

WRASAC ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024

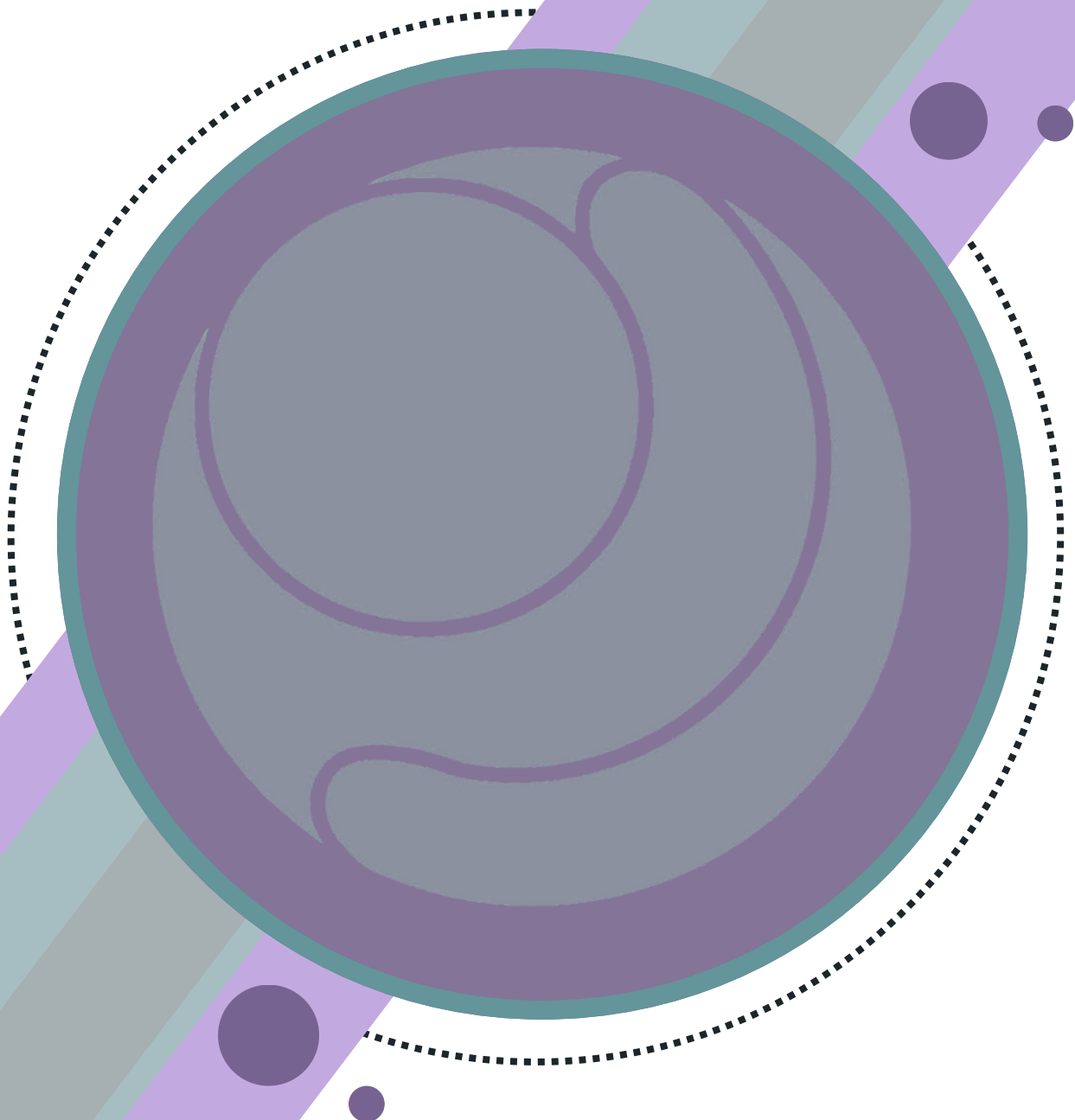


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Thank you- Funders







Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board, we extend our heartfelt thanks to our exceptional staff and volunteers. Your unwavering dedication, compassion, and expertise are the driving force behind the Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre. This past year has brought continued challenges, and you have met them with professionalism, care, and a deep commitment to survivors.

