environment Project came to visit, this is an example of the children's work.

This year we have continued to strengthen and establish new links with other agencies and organizations. We continue to attend Children's Worker inter agency forum meetings. We attended the launch of Bradford Parenting Support, and also the launch of Kids Speakout (WAFE). We did a presentation to the Bradford Violence Against women Forum and attended a meeting to discuss high school admissions

Once again we have been successful with our funding bids for the summer playscheme, and Christmas events which is great for the children and allows us to provide extra goodies which are always enjoyed by the children.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supports us in our work especially our local primary school, who are amazing and our health visitor

We have completed the following training 2007/2008:

FirstAid

Stories that Heal

CAF Training

Playing our Part-Strengthening Skills & Outcomes for the

No of Children: 16 Male 17 Female



RESETTLEMENT WORKERS REPORT

There have been several changes in the team this year. We now have a Team Leader and a new Asian resettlement Worker (part time), who have both settled into their posts. We have also had a small team of students and volunteers who have worked alongside the paid staff contributing positively to the work of supporting women and children. Some of the volunteers have not only gained knowledge and experience but also have gained paid employment as a result.

The team have been very busy working with increasing numbers of a very diverse group of women and children and have dealt with a variety of issues such as immigration, welfare benefits and appeals. As always working in partnership with other agencies has proved to be beneficial to the women and children we support. We have also supported some of the women we work with to attend Supporting People's Service User Involvement events where they had an opportunity to voice their opinions and suggest improvements that can be made to the services they receive. We have also organised Summer trips for the women and children we support and in the last year we have been to Bolton Abbey, Blackpool, Bridlington and to the theatre.

We have attended training on; Adult Protection; Mental Health(MIND); Substance Misuse and Parenting and Recruitment and Selection.

We received Easter Eggs for the third year running from Yorkshire Water and we have also been lucky enough to receive toiletries from the Body Shop and McBrides which have been greatly appreciated by the women.

- Urfana Ayub
- Jo Higginson
- Linda McLean
- Ameena Mirza (Team Leader)
- Nazia Tabassum

Service Users Contributions

"I would like to appreciate the efforts of Bradford Women's Aid Resettlement Team; it has helped me gain my independence, my self esteem, freedom and self identity. I was a shattered victim of domestic violence and homelessness. My Resettlement Worker was very supportive and hardworking and has helped me to become the independent person I am today. She helped me with benefits, community care grant, setting up utilities, furnishing my tenancy. She has encouraged me to go back into education and training. I want this organisation to be always there for every destitute woman such as I was."
H Begum

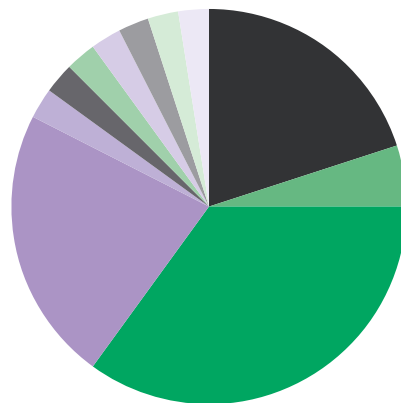
"I have suffered domestic abuse for over 30 years and the only real support I have received is from the Resettlement Team. The worker worked tirelessly to sort my benefits out and went above and beyond what anybody else would have done. Words cannot express my gratitude because I was literally starving and

till this support came into place. I have been let down by the statutory agency worker but have been empowered enough to complain so that no other woman is left destitute and without money for over 3 months."

S Bi

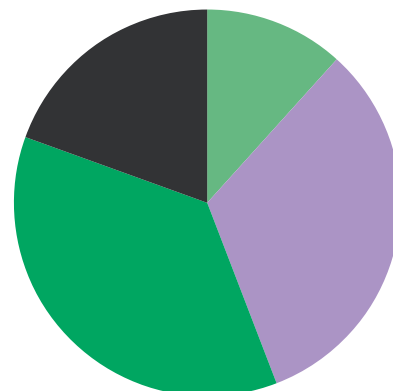
- Jo Higginson
- Urfana Ayub
- Linda McLean
- (Children's Worker)
- Mary Morgan (Volunteer)

No of referrals: 34 Total
No Accepted: 27 Women 51 Children



Statistics

BWA Outreach	14
Self Referral	9
BWA Refuge	8
Staying put	2
Keighley Domestic Violence	1
Burnley Women's Project	1
Black Women's Project	1
Worth Project	1
Bradford Domestic Violence Unit	1
Keighley Domestic Violence Unit	1
Keighley Women's Aid	1



Ages

0-1	9
2-5	25
6-10	28
11-16	15

OUTREACH WORKER'S REPORT

This has been an eventful year and we would like to acknowledge a number of highlights and achievements.

We have been busy working with increasing numbers of women throughout the year sometimes doubling our caseload. We have been very proud to receive extremely positive feedback from our clients, thanking us for our intervention and stating how beneficial and necessary our service has been to them. It is always humbling to know how our clients have developed in terms of their newly acquired sense of self worth and how empowered they feel now, being in control of the choices and decisions they are now making in their everyday lives.

The Women's Group has been a testament to how much the participants have moved on and the huge efforts they have made to put the past behind them and develop themselves with a succession of new experiences and activities. The women have enjoyed trips to Blackpool and Bridlington with their children, picnics in the Park, an exclusive outdoor pursuits based residential at YMCA Lakeside, the 'Peter Pan' Pantomime and a visit to the Bolling Hall Museum and they have taken part in sessions related to recovery from domestic abuse, health and education.

