

London Councils
Grants Programme 2022 to 2026
Funded Projects

(Includes contact details for each project)

Priority 1 – Combatting Homelessness

Shelter	
Project name:	STAR Partnership
Priority:	Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness
Specification:	1.1 Prevention and targeted intervention
Amount (1 year):	£923,512
Delivery partners: Praxis, Stonewall Housing, Thames Reach	
<p>Shelter is leading the specialist STAR (Supporting Tenancies, Accommodation and Resettlement) Partnership. Our aim is to prevent Londoners from becoming homeless, addressing underlying issues and barriers that put target groups at risk of homelessness.</p> <p>The STAR Partnership will deliver the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Referral into the service through multiple points of access, enabling pan-London reach. - London-wide targeted engagement and promotion, which is relevant and accessible to priority groups in all 33 boroughs. - Support to directly access accommodation, including crisis accommodation, social housing and the private rented sector. - Intensive support, including skills training, money management and practical help to enable families and individuals to maintain tenancies. - Personal resilience and independence planning to secure a long-term and healthy - Specialist provision for key target groups who face additional barriers to accessing housing, such as those with NRPF status, LGBTQ+ and minority ethnic communities. <p>Our intended impact is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prevent homelessness; through immediate housing advice, support to access crisis accommodation, advice, advocacy and casework to prevent eviction. - Help people find the right accommodation for them; through accommodation searches, accessing funds and tenancy brokerage, advice and advocacy to resolve any issues with accommodation and resettlement support. - Help people to maintain accommodation long-term; building financial resilience and providing advice and guidance to identify and resolve any issues arising in tenancy. - Address underlying issues that increase personal resilience and contribute to homelessness; through immigration advice and casework for people with NRPF, support to access the right local services to improve mental and physical health and improve confidence and ability to self-help. <p>Shelter provides specialist housing advice and casework and resilience support for people who are facing additional barriers, e.g. mental health issues, disabilities. Thames Reach offers personalised, intensive face-to-face support particularly those with high complex needs and a gender-specific service to women who face multiple exclusions. Stonewall Housing provides tailored, specialist housing advice and support for LGBTQ+ people. Praxis provides specialist, accredited immigration advice and casework for people who have NRPF and/or insecure immigration status and are at risk of homelessness.</p>	

Contact Details	Referrals
Stanley Harvey (Service Manager) stanley_harvey@shelter.org.uk	https://england.shelter.org.uk/get_help/local_services/london STAR Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mT4Q-Z9yKnM&list=PLrybnVaUKJhDptYtJlckblfN77mXMyIQT&index=1

St Mungo's	
Project name:	HARP Connect
Priority:	Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness
Specification:	1.1 Prevention and targeted intervention
Amount (1 year):	£298,930
Delivery partners: N/A	
<p>HARP Connect supports prison leavers at all stages of their journey through the criminal justice system. Starting in prison to the day of release and in the community, we provide expert housing advice and trauma informed targeted interventions to prevent homelessness.</p> <p>Project Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify prison leavers aged 25+, who are serving short-term sentences (less than one year), on licence recalls or on remand, and who are at risk of homelessness. - Undertake thorough housing/need and risk assessments and provide comprehensive action plans to address them. - Provide interventions to save existing tenancies at risk. - Support to access temporary and long-term accommodation, including viewings and applications. - Offer of meet at gate on day of release where required. - Support with benefits, bills, furnishings and other essentials. - Work with housing providers, local authorities and private landlords to provide ongoing tenancy support. - Help service users gain personal resilience through referrals to other appropriate community services and wider St Mungo's services (including our specialist mental health, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, financial advice, ETE (Education, Training and Employment) through our Recovery College and Employment team. - Provision of a service user Move on Fund to enhance settled accommodation outcomes among an often financially disadvantaged target group, to be used towards one-off essential accommodation expenses, including rental deposits. - Promote the service through existing relationships with prisons, probation teams, local authority teams and voluntary sector organisations. 	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Samantha Cowie, Head of Criminal Justice samantha.cowie@mungos.org 020 7023 7010/ 020 3856 6000 3 Thomas More Square, 5th Floor, Tower Hill London E1W 1YW www.mungos.org</p>	<p>All referrals must be made through a secure email address. Please contact HARP at harconnect@mungosofs.cjism.net</p> <p>Website: https://www.mungos.org/our-services/offender-services/</p>

