

<b>Project:</b> Blossom Hill Domestic Violence	
<b>Lead organisation:</b> Women's Health Matters	<b>Wellbeing Funding:</b> £1,769
<p>Since July Women's Health Matters have provided 7 sessions of issue based group work, less than in other quarters as the group runs in term time only and the summer holidays fell during this quarter. To ensure that women had opportunities to get together and entertain their children over summer we provided a trip to the Leeds City Museum and all women were invited to attend Women's Health Matters annual picnic in August. The Inner East Cluster also provided weekly sessions for families throughout the summer that were made available to all the women attending this group. We worked with 10 women this quarter, 4 of whom were new referrals this quarter.</p> <p>Group sessions have included whole group discussions focussing on healthy boundaries, emotional, physical sexual and psychological abuse, appropriate provision of sexual health services, coping strategies, warning signs of an abusive partner, mental health and wellbeing (co facilitated by a mental health specialist from Touchstone) and a practical session using yoga for relaxation.</p> <p>We have worked intensively on individual situations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting a woman through initial child protection conference,</li> <li>• Advocating for this woman with Social Services,</li> <li>• Supporting a woman to deal with financial hardship and related mental health difficulties following identity theft by her ex-partner,</li> <li>• Supporting a woman to leave this country and return to America when her status as an immigrant (after her partner left her) rendered her unable to continue working and supporting her family financially,</li> <li>• Supporting a woman to maintain her wellbeing after her mother was diagnosed for the third time, with cancer,</li> <li>• Supporting a woman to identify her employment aspirations and attend relevant drop-in sessions provided by Thomas Danby College,</li> <li>• Supporting a woman to make a request for service to social services in another city following her disclosure that her ex-partner was violent towards the ex-partner's child,</li> <li>• Supporting a woman to access appropriate mental health support following her disclosure of attempted suicide,</li> <li>• Supporting a woman to identify ways of maintaining a calm demeanour in court during child custody related proceedings,</li> <li>• Supporting a woman to access financial support to enable her to buy school uniform for her daughter,</li> <li>• Supporting a woman to access support services relating to osteoporosis and arthritis,</li> <li>• Supporting two women to access support services relating to breast cancer,</li> <li>• Supporting two women to disclose experiences of childhood sexual abuse.</li> </ul> <p>The group have also contributed their thoughts and opinions to feed into the Caring Dads programme being currently developed to work with men identified as abusive in their relationships.</p> <p>Women's Health Matters attended the council's Scrutiny Board meeting concerning Domestic Violence and have been consulted by Children's Services regarding best practice with low risk domestic violence incidents when children are part of the household. Women's Health Matters</p>	

have also been invited to attend the City Wide Domestic Violence Strategy Group now that the membership has been finalised.

**Project:** Off Road Police Motorcycles

**Lead Organisation:** West Yorkshire Police

**Wellbeing Funding:** £2,500

The Off Road Unit proved to be in great demand across Inner East Leeds (Gipton & Harehills, Killingbeck & Seacroft and Burmantofts & Richmond Hill). This was partly due to the long hot summer but more importantly down to the positive impact the unit has with the communities it serves and the results the unit achieves. More Neighbourhood Policing Teams have requested this service over the summer months than ever before, to help tackle and problem solve in their areas. Preventative work and education has been carried out and continued to give inputs to schools. National Police Air Support is often supported to search and locate high risk missing or injured persons in open ground and woodland. Working with partner agencies has continued to tackle crime and disorder. Motorcycles have been seized on The Rein, East End Park, Lupton Avenue and Maryfield Area of Crossgates.

Other statistics:-

Stop and Searches	9
Calls attended	35
Section 59 warnings	20
Vehicle Seizures	10
Arrests / Summons	13
Optimal Patrols	12
Cannabis warnings	1
Missing persons	2
Stolen/recovered Vehicles	1

**Project:** Work Plan Club

**Lead Organisation:** GIPSIL

**Wellbeing Funding:** £24,330

'Opportunity Shops' have been running weekly in Gipton (at GIPSIL's Support Centre at Woodfield Court) and Seacroft (at the Denis Healey Centre) since the beginning of June 2013. The morning sessions are traditional work clubs, offering internet access and support with job search, applications and CV writing. Afternoon sessions and other activities offer attendees access to other opportunities such as volunteering, work experience, training and sports.

