

**Southwark Domestic Abuse Service**

**INFO PACK & REFERRAL FORM**

From 6th February 2023, Refuge is delivering domestic and sexual violence community-based services in Southwark.

Refuge is the largest specialist domestic abuse organisation in the UK. On any given day our services support thousands of survivors, helping them to overcome the physical, emotional, financial, and logistical impacts of abuse and rebuild their lives — free from fear.

* **Independent Gender-Based Violence Advocates** (**IGVAs**) –work with people who are resident in Southwark from the age of 16. The IGVAs will support all levels of risk; high, medium, standard and provide information advice and guidance, effective case management and intensive advocacy for survivors of gender-based violence and abuse.
* **Housing IDVA** Specialist support for survivors of domestic abuse with complex housing issues. Co-located within Southwark Housing Solutions service, and referrals directly received from housing solution team.
* **Sanctuary Scheme** aims to minimise the number of households, families and individuals who must leave their own home because of domestic abuse by exploring safe alternatives where appropriate such as implementing safety measures in victim’s homes.
* **IRIS Advocate Educator** specialist advocacy and support to clients with referrals received specifically from trained GP surgeries.
* **Survivor group work programme** 12-weekgroup which supports women to regain ownership of their lives when they have been subjected to abuse or violence.

**In Partnership with Bede House, we will also be delivering:**

* **Counselling** 16-week 1-2-1 counselling programme for survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse. The service is for women and men who are 17 years and over who are resident in or have a connection with Southwark and have experienced domestic and/or sexual abuse.
* **Children’s Therapeutic Support** Qualified Children’s Therapist to provide a 1-2-1 12 week play and arts based therapeutic intervention to children and young people.

The service is available to those living in Southwark who have experienced, or are at risk of, gender-based violence including:

* Domestic violence and abuse
* Rape, sexual violence
* Prostitution
* Trafficking for sexual exploitation
* Stalking and harassment
* Female genital mutilation (FGM)
* Forced marriage
* So-called ‘honor’-based abuse

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**What is gender-based abuse?**

Gender based abuse or violence against women and girls refers to acts of violence or abuse that we know disproportionately affect women and girls. Crimes and behaviour covered by this term include rape and other sexual offences, domestic abuse, stalking, ‘honour’-based abuse (including female genital mutilation forced marriage, and ‘honour’ killings), as well as many others, including offences committed online. Gender based abuse also covers crimes such a coercive control.

**Do Refuge support men?**

Whilst women and girls are disproportionality affected by gender-based abuse, Refuge recognise men can be survivors too and we offer support to male survivors in our services. The group work is for women only; however, men can access individual counselling through Bede.

**Why do you need consent from survivors?**

We are a voluntary, client-led service; we understand that there are many barriers to accessing support, so it is important that people know why they have been referred and are in a place where they can consent to the support offered. We only work with survivors who are ready to access the service. To access domestic abuse services can be a challenging step for some survivors, taking a trauma informed approach is important; Refuge are happy to advise further, so please do call us if you would like support with this.

Please note, we can override consent when the survivor’s situation is deemed high risk and has been referred to the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).

**What about LGBTQ+ communities, can you help?**

Yes, we do support people from the LGBTQ+ community and we provide an independent and non-judgmental service.

**Can you help people with additional barriers?**

Yes, we will try to meet the needs of survivors whatever the barriers for them are. Refuge has access to interpreters including British Sign Language interpreters.

**How long do you keep cases open for?**

There is no set time period of how long Refuge work with survivors as the service is client led, this can vary depending on the survivor’s needs.

**Do you support children and young people?**

Refuge is working in partnership with Bede House to deliver a play and arts-based children’s therapeutic programme to children and young people. Children aged 14 plus can also access the counselling service run by Bede. Children aged 16+ can access our advocacy service provided by the IGVAs.

Please complete the **referral form** below and return to

[sdas@refuge.org.uk](mailto:sdas@refuge.org.uk)

If you would like to discuss your referral, please call:

**0118 214 7150**

**Service Required (Please select from list below)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Independent Gender-Based Violence Advocates** (**IGVAs**) | |
| **Sanctuary Scheme** | |
| **Survivor Group Work** | |
| **Counselling or Children’s Therapeutic Support (delivered by Bede House)** ☐ | |
| **IRIS Advocate Educator – referral agencies restricted to trained GPs.** | Please complete and email **SouthwarkIris@refuge.org.uk** |

**Referral details**

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| **Date of Referral** Click here to enter a date. |
| **Referrers Name** Click here to enter text. |
| **Job Title** Click here to enter text. |
| **Referring Agency** Click here to enter text. |
| **Contact Number & Email** Click here to enter text. |
| **Has the victim consented to this referral and to be contacted by the service?**  **Yes**  **No** |
| **If the victim is under 16 has parental consent been obtained for this referral?**  **Yes**  **No** |
| **If no consent has been obtained, what is the reason?**  Click here to enter text. |

**Client details**

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| **Name of Client** Click here to enter text. |
| **DOB/Age** Click here to enter text. |
| **Contact Number(s)** Click here to enter text. |
| **Safe to Leave a Voicemail Yes**  **No** |
| **Address** Click here to enter text. |
| **Ethnicity** Click here to enter text. |
| **Languages Spoken** Click here to enter text. |
| **Interpreter Required Yes**  **No** |
| **Immigration status** Click here to enter text. |
| **Religion (If Any)** Click here to enter text. |
| **Disability or Health Needs** Click here to enter text. |
| **Sexual Orientation** Click here to enter text. |
| **Gender** Click here to enter text. |
| **GP Details- including surgery address** Click here to enter text. |

**Children’s details**

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| **Children/Dependent Names** Click here to enter text. |
| **DOB/Age** Click here to enter text. |
| **Gender** Click here to enter text. |
| **School or Nursery details** Click here to enter text. |
| **Where do the children currently live?** Click here to enter text. |
| **Relationship to Perpetrator?** Click here to enter text. |
| **Victim Pregnant? Yes  No** |

**Alleged Perpetrator(s) Details**

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| **First Name(s)** Click here to enter text. |
| **Surname** Click here to enter text. |
| **DOB** Click here to enter text. |
| **Gender**  Click here to enter text. |
| **Address**  Click here to enter text. |
| **Relationship to survivor** Click here to enter text. |

**Referral reason**

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| **Reason for Referral - including details of the most recent incident and what kind of support is required:** Click here to enter text. |
| **Is there any police involvement? Yes**  **No**  **N/A**  ***If yes, please provide details of Officer in Charge and Crime reference numbers if known:***Click here to enter text. |
| **Support from Other Agencies (Please provide details of any agencies involved with the survivor. If you are referring to counselling, please indicate if the survivor is open to a mental health service and provide practitioner details.)**  Click here to enter text. |
| **Existing Court Orders: *Please state: Non-Molestation Orders, Injunctions, Contact, Residency or Occupation Orders***  Click here to enter text. |