We are also deeply grateful to our funders, partner organisations, and the wider community. Your ongoing support enables us to deliver vital services and continue our work in creating meaningful change in the lives of survivors of sexual violence, abuse, and exploitation.

Above all, we thank the survivors. Your courage, resilience, and trust in our service inspire everything we do. You are at the heart of our mission, and we are honoured to stand beside you.



CEO

Supporting Survivors, Strengthening Services, Shaping the Future

Over the past year, our dedicated team at WRASAC has provided vital support to more than 800 survivors of sexual violence—individuals who have sought understanding, compassion, and a safe space in their journey toward healing.

The demand for our services continues to grow, and in this reporting period alone, we have supported 821 survivors—an increase of 202 from the previous year, reflecting a 32.5% rise. To meet this growing need, we have delivered an outstanding 9,019 hours of direct support, implementing new and innovative approaches to enhance accessibility and effectiveness.

Among our key achievements this year:

- The introduction of our Initial Referral Team (IRT) has significantly reduced waiting times, ensuring more survivors receive timely support through our “Here and Now” provision.
- We have undertaken a comprehensive review of our service pathways, ensuring tailored support that meets the individual needs of each survivor.
- Strengthening partnerships with statutory and third-sector organizations across Dundee and Angus, especially within the Criminal Justice System, has improved coordination and advocacy for survivors.
- Our Gender-Based Violence (GBV) team has driven awareness through extensive training and information sessions across Dundee, equipping professionals with the knowledge to better support survivors.
- We have actively engaged with our community, attending numerous local events to raise awareness of our services—including our annual Reclaim the Night March, which concluded with a powerful rally at the V&A Dundee.

Above all, WRASAC’s success is driven by the unwavering commitment of every individual who has worked or volunteered with us throughout this funding period. Your dedication, resilience, and compassion have propelled us forward despite rising demand and an increasingly competitive funding landscape.

It is an immense privilege to work alongside such an extraordinary team, whose passion ensures every survivor is met with the care, dignity, and respect they deserve.

Together, we will continue striving toward a future where no survivor faces violence alone. 5



Mission Statement

To support women, children and young people affected by all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation and to raise public awareness of the damaging and life-changing effects of rape and sexual abuse.

Our Vision

- WRASAC's vision is an end to all violence against women, children and young people and a society in which they have equality, freedom and choice to lead their lives as they would like.
- WRASAC will provide a quality support service to all women, children and young people who have experienced sexual abuse, violence and/or exploitation, through individual support and group activities.

Service Highlights

Initial Referral Team (IRT)

The Initial Referral Team (IRT) are the first point of contact for survivors looking to access the Women's Support Service and for agencies looking to refer into service. IRT manage our dedicated support and enquiry line and provide an initial introductory session to survivors who are interested in accessing the service.

IRT can provide up to 4 'Here and Now' sessions which can be both emotional and practical support around the survivor's current needs. This has prevented some survivors from having to be on the waiting list for support and wait a long period of time for a short-term, focused piece of work.

***In 2023 – 2024 IRT
Supported 500 women***

totalling

945

HOURS OF SUPPORT

Our waiting list previously sat at around 9 months which resulted in survivors feeling unsafe, causing disengagement and missed opportunities for interventions and support to be provided. Our waiting list now currently sits at 4 months with 'here and now' support being offered to survivors immediately.

“I GOT TO SEE THE BIGGER
PICTURE COS SOMETIMES IT
FEELS LIKE IT'S JUST YOU. IT'S
HARD TO SPEAK ABOUT THESE
THINGS COS YOU DON'T KNOW
HOW YOU'RE GOING TO REACT
OR WHAT'S GOING TO
TRIGGER YOU, BUT IT WAS
OKAY, I FELT LIKE I COULD
PUSH MYSELF TO DO IT AND
YOU WERE THERE SO I KNEW
IT'D BE OKAY.”



