

North Bristol Domestic Abuse Forum meeting

Date: 18.01.2010
Present: MP, Ruth, Marion, Jan, Zoe, Emily, Donna, Marion
Apologies: Amy, Helen, Karen, Deb, Nic
Purpose: To overview the existing NBDAF set-up

Jigsaw

Mike explained the *Jigsaw* initiative and circulated a draft outline of the proposal. Discussion followed as to whether there was a need for the Southmead DAF as well as the North Bristol DAF. It was felt that if other areas followed Southmead's example and set up forums it would be enormously beneficial.

ACTION: All

Communication

This has been more ad-hoc lately leading to difficulties in arranging meetings and calling into question the general level of commitment. **ACTION: Emily to take this on**

Funding

Feedback from a recent Big Lottery outline application on behalf of the *Jigsaw* initiative suggested that the applicant organisations would need to become a signed up partnership before any such bid could be considered. The forum could become a charity in its own right but needs proper funding in order to do a proper job; there has been too little co-ordination in the past. **ACTION: SP will continue to try to raise funds for the Jigsaw concept**

Preferred Provider List

Mike explained that Southmead Project has become a Bristol City Council Preferred Provider for domestic abuse services but a contract ceiling of £40kpa has been set. This is being appealed.

With consolidation, the forum could be in a strong position regarding future funding opportunities but does need a Memorandum of Accord, mission statement, etc and be able to be replicated city-wide.

ACTION: Mike to forward draft Memorandum of Accord

SWOT analysis

Strengths

Passionate, dedicated, committed, diverse membership; have links to prevention, provision and a wide range of info; members are Freedom Programme facilitators; can articulate; high skill levels; good communication with clients; come from different areas of the city; knowledge, expertise and a track record of working together; access to research; the *Jigsaw* concept; good campaigners e.g. recent beer mat initiative.

Weaknesses

Gaps in representation e.g. Police, Housing, etc.; lack of sufficient/any finance; do not link into the city-wide forum in a formal way; communication is hit-and-miss; no defined membership or terms of reference; relies on the goodwill and passion of individuals; strategic planners do not know about the work of the forum; do not maximise the available research.

Opportunities

Consolidation of SDAF and NBDAF – define the roles of each and reps from SDAF attend NBDAF and visa versa; opportunity to take the *Jigsaw* concept forward; can encourage people in other areas such as Avonmouth and Lockleaze to form their own forums leading to a NBDAF with a principle task of ensuring the smaller forums have a collective voice.

Threats

With no funding the forum becomes a talk-shop; no tangible results; poor forward planning; frustration and burn out; reliant on personal commitment and goodwill.

Any other business

Emily will produce a pro forma to get feedback from landlords regarding the beer mat campaign.

Emily will circulate draft terms of reference

Mike will send Emily collated SDAF info regarding terms of reference

Next Meeting: 8th March 2pm at Southmead Project - please bring diaries