

Training

We offer a range of training programmes for professionals across a range of sectors. DVIP can develop and deliver training for professionals with experience of providing services for people affected by domestic violence, as well as for those who work in related areas. For example, Housing Officers, health professionals, youth workers and others.

DVIP can provide training on issues such as:

- Risk assessment and safety planning
- Providing safe, effective interventions for perpetrators
- Providing integrated women's support services
- Working with children and young people affected by domestic violence
- Working with Arabic-speaking communities on issues of domestic violence with effective, culturally-appropriate service provision

- Effective, appropriate services for young people using violent and abusive behaviours and their parents/carers or (ex) partners
- Specialist training to become a facilitator of Domestic Violence Prevention Programmes

Our expert trainers come from a range of backgrounds, including psychology, counselling and psychotherapy, probation and child protection services. They have a detailed understanding of DVIP's intervention model in practice, and are experienced in working with survivors and perpetrators of domestic violence.

We can design and deliver specific bespoke training to meet your organisation's needs, and can work with your team as advisors to support the development of your organisation's domestic violence services within a model of good practice.

DVIP Services

For over 25 years, we've been helping to make women and children safer. With services across London, we work to stop domestic violence and to reduce the harm it causes to women, children and families.



DVIP thanks the following for their support:



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Company number 3934397



Violence Prevention Programme (VPP)

This is our 26 session programme for adult male perpetrators of violence and abuse against women in intimate relationships. The initial sessions focus on stopping the use of violent and abusive behaviours, and latter ones focus on developing empathy for their (ex) partners and children; understanding the underpinning beliefs and attitudes that enable and support them to exert power and control within relationships; positive parenting; and alternative, non-abusive behaviours and ways of relating to women. The programme can be delivered on a 1–2–1 basis when language or other barriers are a factor, but the benefits of shared learning and peer support with other men in a respectful group work setting are significant. The VPP is based within a gendered model of domestic abuse and wider violence against women and girls, in which perpetrators' gendered entitlement is also challenged.

In addition to assessing a man's suitability for the programme, VPP facilitators can also provide Programme Suitability Assessments for Children's Services. These reports and subsequent feedback on a man's progress on the VPP can be useful within Child Protection or Child in Need processes.

Women's Support Service (WSS)

All partners and (ex) partners of men referred to the VPP are offered a linked Women's Support Service. Women are pro-actively contacted by female specialist support workers and are offered a range of services including telephone support, face-to-face sessions and a place on the Women's Group. It is a woman's choice whether or not to engage with any of these services, and if she has declined support, a WSS worker will still contact her for monthly check in calls and to advise of any significant issues that arise from the man's attendance on the VPP (e.g. if he discloses recent abuse towards her or their

children, if he is suspended, etc). All women are offered support for four months after their (ex) partner has completed or been removed from the VPP. In the public law arena, women may be ordered by the court or the Local Authority to attend the WSS programme following a vulnerability assessment. In such cases, it is recommended that a final report in respect of her progress is also ordered.

The Women's Group comprises 10 group and/or 10 individual sessions, covering a range of issues including: awareness of violent and abusive behaviours within relationships; moving away from self-blame around the violence and abuse they have experienced; building self-esteem; the impact of violence and abuse on children and on their relationship with their children and increasing their sense of control over their life and choices.

Family Courts Team

This team undertake specialist assessments for use by the Family Courts in both Public and Private Law proceedings. The assessments may be in relation to a father's risk of harm to a current or (ex) partner and the impact of this on their children; or may be in relation to the vulnerability of a mother and the extent to which her parenting may have been affected as a result of the violence and abuse she has experienced. The assessments include recommendations as to how to best manage the identified risks and, where a treatment programme is recommended, the team offer final reports upon completion which identify whether there has been any change in levels of risk or vulnerability and give further recommendations where necessary. The team also undertake assessments of family members who are being considered as a potential carer in child protection proceedings, in order to ensure that the family member has an understanding of the dynamics and risks of domestic violence, and how the children may have been impacted by their experiences.

All assessors are educated to post-graduate level in fields such as Psychology and Criminology. All assessors have completed domestic violence risk assessment training and have a minimum of six years experience of delivering treatment and assessing risk in this field, as well as experience of giving evidence in court as an expert witness.

Al-Aman

This team comprises Arabic-speaking Domestic Violence Specialists who undertake VPP and WSS work, as described above, for men and women within Arabic-speaking communities. Additional services are offered for women within this service, including culturally specific group work addressing topics such as FGM, 'honour-based' violence and forced marriage. Women can also self-refer to this service without their partner or ex-partner needing to be referred to the VPP. A significant amount of outreach and training is delivered by Al-Aman staff in local boroughs, to develop understanding and trust with faith groups and other agencies that may be involved with Arabic-speaking families.

Yuva

Yuva (meaning 'youth' in Hindi) works with young people aged 11–18 who have been violent and abusive to their parents/carers or who are using violence in intimate relationships. Through structured 1–2–1 direct interventions and group work, this service helps young people to address and challenge their use of violence and abuse, and to adopt alternative, non-violent and non-abusive behaviours and ways of coping with conflict.

A separate, but integrated support service for people affected by the young person's behaviour is also a key part of Yuva's intervention. This includes work with parents and/or (ex) partners of the referred adolescent who may be struggling to establish and

maintain appropriate and safe boundaries within the relationship and need support to take steps to make themselves and their families safer. Given Yuva's holistic approach the service requires that the young person using violence and the family members/ (ex) partners who have experienced their violence are both referred.

Yuva also provides specialist training and consultancy in child to parent violence and intimate partner violence. Our skilled and experienced practitioners work throughout London and parts of the South-East and can also be co-located in contracted boroughs.

Stephen's Place Children's Therapy Service

At Stephen's Place we provide specialist therapeutic services to children and young people aged 3–17 affected by domestic abuse. We offer short, medium and long-term non directive child-centred play therapy on a weekly basis during term time, to provide children and young people with the time and opportunity to process and express emotions in relation to their past and current experiences. The therapy is tailored to the needs and age of the child. For younger children, play therapy is used to explore the child's feelings. For older children/young people, a range of exploratory therapeutic techniques are utilised, including creative arts.

As part of our holistic, whole family approach, we are also able to offer in-house adult counselling and filial play coaching (a therapeutic approach designed to coach parents/carers to build and repair their relationship with their children through non directive play) where commissioned to do so.

Our therapeutic work is undertaken by a team of highly experienced, qualified and trainee therapists. All therapists are members of BACP, PTUK, UCKP, BPS or equivalent professional bodies.