Making a case for a quality domestic abuse services

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Ending domestic abuse
Overview of the workshop

• The aim of this workshop is to show how collecting good data and meeting a set of standards can make a case for services through evidence of quality support and improved outcomes

  – Good data can help you to see:
    • Who your service is reaching, and who you are not reaching
    • How you can reach people sooner
    • How effective your intervention is

  – Using a set of service standards can support services to provide effective help to victims of domestic abuse
The national picture: who accesses domestic abuse services? Who doesn’t?

The majority of clients supported:
- Are female (93%)
- White British / Irish (81%)

66% of clients had children

In the general population, around a third of adult women have dependent children

Age of clients

- <18: 2%
- 18-20: 7%
- 21-30: 35%
- 31-40: 28%
- 41-50: 18%
- 51-60: 6%
- 61+: 3%

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The national picture: how can we reach people sooner?

Clients had been experiencing abuse for an average of 3 years.

Services accessed in the past year:

- Called police: 69% of clients
  - Average # of times: 5.2
- Visited GP: 44% of clients
  - Average # of times: 2.6
- Attended A&E: 16% of clients
  - Average # of times: 1.3

Nearly half of referrals come from the police and only 7% from health services.

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The national picture: how effective are our interventions?

- Clients were supported for an average of 2.4 months
  - Received interventions in an average of 4 areas
  - 92% had a safety plan put in place

Safety and wellbeing outcomes

- 74% of clients reduced risk
- 76% felt safer
- 74% improved quality of life

65% of clients said they had not experienced any abuse in the past month

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The service has clear and accessible referral pathways into and out of the service

During the same period, the service saw increases in the number of clients from certain groups.
Cardiff Women’s Aid: a case study

The service works proactively to ensure that a non-discriminatory service is equally accessible to all eligible clients

'Hard-to-reach' clients

Increasing the range of agencies making referrals enabled the service to evidenced increased accessibility.

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The service provides clients with a specialist risk-led response that reflects clients’ individual risks and needs.

Consistent risk assessment and recording enables the service to tailor its response to client need.

Missing data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>First 6 months</th>
<th>Last 12 months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug misuse</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harassment/stalking</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol misuse</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jealous/controlling</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental health issues</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Improvements in intensity of support and safety outcomes

- More than 10 contacts: First 6 months - 32%, Last 12 months - 0%
- Planned case closure: First 6 months - 85%, Last 12 months - 95%
- No abuse in the past month: First 6 months - 42%, Last 12 months - 62%

Tailored response leads to better support and outcomes for clients

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Activity

In groups, answer the following questions and for each identify the action(s) the service could take to develop their offer:

• Who is the service reaching, and who are they missing?

• How could the service reach clients sooner, and reach groups who don’t currently engage?

• How effective is the intervention for their clients, and what outcomes have been achieved?
Find out more

For more information about SafeLives data and accreditation programmes:

• Insights outcomes measurement: insights@safelives.org.uk

• Leading Lights accreditation: kathryn.hinchliff@safelives.org.uk