St Mungo's

Project name: StreetLink London Advice Line
Priority: Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness
Specification: 1.2 Prevention and targeted intervention for rough sleepers
Amount (1 year): £102,665

Delivery partners: N/A

The StreetLink London Advice line is a telephone advice service for people who are sleeping rough, or at immediate risk of doing so, in London. The service aims to support people to resolve their homelessness rapidly through advice and advocacy work, and by connecting people with services that can help. This includes referring them into accommodation.

The service will reduce rough sleeping by:

- Providing advice to service users about routes out of rough sleeping
- Providing housing options advice
- Supporting reconnection with family and friends
- Facilitating access to accommodation
- Facilitating access to support services including mental and physical health, domestic and sexual abuse
- Facilitating access to specialist advice around debt and finance (incl. benefits), legal and immigration issues

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Stephanie Ratcliffe, Head of Migrant and Advice services stephanie.ratcliffe@mungos.org</p> <p>Marie Stewart, StreetLink London Advice Line Service Manager Marie.stewart@mungos.org</p> <p>3 Thomas More Square, Tower Hill, London E1W 1YW www.mungos.org</p>	<p>streetlinklondon@mungos.org</p> <p>(We do not accept referrals from external agencies/organisations)</p>

New Horizon Youth Centre

Project name:	London Youth Gateway (LYG)
Priority:	Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness
Specification:	1.3 Prevention and targeted intervention for young people
Amount (1 year):	£938,762

Delivery partners: akt, Depaul UK, Galop, Praxis, Shelter, Stonewall Housing

The London Youth Gateway (LYG) makes sure that young Londoners facing homelessness are safe and supported while we help them to achieve long-term stability in terms of housing, income, health and migration status.

The LYG targets young people more likely to face homelessness but less likely to find the help they need, for whom boroughs do not have a main homelessness duty and/or for whom it is not cost-effective to commission local services.

We offer a genuinely pan-London service, supporting young people through brief interventions or long-term support via in-person and remote delivery.

Project activities:

- Our LYG portal functions as a central point of access that sits at the heart of our delivery. Young people can self-refer via an online referral form and free telephone line and are seamlessly linked to the most appropriate LYG partner or external agency.
- Aside from the portal, we run a specialist LGBTQ+ entry point and a dedicated under-25s advice line for young people requiring help with landlord or tenancy problems, enabling us to deliver crucial interventions and support at scale.
- Young people receive clear information, advice and advocacy to prevent homelessness, navigate complex systems, and/or access mainstream services
- We offer an integrated, youth-specific package to young people needing longer-term support to access or sustain accommodation, especially where boroughs do not have a statutory duty, including:
 - o Long-term housing advice/casework/advocacy
 - o Comprehensive physical and mental health services
 - o Life skills development and independent living skills
 - o Employability support
 - o Income maximisation and benefits support
 - o Specialist immigration advice

Responsive to London's diversity, the LYG tailors its services to young people most vulnerable to homelessness, including young people from minoritised communities, LGBTQ+ young people, young women, neurodiverse young people and those with no recourse to public funds.