Women's Support

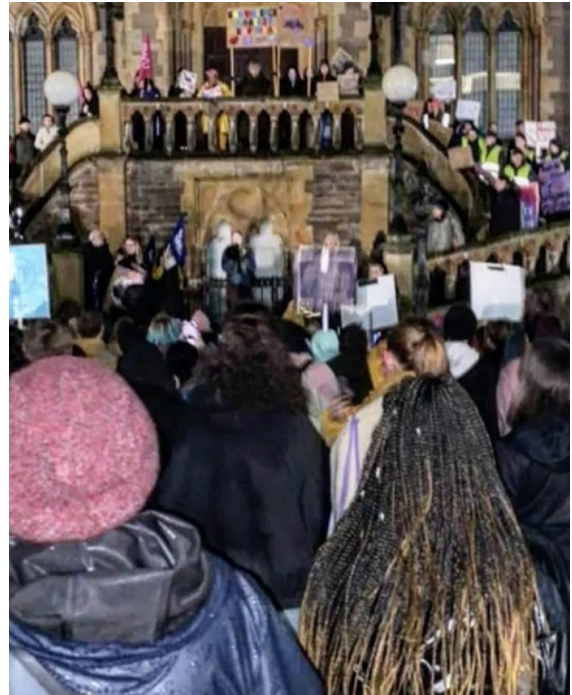
The Women's Support Service (WSS) provides one-to-one, trauma-informed emotional and practical support to women aged 18 and over who have experienced sexual violence at any point in their lives.

This year, the service navigated a period of change following the departure of a full-time worker and a reallocation of funding. In response, we introduced Time-Restricted Support, a new approach that has already helped to reduce average waiting times from 5-6 months to around 4 months, while also improving engagement and consistency in support.

To strengthen service delivery, we developed Case Load Guidance, ensuring fair and sustainable allocations for staff based on hours, complexity, and need. We also undertook a comprehensive review of our internal processes, updating key documents such as the WSS Handbook and Support Agreement to better reflect current practice.

WSS extended its reach by launching a weekly drop-in session at Dundee Women's Hub, increasing accessibility for women seeking support.

We also refreshed our group work programme, introducing new workshops on Healthy Relationships, Trust, Assertiveness, and Boundaries, alongside sessions focused on self-esteem, sleep hygiene, and self-care. Looking ahead, WSS staff have completed training to co-deliver Survive and Thrive in partnership with NHS psychological services, enhancing our therapeutic group offer in 2024.



"You have really helped me to make some sense of what has been holding me back for so long.... I know what happened will stay with me forever but having this space to talk about it has made a real difference. Thank you for changing my life."



***In 2023 – 2024,
our Women's Support
Service Supported 368
women***

totalling

4653

HOURS

Women's and Families Safety

Women Family Safety Service (WFSS) provide support to women who are survivors of gender-based violence and whose partners or ex partners are subject to reports, risk assessments, or perpetrator programme interventions being delivered by, or on behalf of the Angus Justice Services.

The Women Family Safety Service worker will support women to look at risk and safety planning and will keep them up to date if their partner or ex-partner is then given a Community Payback Order with programme requirement to undertake the Fergus Perpetrator Programme. During this time the WFSS worker will offer emotional and practical support to the women.

The WFSS worked closely with Angus Justice Services, Police Scotland, Action For Children and MARAC.

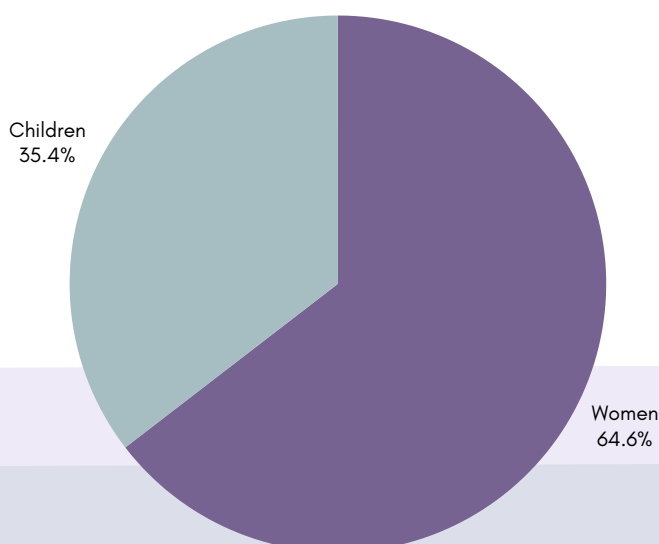


"Thank you for never giving up on me especially when I stopped responding to you"

***In 2023 – 2024,
our Women and Families
Safety Worker supported
79 people.***

totalling

410
hours



DAYS

Dundee & Angus Young Survivors

Dundee and Angus Young Survivors (DAYS) provide 1:1 trauma informed support to all young people of any gender age 8-18 who have experienced sexual violence at any time in their life. DAYS provide a flexible approach to planning support to meet the needs of the young person and support is primarily carried out within school but can also be delivered within one of our offices or at an outreach venue.

