

## Who does what in the ADVA team?

The ADVA Team expanded in 2005 as a result of the growing services we deliver. We would like to take this opportunity to update you on the different roles we have taken on:



**Rachel Martin** the ADVA manager, takes the lead in the following key areas: Safer Devon Partnership links; Database; Devon County Council Group; Day-to-day management and supervision; Repair; ISB (Invest to Save); Conference 2007; Monitoring; Adva Partnership co-ordination; Women's Aid managers; Networking; External Funding; Employers. You can contact Rachel on **01392 382233** or email: [rachel.martin@devon.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.martin@devon.gov.uk)



**Roy Tomlinson** Community Strategy Officer, is responsible for: Strategic links / Business Plans; Contracts; Supporting People; Members (Scrutiny); Local Area Agreement; Local Safeguarding Children Board; Budget; Children and Young People. You can contact Roy on **01392 382563** or email: [roy.tomlinson@devon.gov.uk](mailto:roy.tomlinson@devon.gov.uk)



**Susannah Hunter** started her post as full-time co-ordinator in October 2006. Her main tasks are: IDVAS (Independent Domestic Violence Advocates); MARACs; Health Idva; Specialist Domestic Violence Court; LCJB; BVPI 225; Adva Training. You can contact her on **07974 912868** or email: [susannah.hunter@devon.gov.uk](mailto:susannah.hunter@devon.gov.uk)



**Steffi Bednarek** joined the ADVA team as part-time co-ordinator in January 2006. Steffi takes a lead in the following areas: SEEDS Devon; PR & communication; BVPI 225 Directory of Services; Forum Briefings; Website; Awareness Week Co-ordination. You can contact her at: [steffi.bednarek@devon.gov.uk](mailto:steffi.bednarek@devon.gov.uk)



**Claire Heaver** started the new post of part-time project support officer in September 2006. Claire is responsible for: ADVA level 1 training; Risk Assessment training; Invoices; ADVA Partnership Children's Task group; Stock taking; Outreach statistics; maintaining website; mail distributions. You can contact her on **01392 383479** or email: [claire.heaver@devon.gov.uk](mailto:claire.heaver@devon.gov.uk)



**Janice Healey** is our full-time, permanent project support officer and is responsible for: Administration of the ADVA Training – Level 2, How Perpetrators Operate; GP Training; Twilight and Housing Training; Room Bookings; Administration for Awareness Raising Week meetings; ADVA Partnership – Training and Awareness Task Group; Maintaining Website; ADVA Conference; SEEDS administration. You can contact her on **01392 382233** or email: [janice.healey@devon.gov.uk](mailto:janice.healey@devon.gov.uk)



# ADVA Training

Between 2004 and 2006 the Adva Partnership trained over 2000 front-line workers. This is a considerable achievement for one domestic violence partnership (unparalleled on a national level).

An independent evaluation report, carried out by Sue Penna Associates, found that the training has a long-term effect on staff knowledge, skill base and front line staff's clinical practice (evidenced by post-training questionnaires and consultation groups).

However, the research also highlighted an emerging frustration for front-line staff who feel enabled to make earlier identification of families experiencing domestic violence. Whilst individual practice has changed, the lack of corresponding change on organisational level still means that a swift response is dependent on individual practitioners rather than on organisational policies and quality standards.

One way to drive organisational change, and for front-line staff to feel supported in putting into practice

what they have learned, is for managers at the very highest level to take part in the training. Staff believe that the future planning of appropriate services will be enhanced by an increased awareness of managers to the widespread cost and impact of domestic abuse on existing service provision.

The adva training team run a range of specialist courses: level 1, level 2 (for practitioners working with children & young people); risk-assessment; how perpetrators operate; twilight training for schools; modular training to GPs; managers training.

For more information contact [www.adva.org.uk](http://www.adva.org.uk) or **Janice Healey** on 01392 382233

*Please help us to advertise the next courses to the appropriate agencies. The dates are as follows:*

**Level 1 Tackling Domestic Violence & Abuse** 14<sup>th</sup> September, Okehampton; 19<sup>th</sup> September, Newton Abbot; 20<sup>th</sup> September, Barnstaple

**Tackling Risk Assessment in Domestic Violence** 18<sup>th</sup> September, Okehampton

**Level 2 Domestic Violence & Abuse - the Impact on Children** 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> September, Newton Abbot

## The Safe Project – Good News!

The Safe Project is an outreach project for girls / young women aged 14-25 run by Exeter Women's Aid.

The project started in 1998 out of a need to offer specialist support to girls and young women affected by domestic violence from an abusive partner, harassment from an ex-partner or witnessing violence within her family.

As many as 1/3 of all women taken to the MARAC system are between the ages of 18-25. This age group are more likely than other age groups to have children under the age of 5, to be pregnant and are likely to fall into the 'grey' area of being between child and adult services.

After securing additional 3 year funding from Children in Need for the existing Safe Project, Exeter Women's Aid have now secured 3 years continuation funding from the Tudor Trust to fund a parallel post for East/Mid Devon. Exeter Women's Aid also

managed to pool an additional lump sum of £17,000 from the Youth Opportunities Fund to run 4 age-appropriate Pattern Changing courses for 14-19 year olds over a 2 year period. This money will be used to fund a part time post to co-run the courses. So, all very positive!!