Contact Details	Referrals
Kate Allen, LYG Programme Manager kate.allen@nhyouthcentre.org.uk 07947 906064 68 Chalton St, London, NW1 1JR www.nhyouthcentre.org.uk	http://www.londonyouthgateway.org.uk/get-help/

Homeless Link	
Project name:	PLUS Project
Priority:	Priority 1: Combatting Homelessness
Specification:	1.4 Improving the response to homelessness in London (working with housing and homelessness organisations and professionals)
Amount (1 year):	£170,871
Delivery partners: Shelter	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The PLUS Project aims to strengthen the sector through enhanced collaboration, particularly through improved two-way relationships between LAs and local VCSs, bring related sectors (e.g., health, social care, housing) together to better understand, define and identify their role in preventing homelessness, support providers and commissioners to be responsive to changing patterns of need, policy, legislation and equalities issues and providers to recognise differing needs. To build capacity of providers to be more sustainable, improve pathways between statutory and VCS and improve sector staff wellbeing and resilience, to avoid burn-out and retain expertise in the sector. <p>Activities will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In-depth support to boroughs delivered through a consistent learning pathway model. This will including an initial systematic review and analysis of the LA and local VCS sector to identify current processes, practice, collaborations and gaps, informing an evidence-based bespoke development plan of support and training - Rapid review and assessment of organisations, to obtain baseline data on support needs, to guide programme and assess progress towards programme aims - Linking boroughs with similar needs and challenges to facilitate shared learning, peer network development, peer support, and economies of scale - Providing specialist advice, support, training and information, at the pan-London, sub-regional and local level to meet the range of needs - Supporting and improving working relationships between the VCS, boroughs and landlords through targeted and tailored activities - Improving collaboration and communication between the homelessness, employment, domestic/sexual violence, substance use, and health sectors through relationship brokerage, bespoke support and peer networks - Provision of policy, law and research information - Responsive special initiatives responding to changing needs for the duration of the grant - Targeted wellbeing and resilience support through collaboration events and bespoke training. 	

Contact Details	Referrals
Chris Dutton - London Strategic Lead chris.dutton@homelesslink.org.uk London.Plus@homelesslink.org.uk 07958 135 840 Homeless Link, 2-5 Minories, London EC3N 1BJ	Contact London.Plus@homelesslink.org.uk or call Chris Dutton on 07958 135 840 to discuss any specific queries and sign-up to contact list for all training and events. In depth borough support will be dependent on an Expression of Interest process and advertised to all boroughs via key contacts.

Priority 2 – Tackling Sexual and Domestic Violence

Women and Girls Network	
Project name:	Ascent Advice and Counselling Project
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Domestic and Sexual Abuse
Specification:	2.2 Specialist advice, counselling and support (for medium risk survivors (including post-IDVA/ISVA) and target groups not accessing general provision)
Amount (1 year):	£1,368,470
Delivery partners:	Ashiana Network, Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC), Chinese Information and Advice Centre, EACH, IMECE Women's Centre, Iranian and Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO), Jewish Women's Aid, Kurdish and Middle Eastern Women's Organisation, Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS), Nia, Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre, Rights of Women, Solace Women's Aid, Southall Black Sisters, Women's Trust
<p>The Ascent Advice and Counselling project aims to provide pan-London wrap-around support services for self-identified women, girls and non-binary people surviving the continuum of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) through individually tailored advice, information, casework and therapeutic services. The overall aim of the project is to enhance survivors internal and external resources, enabling them to better cope and heal from their experiences of violence & abuse, and move to independence.</p> <p>Our activities •</p> <p>At the heart of our pan-London partnership project will be two holistic advice hubs offering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - emotional support - information/advice & immediate advocacy support - needs & risk assessments - safety planning - seamless access to ongoing support services. <p>These will be surrounded by the spokes of specialist services to complement the hubs including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Targeted 1-1 casework services for, Black and Global Majority women /young women and girls/ women who are sexually exploited and/or faced multiple disadvantages). - A specialist focus on providing housing support/access to safe accommodation, including emergency accommodation funding for single women with NRPF. - 1:1 BACP accredited counselling delivered across London and in over 20 languages. - London legal advice line- providing specialist family law and immigration legal advice - Survivor group work¹ to promote recovery and increase understanding of abuse - Training and awareness raising to up skill professionals and staff 	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Ifeoma Williams, Director of Services Ifeoma.Williams@wgn.org.uk CAN Mezzanine, 7-14 Great Dover Street, London, SE1 4YR Website: www.wgn.org.uk and https://www.thelondonvawgconsortium.org.uk</p>	<p>East London (Solace Women's Aid): 0808 802 5565; advice@solacewomensaid.org West London (Women and Girls Network): 0808 801 0660; advice@wgn.org.uk London Legal Advice (Rights of Women): 0207 608 1137</p>

¹ Delivery in year one only. WGN will signpost to alternative provision where available from year two onwards.