**Numbers of people accessing the service, by age, gender, post code, ethnic origin and disability**

121 people have accessed our service between the months of June and September 2013. This includes 3 people who have disclosed Disabilities one of which was a physical disability and another being a learning disability. Our service has reached 69 men and 32 women all from the North East of Leeds, this equates to over 121 families directly or indirectly affected by our work.

The youngest person we have worked with is 16 and the oldest is 62, all attendees are of working age.

	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Totals</b>
<b>Undisclosed</b>	7	1	<b>8</b>
<b>16-17</b>	6	3	<b>9</b>
<b>18-24</b>	29	29	<b>58</b>
<b>25-44</b>	15	12	<b>27</b>
<b>45-65</b>	12	7	<b>19</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>52</b>	<b><u>121</u></b>

Our service has reached people from many communities across the East North East of the city including, Gipton, Seacroft, Harehills, Killingbeck, Halton Moor, East End Park, Osmonthorpe, Crossgates, Halton, Roundhay, and even Hyde Park.

<b>Postcode</b>	<b>Number of attendees</b>
LS6	1
LS7	1
LS8	23
LS9	38
LS14	36
LS15	16
Undisclosed/ Other	6

99 of the 121 people we have worked with described themselves as of White British background; we have also worked with 1 person who described their ethnicity as Bangladeshi, 4 as Black African, 1 as Caribbean, 3 as Caribbean & White mixed background, 2 of Indian ethnicity and 1 as Black/ White British, 9 people did not disclose their ethnicity and 1 person described their ethnicity as Other.

### **Volunteering opportunities**

20 people have moved into voluntary work in order to gain experience and also to gain good quality references for their CVs. This includes placements we have established within GIPSIL and Elevate (a property maintenance Social Enterprise wholly owned by GIPSIL).

### **Which activities and/or mini projects have been established?**

#### Football Group

We have linked with the Connexions service to identify and support young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET). In order to engage young people who are NEET we have developed a community football training session which enables us to help young people to identify the support available within their communities. The football group takes place on a weekly basis for 1 and a half hours on local playing fields.

#### Gardening Group

Our Gardening group was set up to develop the skills of growing fruit and vegetables, general garden maintenance and other related skills. This was once weekly for a whole afternoon, but has now ended for the winter.

#### Cooking Group

We have linked with the existing cooking group at GIPSIL (run by Zest – Health For Life) to help people learn how to cook economically and healthily, achieving a balanced diet.

#### Arts & Crafts Group

We have linked Skippto to offer an arts & crafts group to develop confidence and creativity skills.

### **Details of promotion/ partnership working, attendance at events/ meetings and other promotional activities**

Our services have been promoted to the local job centres that have embraced our service and developed a positive working relationship with us. Flyers have been printed and distributed throughout the local community via leaflet drops, community centres and job centres.

IT training courses have been run in partnership with Citizens Online and we hope to run this again on a regular basis, this course has been benefiting mainly older people who are computer illiterate.

Several First Aid courses have taken place to increase employability; the courses include emergency aid and first aid at work.

A Safeguarding Children course (Level 1) was delivered by Wayne Dixon and 8 people qualified

for the award.

From January 2014, Employability courses are been run by an organisation called Medex (supported through the Skills Funding Agency) and other courses will be available to JSA claiming service users such as: Health & Safety, Health & Social care; and Cleaning at Level 1 and 2.

### **What individual outcomes were achieved and what was their impact?**

Both needs and outcomes varied from person to person. A large proportion of the people attending required help to create a Curriculum Vitae (CV) or to edit their existing CV. Many of the people attending have little or no experience of work, no references and low educational attainment, making this a difficult task for them to do alone. A full list of outcomes concludes this report, but here are some individual case studies:

**Luke** aged 24 was referred by his Housing Support Worker for support around job applications and finding voluntary work. Luke aspired to community work and wanted to know where to start. After attending the Opportunity Shops several times, he was quickly identified as a potential volunteer to support our work, as well as the work of the family group at GIPSIL. After volunteering for a while Luke was encouraged and supported to apply for a Level 3 Certificate in Youth Work Practice – his application was successful and he continues to attend. Luke has also gained an interview and employment with Leeds Youth Service on a 9 hour contract.

