

The Social Work Role in Domestic Abuse

Tuesday 24th October 2017

Venue: The Culthudel Christian Centre, 5 Culthudel Avenue, Inverness IV2 6AS

Time: 10.00-15.15 (registration from 9.30am)

This is a **FREE** event, open to all social workers and social work students.

This participative event is being organised by a partnership between the Scottish Association of Social Work, Scottish Women's Aid and Highland Violence Against Women Partnership.

Social work systems cannot deliver their core mission of safety and well-being of individuals and families without being competent and skilful in their response to domestic abuse. Social workers in Scotland are becoming increasingly aware of how domestic abuse intersects with the complex needs of the people we work with. On 17th March 2017, the Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Bill was introduced to Parliament. This creates a new statutory offence that recognises the damage that non-physical abuse can cause. This event is an opportunity to explore some of the excellent practice that is taking place in Scotland to improve our response to domestic abuse.

Participants will have the opportunity to explore emerging themes of good social work practice in relation to:

- Holding perpetrators accountable
- Aligning the interests of domestic abuse survivors and social workers to eliminate safety and risk concerns
- Recognising the complex needs of the people who are affected by domestic abuse

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Speakers will include:

- **NEL WHITING**, Learning & Development Coordinator at Scottish Women's Aid. Nel will outline current theoretical framings of domestic abuse.
- **GILLIAN GUNN**, Coordinator, Violence Against Women Partnership, Highland. Gillian will highlight the local context and responses to domestic abuse.
- **STEPHEN MADILL**, Senior Social Worker from Safer Families Edinburgh. Stephen will introduce the Safe & Together model. It is a field tested, promising best practice model designed to improve competencies and cross system collaboration related to the intersection of domestic abuse and child welfare. It provides a framework for partnering with domestic abuse survivors and intervening with perpetrators to enhance the safety and well-being of children.
- **RACHAEL BARNES**, Social Worker (Men's Worker) with Safer Families, Edinburgh. Rachael will explore how we can all ensure that perpetrators are made visible and held accountable for their behaviour. She will explore how to work motivationally with perpetrators and how to do so safely.

There will also be a choice of workshops, which participants can sign up to when they register.

To book a place please email:
scotland@basw.co.uk

For further information visit
www.basw.co.uk/events