Galop

Project name:	The LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Partnership (DAP)
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Domestic and Sexual Abuse
Specification:	2.2 Specialist advice, counselling and support (for medium risk survivors (including post-IDVA/ISVA) and target groups not accessing general provision)
Amount (1 year):	£158,753

Delivery partners: Stonewall Housing, London Friend

The London LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Partnership (DAP) is specialist service for LGBT+ survivors of domestic abuse. It is open to any LGBT person experiencing domestic violence living or working in London. This is a service run by, and for, LGBT+ people.

The DAP provides services to survivors of domestic abuse, including the following:

- Helpline: email, phone and live chat support to all LGBT+ survivors, giving information and support 5 days a week, including signposting to ongoing specialist services and contributing to the overall national helpline service, supporting survivors in London.
- Advice and safety planning
- Housing advice, including options on finding safe accommodation
- Emotional support
- Free one-to-one Counselling
- Support and assistance with dealing with the police
- Help reporting incidents and finding solicitors
- Legal advice on civil or criminal protection (e.g., non-molestation orders)
- Support through civil and criminal court system
- Advice on child safety and child contact issues
- Specific support around sexual abuse
- Interpreter service available to those who do not have English as a first language
- Awareness raising sessions/ consultancy services to multi agency staff at borough level to increase understanding of LGBT+ people's experiences of domestic abuse and the work of the partnership.

The partnership is made up of three LGBT+ voluntary organisations:

- Galop specialising in supporting LGBT+ victims and survivors of domestic abuse, sexual violence, hate crime, and other forms of abuse including honour-based abuse, forced marriage, and so-called "conversion therapies".
- Stonewall Housing providing safe accommodation, housing advice, mental health advocacy and support for people fleeing domestic abuse.
- London Friend offers counselling and support around issues such as same-sex relationships, sexual and gender identity and promotes personal growth and self-confidence.

More information is available on the partnership website: www.lgbtdap.org.uk

Contact Details	Referrals
Gavin Stafford – Gavin@galop.org.uk	Survivors and professionals can refer through the online referral form on www.galop.org.uk/make-a-referral/ or by calling the National LGBT DV Helpline 0800 999 5428

SignHealth	
Project name:	Deaf Domestic Abuse Service
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Domestic and Sexual Abuse
Specification:	2.2 Specialist advice, counselling and support (for medium risk survivors (including post-IDVA/ISVA) and target groups not accessing general provision)
Amount (1 year):	£269,304
Delivery partners:	n/a
<p>This service aims to educate, empower, encourage and protect Deaf people from all forms of domestic abuse using their preferred language, British Sign Language (BSL).</p> <p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preventative education: work with the Deaf community to raise awareness about unhealthy relationships, different types of abuse, consent and to empower Deaf people with tools to keep themselves safe. - Supporting independence: Deaf IDVAs will support Deaf adults and their families to lead a life free from violence by minimising risk, ensuring safety, and developing skills for independence thus reducing the likelihood of clients returning to abusive relationships or resuming old behaviours. The IDVA support for Deaf people is offered either remotely over online video platforms or face to face. - Accessible resources in BSL: video resources in BSL give Deaf people fair access to the same vital information as their hearing peers. Watch videos here: https://signhealth.org.uk/video-category/domestic-abuse/ - Provision of training and resources for mainstream/hearing providers to improve access to services. Also Deaf awareness training to the police and other external agencies. - Work in collaboration with a range of mainstream providers, who signpost Deaf service users to us. - In-person advocacy where necessary (supporting clients to navigate the family courts, criminal justice, and welfare systems). - Referrals to SignHealth's Psychological Therapy service for anxiety, depression and/or trauma. <p>Freedom Programme workshops and facilitation of Deaf-led support groups</p>	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Marie Vickers – Head of Domestic Abuse Services</p> <p>mvickers@signhealth.org.uk</p> <p>SignHealth, CAN Mezzanine Ltd, 7-4 Great Dover Street, London, SE1 4YR (registered address)</p> <p>https://signhealth.org.uk/with-deaf-people/domestic-abuse/</p>	<p>Deaf people can self-refer through our email da@signhealth.org.uk or our SMS number 07800 003421</p> <p>Professionals can email da@signhealth.org.uk to make a referral</p>