**Marcus** aged 21 attended the Opportunity Shop at Seacroft after his Support Worker suggested we could help him find work. Marcus has a passion for golf and an opportunity was identified to gain a work placement at Oulton Golf Club. Marcus applied successfully; the golf club has since offered Marcus part-time employment after a successful work placement. Marcus worked part-time for a while and was subsequently offered a full-time role.

**Jillian** attended the opportunity shop on a regular basis for over three months and she regularly applied for jobs. Jillian attended both an IT course and First Aid course which increased her confidence and social skills. Jillian applied for a cleaning role at Leeds Arena and was successful; she now works part time and attends a current employability course to further her prospects. Jillian has also accessed welfare advice; this has helped her gain advice around housing, benefits and emotional support. Jillian has now become independent on her job searching and now supports other service users to identify jobs and use job search resources.

### **What needs/ issues are coming up and how can we resolve these?**

#### Alcohol

A few attendees have alcohol dependencies, but are not seeking support with this and feel ready for work.

#### Literacy

Many of the people are in need of support around basic literacy. Difficulty with spelling, grammar and writing skills is a big barrier for some people attending.

#### IT Skills/ Access

Older people attending - most of who are over 50 - often struggle to work via the internet and many have never used computers before at all. The job centre system is due to go online over the coming months and the low standard of IT literacy in the community could present a large barrier to engagement. Many people don't have home access to a computer and/or the internet which may also put pressure on community IT resources in the coming months.

#### CVs and Work Programmes

Many people do have CVs, but these are almost always hard copies which can't be edited. The CVs may have been created when individuals have previously attended work programmes, but

the electronic files were not made available to them for future editing.

### Difficult Job Seeker agreements

Many people are struggling to fulfil their current job seeking agreements due to the high volume of jobs they are required to apply for, when the reality is that employment opportunities are scarce. Many people are scared to disclose their concerns as they are being advised that the alternative to signing the agreement is to lose their benefits. This is still happening as people don't believe they can challenge the agreements.

<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>How people got there</b>	<b>How many</b>
Completed registration / initial assessment	Every person who visits us is asked to complete a basic assessment of their needs and a consent form.	121
Moved closer to employment	A better understanding of applications, improved confidence or increased knowledge of vacancies.	79
Created CV	Many people have been advised to visit us by the job centre, others by Support Workers. Some have self-referred or been encouraged to attend by friends.	65
Occasional attendance at Opportunity Shop (2-3 visits)	People with lower attendance are usually confident in job seeking and need little help. Some are visiting to satisfy the Job Centre advisors.	50
Regular attendance at Opportunity Shops	We have a core group of people who try hard to find work but have not yet been successful, many of these attend regularly.	30
Occasional job applications	These people may ask for support because of a career change / unfamiliar requirements in job descriptions, etc	39
Regular job applications	Many of these people are regulars at the opportunity shops and apply regularly through universal job match.	32
Gained interview for employment, training or education	These people have notified us of interviews.	34
Involved in Opportunity Shop activities / projects	These people have taken part in at least one employability activity or project.	15
Occasional volunteering	These people have taken part in short term volunteering.	3
Regular volunteering, work experience or work placement.	These people have committed to volunteering on a regular basis.	17
Entered training or education (including Youth Contract)		22
Entered an apprenticeship		4
Gained temporary part-time employment <b>without</b>		2

training			
Gained temporary part-time employment <b>with</b> training		0	
Gained temporary full-time employment <b>without</b> training		1	
Gained temporary full-time employment <b>with</b> training		0	
Gained permanent part-time employment <b>without</b> training		0	
Gained permanent part-time employment <b>with</b> training		3	
Gained permanent full-time employment <b>without</b> training		5	
Gained permanent full-time employment <b>with</b> training		2	
Became self-employed	Advice has been given regarding Job Centre loans to do this, but nobody has made the big step as yet!	0	