The Safe Project offers the same wide range of practical and emotional support that the other Outreach projects deliver. For example, phone and face-to-face support, safety planning, advocacy (enabling women to put their situation across to solicitors and housing officers), resettlement support from a refuge and signposting. The project also offers talks and training to agencies working with young people and awareness-raising sessions in schools and youth clubs.

For more information and referrals, please contact **Maria Cox**: 01392 667147 (office hrs) Email: [safeproject@exeterwomensaid.org.uk](mailto:safeproject@exeterwomensaid.org.uk) [www.exeterwomensaid.org.uk](http://www.exeterwomensaid.org.uk)



## SEEDS Devon

SEEDS Devon is a group of female survivors of domestic violence, who are committed to influence and improve agency responses and service delivery for other abused women and their children.

SEEDS started meeting in February 2006 in response to the ADVA conference "Raising the Survivor's Voice" in November 2005. The members of the group have had intensive training and have worked and liaised with the following agencies in Devon: The Specialist Domestic Violence Court; Magistrate's domestic violence training; Devon and Cornwall Constabulary (Training DVD production); Input into Police Training; Cafcass; ADVA Partnership; BBC Radio Devon.

### What SEEDS can do for you as an agency

- To be a voice for survivors, increasing understanding about the experience of domestic abuse amongst those working in the statutory and voluntary sector.
- Provide presentations and consultation on specific topics relating to the survivor's experience.
- obtain current survivor's views about the effectiveness and value of local services for women experiencing domestic abuse.
- raise awareness and understanding of the needs of children who have lived in or are living in abusive relationships.

For more information, please contact **Steffi Bednarek** by emailing: [steffi.bednarek@devon.gov.uk](mailto:steffi.bednarek@devon.gov.uk) or **Philippa Chapman**: [philippac@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:philippac@dsl.pipex.com)

## ADVA Conference on 29th November 2007

The core focus of this year's conference is on children and young people and how they are affected by domestic violence and abuse.

We aim to get senior and middle managers, who are involved in children and young people's services, to the conference so that the message about the impact of domestic violence could be firmly put over. The programme is currently being worked on and will soon be circulated.

## ADVA/LSCB Joint Action Plan

The Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) has now got closer operational responsibilities over children's services and has more power than the old ACPC.

National guidelines say that there is a need to have sub groups to deal with specific issues and it has been accepted that ADVA's children's group will become a sub group of the LSCB. The terms of reference have been accepted. The key gap was identified in terms of access pathway work for which Tim Leishman is the children and young people's directorate lead.

In January 2007 the LSCB also agreed to be the accountable body for Devon's MARACS. We will keep you updated.



## North Devon Pilot – work with boys and young men

North Devon Women's Aid have been successful in securing Comic Relief funding for a new pilot programme that delivers support for boys and young men aged 11-21 years who are victims of domestic violence.

Currently a lot of advisory support and work is being provided to agencies to deal with domestic violence in cases they are already dealing with. An increased trend is emerging in terms of how children from a very young age who are victims of abuse or are living with domestic violence go on to become abusive to their parents and siblings. A programme produced by the NSPCC as a model of work is being looked at as a possible source of project work. Links have also been made to healthy relationships in the school's curriculum for years 7 and 8 at Bideford College.

## MARAC

The MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) is now operating throughout Devon having initially commenced in Exeter in January 2005.

Devon now has four MARACs, each operating monthly in Exeter, East/Mid; South and North/Torridge. Bill Pascoe and Susannah Hunter were tasked to undertake a review of MARAC in order to assess: a) how well the process is working, b) how it can be developed and c) identify best practice in order to improve the safety of survivors and their children.

For more information about the MARAC process you can get a draft MARAC Conference Guide and/or a copy of the MARAC review by emailing: [Susannah.Hunter@devon.gov.uk](mailto:Susannah.Hunter@devon.gov.uk)

## Domestic violence awareness week

The date of this year's domestic violence awareness week is from 26th November - 1st December 2007.

Most Forums will organise a silent march on Monday 26th November from 12.30-13.30. Details will be given in future briefing notes.

## BVPI 225

From April 2007 all Devon's 8 Districts agreed to contribute £5,000 each to adva towards a coordinated achievement of the 11 performance indicators that make up this domestic violence Best Value Performance Indicator.

Each district has identified a DV lead with whom adva will work to deliver the performance indicators which include: a county-wide service directory, training provisions, improved housing-related options, strategic planning and local delivery/access to services. If you want more information on the BVPI 225 and ADVA's detailed action plan, you can contact [rachel.martin@devon.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.martin@devon.gov.uk)

## Your contribution...

If you'd like to contribute articles or news to this bulletin, please don't hesitate to get in contact. Your contributions are more than welcome! [steffi.bednarek@devon.gov.uk](mailto:steffi.bednarek@devon.gov.uk)

**adv**a  
against domestic violence and abuse  
in Devon