Refuge	
Project name:	Pan-London Domestic and Sexual Violence Helplines Project
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Domestic and Sexual Abuse
Specification:	2.3 Helpline services (advice and support, access to refuge provision)
Amount (1 year):	£290,436
Delivery partners: Women and Girls Network (WGN), Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre (RASASC) and Respect	
<p>This project is a partnership between four specialist providers, the pan-London domestic and sexual violence helpline provides access to confidential, non-judgmental support and advice for anyone in London subjected to domestic or sexual violence, current or historic, including referrals to emergency safe accommodation and support for friends, family and professionals.</p> <p>Support includes: emotional support, risk assessment, safety planning, referrals and information on rights and options, including legal rights, housing rights, child contact rights and pathways into other services; also a refuge referral line for women fleeing domestic abuse, run by Refuge as part of the National Domestic Abuse Helpline (NDAH), with enhanced support for women facing particular barriers to accessing refuge, providing critical insight to London Boroughs.</p> <p>Support can also be accessed via digital channels, including online Live Chat, email support and web content – informed by partner expertise around the ways in which perpetrators track victims’ activity online and misuse technology to abuse. To ensure the needs of all Londoners can be met, our helplines include accessible pathways to support: British Sign Language interpretation, Language Line interpreters; Helpline Advisers and volunteers who speak multiple languages; and translated web content.</p> <p>The partnership will raise awareness of its services across the capital, including an online offer for local authorities and targeted communications where there is low borough engagement, facilitated by a project support officer at Refuge. The partnership will bolster London’s specialist VAWG sector by sharing expertise with each other, including mutual training sessions and regular meetings to share best practice, identify emerging needs particular ‘pain points’ for survivors., as well as smooth referral pathways between partner Helplines.</p>	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Lucy Snow, Senior Transformation Manager, Refuge Lucy_Snow@refuge.org.uk</p>	<p>The Freephone 24-Hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline: 0808 2000 247 or contact via secure webform, online live chat (weekdays, 3pm – 10pm) or British Sign Language interpretation (weekdays, 10am – 6pm) https://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/</p> <p>National Sexual Violence Helpline: 0808 802 9999 (24/7), or access support via live chat here: https://rapecrisis.org.uk/get-help/want-to-talk/</p> <p>Women and Girls Network Sexual Violence Helpline: Freephone: 0808 801 0770 Mon- Fri 10am-12.30pm, 2.30pm-4pm. Late opening on Wednesdays 6pm-9pm. Home Women and Girls Network (wgn.org.uk)</p> <p>Respect Men’s Advice Line: Telephone support: 0808 801 0327 (Mon to Fri 10am – 8pm), Email support: Monday to Friday – 9am – 8pm, Webchat support: Wednesdays – 10-11.30am and 2.30-4pm Domestic Abuse Helpline for Men Men's Advice Line UK (mensadvice.org.uk)</p>

Women's Aid	
Project name:	London Refuges Data Collection Project
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Domestic and Sexual Abuse
Specification:	2.3 Helpline services (advice and support, access to refuge provision)
Amount (1 year):	£25,000
Delivery partners: N/A	
<p>The London Refuges Data Collection project provides an evidence base on the availability and use of domestic abuse refuge provision in London. It aims to inform stakeholders about these services and support the commissioning of services.</p> <p>The data collection for this project uses Routes to Support (RtS), the UK VAWG service directory which Women's Aid Federation of England run in partnership with our sister federations in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.</p> <p>Data in London on referrals and women's journeys is collected through RtS as part of refuge services routine work. That means that when London-based staff update refuge vacancies on the system they are required to enter additional information about the women using their services.</p> <p>Women's Aid share quarterly data reports with London Councils, MOPAC² and Borough officers including VAWG leads, Commissioners and Community Safety Officers. These stakeholders also have access to an interactive Data Dashboard which is on a password-protected area of the Women's Aid website.</p> <p>Women's Aid present the data at various fora in London and also produce an annual data summary which is shared with all London refuge providers.</p>	