Within our DAYS service we are committed to providing critical support to young people affected by sexual violence. Over the past year, our dedicated team have expanded their reach through a multi-faceted approach, offering tailored support to young survivors and promoting prevention in schools and the wider community.

We aim to empower young people who have been impacted by sexual violence, providing them with safe, confidential, and non-judgmental support. Our holistic approach focuses not only on crisis intervention but also on long-term recovery, education, and prevention.

DAYS delivered 4 groups providing opportunities for young people to;

- To build supportive peer relationships
- To provide opportunities for young people to learn new skills and develop new hobbies
- To develop confidence and build self-esteem
- To promote social inclusion and participation within the local community
- Promote positive wellbeing and develop resilience
- To have fun!

The Easter group was really fun. I enjoyed all the activities and meeting new people. I really liked one of the girls at the group, she was nice.



"I feel listened to for the first time, and I am being heard."

**In 2023 – 2024,
Our DAYS team
provided support to
148 young people**

727 hours

Dundee

404 hours

Angus

20 hours

Other areas

Prevention

Our Prevention workers deliver workshops to schools, colleges and youth settings within Dundee and Angus. They deliver the Rape Crisis Scotland Prevention Pack which covers four main topics Power, Consent, Understanding Sexual Violence and Pornography which are all adapted for the different ages and stages of young people during their time at school. Our prevention team have also developed and delivered bespoke workshops where required.

Prevention work has been a cornerstone of our strategy to address sexual violence at its roots. During this period we have managed to reach thousands of young people across Dundee and Angus with vital education on consent, healthy relationships, and sexual violence prevention.

During this period we had staff changes and for 6 months we had no staff member in post to deliver the prevention programme. We successfully recruited 2 part time workers in November 2023 and workshops started back up.

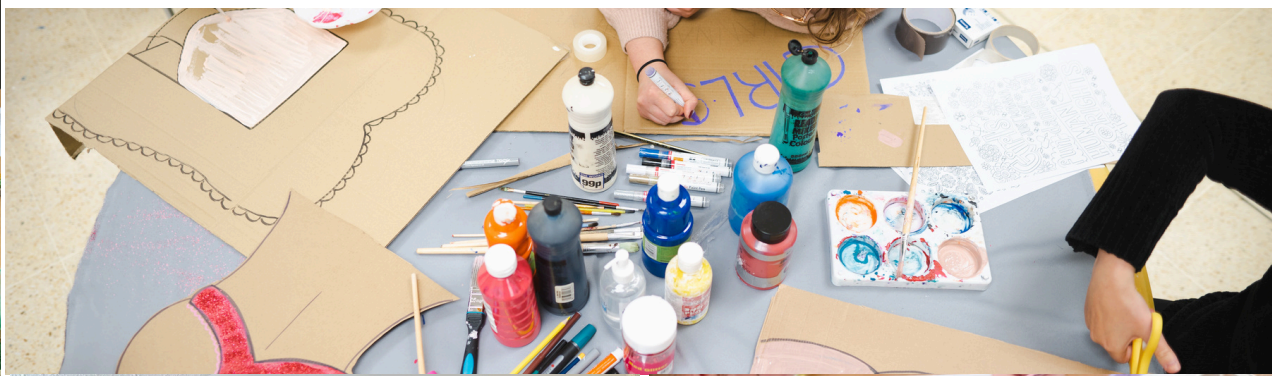
Our staff were also involved in the update and consultation of the national prevention framework in partnership with other rape crisis centres and this delivery started at the end of 2023 and into 2024.



**37 workshops
were delivered
to
577 young
people
across Dundee & Angus**

"The session is really valuable. Having this outside message delivered by an outside agency is important not only in pupil engagement but in making them aware of support agencies" - teacher





DAYS
dundee & angus young survivors project
Young person Activism group
A 5 week group for any young person aged 12-18 who would like to get involved with 16 Days of Activism, through making art and crafts.