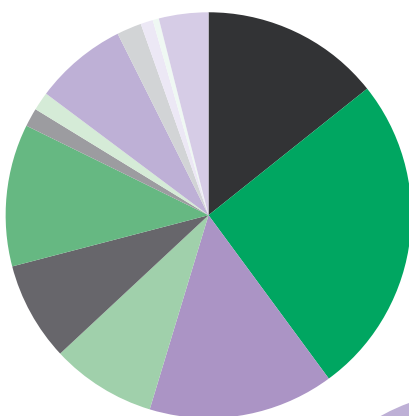
In November Lavena Lawrence was appointed as Team Leader for the Outreach Service. She has worked enthusiastically with the existing team to meet the needs of and to enable smoother outcomes.

Shamin Aslam
Sian Harlow
Lavena Lawrence
Tracy Teale

No of referrals:	250 in Total
No Accepted:	153 in Total

Statistics

Staying put	52
Self referrals	30
Police	29
Worth	23
Health	17
Social services	16
Children centres	15
Other vol groups	8
Keighley DVS	4
Refuges	3
Solicitors	3
Resettlement	2
TWP	1



Ages

16-18	13
19-25	39
26-40	55
30+	52
40+	24
50+	17



VOLUNTEER CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

I am pleased to be able to report that the volunteer / student team have had yet another busy and successful year.

During the past 12 months we have continued to strengthen our links with both Bradford University and Bradford Community College. We have offered student placements to MA and BA students and for the first time to a student on the Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care. Taking students on placement is not only a source of revenue for the project but also raises awareness and understanding of Domestic Abuse in future professionals.

We have continued to work in partnership with the Bradford District Domestic Abuse Multi Agency Training Co-ordinator and the Safeguarding Children Board and have built new links with the Bradford District Adult Protection Training Co-ordinator. These partnerships provide opportunities for volunteers and students on placement to be trained as trainers and to deliver training throughout the district in a multi agency setting, thus further raising the profile of Bradford Women's Aid throughout the district.

The volunteer programme has proved a successful means for women to gain the skills knowledge and experience necessary to achieve paid work within this sector, with 2 volunteers leaving to gain paid work, one with Blenheim Project and one within the Early Intervention Psychosis Team.

At 31st March 2008 we have 3 students on placement, 2 within the Outreach Team and 1 within the Resettlement Team and 1 volunteer placed within the Outreach Team. There are a further 5 volunteers nearing the end of the Volunteer Training Programme. We plan to run another recruitment drive towards the end of 2008, once the existing volunteers have built their knowledge, experience and skill base.

Throughout 2007-2008 I have continued to devise and facilitate bespoke training sessions / awareness raising workshops for a number of statutory and voluntary sector agencies throughout the district including; Bradford District Police, Thornbury Surestart, Keighley College and Trainee Midwives. These talks / training sessions are beneficial as they serve to raise the profile, knowledge and understanding of Domestic Abuse as well as raising the profile of Bradford Women's Aid.

Sue Roberts
Volunteer Co-ordinator

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2008

Income	Designated & unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds Outreach	Total 2008 £	Total 2007 £
Grants received	169,6	£	399,811	311,971
Fees	96	230,115	48,108	45,010
Donations	48,108	-	3,886	5,995
Bank interest received	1,280	2,606	3,494	3,233
(Decrease) / Increase in investment value	3,494	-	(5,577)	3,765
Sundry income	(5,577)	-	306	1,845
Total income	306	-	450,0	371,8
	217,3	232,7	28	19
Expenditure:	07	21		
Salaries and wages				
Bank/payroll charges			319,2	284,4
Travel and motor	127,3	191,9	91 265	63 58
Repairs and renewals	61 265	30	6.705	5,694
Childcare expenses	3,401	-	7,101	6,584
Gardening	7,101	3,304	10,736	8,890
Light and heat	-	-	720	1,215
Telephone	720	10,736	6,788	5,013
Advertising, stationery and postage	5,944	-	12,684	13,025
Accountancy fees	8,622	844	5,276	4,438
Audit fees	3,770	4,062	1,926	353
Cleaning	1,926	1,506	4,014	3,680
Depreciation	4,014	-	4,615	3,228
Training	4,615	-	1,073	1,431
Insurance	1,073	-	4,616	2,818
Security costs	4,218	-	3,746	3,129
Office equipment	3,656	398	1,122	749
Central office costs	1,122	90	662	541
Sundries	662	-	2,358	5,435
Rent, rates and room hire	2,358	-	1,930	89
Worker/volunteer costs	1,930	-	45,508	38,993
Computer costs	30,595	-	2,537	1,505
Recruitment costs	-	14,913	3,670	150
Publications & subscriptions	1,790	2,537	2,821	-
Trustees away day	2,821	1,880	1,167	1,049
Total expenditure	1,115	-	-	500
Surplus for the year	-	52	451,331	393,030

The above information is an extract from the statutory accounts for the year. The summarised financial information does not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the results and state of affairs of the Charity as would be provided by the full financial statements. The full accounts are available on request from our registered offices, these have been audited by RSM Bentley Jennison and their audit opinion is unqualified. The full financial statements are to be approved at the AGM in November and will be filed at Companies House and the Charity Commission.

**Bradford Women's Aid wishes to thank the following
for their kind donations and support of the project:**

Big Lottery Fund • BBC Children in Need • Bradford Community Funding Unit • Bradford M D C Commissioning •
Bradford M D C Supporting People • Bradford University Training Volunteers • Children 's Charity Circle •
Emmandjay Trust • Frank Buttle Trust • Findel PLC • H Robinson • Kids Out • Lankelly Chase • Sir George Martin Trust •
Thornton Grammar School • Tudor Trust • Worth Project • Yorkshire Martyrs