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Sarika Seshadri, Head of Research and Evaluation</p> <p>S.Seshadri@womensaid.org.uk</p> <p>www.womensaid.org.uk</p>	<p>For queries about the data collected through this project please contact: routestosupport@womensaid.org.uk</p> <p>Services who are interested in joining Routes to Support can find more information here: https://www.womensaid.org.uk/what-we-do/i-work-with-survivors/routes-to-support/</p>

² Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime

Ashiana Network	
Project name:	Ascent Specialist Refuge Partnership
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Domestic and Sexual Abuse
Specification:	2.4 Emergency Specialist Refuge Provision
Amount (1 year):	£840,000 (from April 2023)
Delivery partners: Ashiana Network, Solace Women's Aid, Nia, Iranian & Kurdish Women's Rights Organisation (IKWRO)	
<p>Our project aims to relieve homelessness, reduce and address the harms of domestic abuse by providing routes to safe and appropriate accommodation for women identified as the most marginalised, most frequently excluded by other services, and therefore at great risk of sustained harm and homelessness.</p> <p>This project is an established, proven partnership of four of London's most experienced, specialist refuge providers. Our project provides three services, of which refuge is the core.</p> <p>We will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39 specialist refuge and second-stage accommodation bedspaces to marginalised women such as: women with no recourse to public funds (NRPF); Black and minoritised women fleeing harmful practice; women who have been sexually exploited, trafficked, or are exiting prostitution and women with mental health, dual diagnosis and/or problematic drug and alcohol usage. • An OISC level 2 Immigration Solicitor who will assist in regularising the immigration status of survivors, so they are able to access safe and appropriate accommodation they're currently excluded from. The solicitor is regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA). • A Partnerships Officer who will work alongside all partners in collaboration with the wider Ascent Consortium to promote and ensure equitable, effective referral pathways into our service from all 33 boroughs, all borough IDVA/ISVA teams, and safe accommodation services. <p>We aim to support 137 women from any London borough with complex and multiple needs and otherwise/unlikely to be accepted into any other form of safe accommodation, access to safe, sustained and highly-specialist refuge beds.</p> <p>We will also support 72 survivors of VAWG to regularise their immigration status. For both sets of women, additional positive impacts will follow including improved sense of safety and improved access to specialist support.</p> <p>111 of our total cohort will be supported to move on from refuge in a planned way during the lifetime of the project.</p> <p>In achieving these outcomes will help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce demand pressures on London's statutory services, including open referral pathways and co-working opportunities with every London borough. • help women avoid unplanned and crisis presentations at housing, health, and frontline commissioned services. • help women present to services in planned ways, support their sustained and positive contact with services, and support women's readiness for longer-term independence. 	

Contact Details	Referrals
Shaminder Ubhi, Director shaminder@ashiana.org.uk info@ashiana.org.uk 020 8539 0427 www.ashiana.org.uk	Nia - 07590 712872 (24 hours); 0207 683 1270 info@niaendingviolence.org.uk The Emma Project: 07590 712872 (24 hours) Solace Women's Aid – Refuge Referrals: Monday & Friday 9.30am-5pm; refuge.referrals@solacewomensaid.org 02031984658 Ext: 236; 07483 025192 IKWRO – Refuge- 07496111963 07846 275 246 (Arabic/Kurdish) 24hrs 07846 310 157 (Farsi/Dari/Turkish)24 Hours 020 7920 6460- info@ikwro.org.uk

Women's Resource Centre

Project name: Ascent: Support Services to Organisations

Priority: Priority 2: Tackling Domestic and Sexual Abuse

Specification: 2.5 Improving the response to domestic and sexual abuse in London (working with domestic and sexual abuse organisations and professionals)

Amount (1 year): £189,868

Delivery partners: RESPECT (perpetrators), Imkaan, Rights of Women, Women and Girls Network

The Ascent Support Services to Organisations (SSO) project aims to increase access to support and help for people affected by domestic and sexual abuse, by improving the quality and expertise of frontline domestic and sexual abuse organisations and professionals in London. The aim will be achieved by the annual provision of:

- Sustainability Training
- Expert Led Training
- Accredited Training
- Bespoke Training
- Specialist Briefing Sessions
- Special Events
- One to One Support Sessions
- Webinars
- Knowledge Hub
- Needs Analysis
- Case Studies
- Fact Sheets, Best practice briefings,
- E- newsletters

These activities will provide best practice guidance and advice and inform and educate on a variety of topics, including policy and legislation, immigration, violence against women and girls (VAWG), organisational development, funding and fundraising, perpetrator work, trauma-informed work, and evidencing and demonstrating impact.

Ascent SSO aims to increase the cross-sector awareness of services available and cross-sector collaborations; increase the resilience and sustainability of frontline voluntary sector organisations, increase the wellbeing of staff of frontline organisations, and increase awareness and knowledge about intersectionality and the diverse needs of service users.

Contact Details	Referrals
<p>Ms Vivienne Hayes, CEO vivienne@wrc.org.uk 020 7697 3451 Project Lead – Nour Gazarin United House, North Road, London, N7 9DP www.wrc.org.uk</p>	<p>www.imkaan.org.uk www.respect.uk.net www.wgn.org.uk www.rightsofwomen.org.uk</p>

Asian Women's Resource Centre (AWRC)	
Project name:	Ascent Ending Harmful Practices Partnership
Priority:	Priority 2: Tackling Domestic and Sexual Abuse
Specification:	2.6 Services for people affected by harmful practices
Amount (1 year):	£304,041
Delivery partners: Ashiana Network, Latin American Women's Rights Service, IKWRO Women's Centre, IMECE Women's Centre, Southall Black Sisters Trust, Women and Girls Network, Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development (FORWARD) and Al-Aman (Division of Richmond Fellowship)	
<p>The Ending Harmful Practices Partnership (EHPP) aims to improve service provision for those affected by sexual and domestic abuse, specifically, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), "so called" honour based abuse (HBV), forced marriage (FM) and other harmful practices³ through the provision of high quality frontline services as well as support services to voluntary and statutory organisations. The EHPP will provide specialist services including intensive support to Women and Girls from BME communities, as well as raising awareness to increase early identification of those at risk and improve institutional responses.</p> <p>Activities will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1:1 advice and information on rights and entitlements: - casework and advocacy support which will include accompanying women to meetings with police, housing and social services departments and courts - therapeutic support groups and a counselling provision to 50 women - raising awareness of the impact of HBV, FM and FGM within communities and other voluntary and statutory agencies (not only BME communities) through delivering workshops, training and presentations - specific work with young women on FGM through the delivery of workshops to support peer mentoring and youth advocacy. <p>The project aims to improve safety and reduce risks for BME women experiencing harmful practices; and present them with options so that they are in a stronger position physically, mentally and emotionally. The intended impact of the combined activities they participate in, will help them achieve greater social and economic independence, enabling them to integrate into and contribute towards their local communities and wider society.</p>	

Contact Details	Referrals
Sarbjit Ganger, Director sarbjit@awrc.org.uk Info@awrc.org.uk 020 8961 6549 http://asianwomencentre.org.uk/ Twitter: @AWRCofficial Instagram: @AsianWomenResourceCentre	Ascent: 0208 961 6549 0208 961 5701 referrals@awrc.org.uk

³ Faith Based Abuse, and some of the lesser known harmful practices such as acid attacks, menstrual huts, "corrective" rape, dowry and caste abuse.