- 2nd November - 30th November
- 5:00pm - 7:00pm
- Sangobeg House, Francis Street, Dundee
- DAYS@wrasac.org.uk

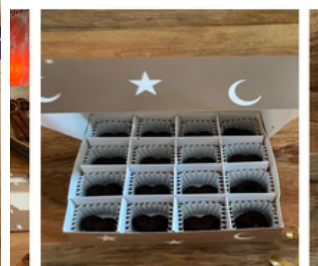
YOGA
The class will be a gentle flow class with time for encouraging meditation and connecting to ourselves.
Teacher will be Emily
There will be props and mats supplied

9-11 Scott Street Dundee DD2 2AH
Weekly
10th May - 31st May
1230-130

To book a place please discuss with your keyworker

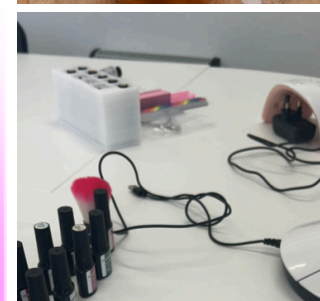
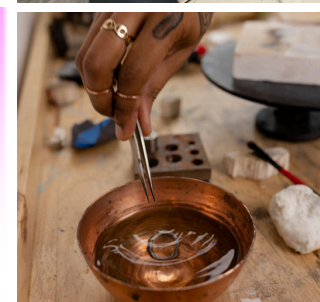


Groupwork



Easter Baking Workshop
Thursday 4th April 2024
13:00 - 15:00
3 Fleuchars Street, Dundee

Come along to an afternoon session where you will learn how to make and bake from scratch delicious Easter Cupcakes!
Designed for a small class size
For more information or to make a booking contact



Vice Versa



"I got to see the bigger picture cos sometimes it feels like it's just you. It's hard to speak about these things cos you don't know how you're going to react or what's going to trigger you, but it was okay, I felt like I could push myself to do it and you were there so I knew it'd be okay."

REVIEW 2023 - 2024

In 2023 – 2024, Vice Versa provided support to 19 women.

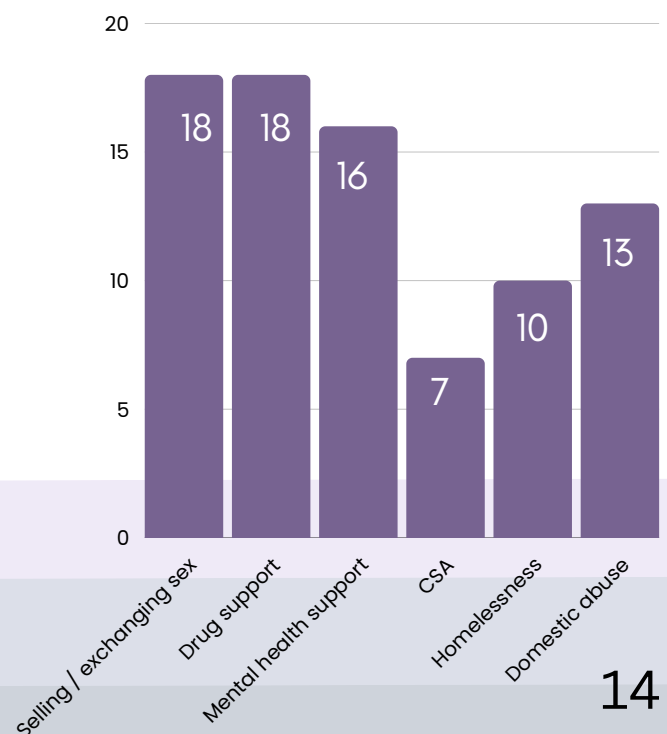
Totalling

656

Hours of support

One woman was supported to take part in 'Believe' (a community art project by Reclaim The Streets Dundee focussing on victim blaming in the media as part of 16 Days of Activism). Taking part in Believe was challenging but she felt able to take part due to feeling supported by the Vice Versa worker


Vice Versa is a support service for women who are impacted by, or at risk of, Commercial Sexual Exploitation in all its forms such as in person (e.g. on street), online (e.g. images, pornography), and trafficking. Support is led entirely by the woman and her priorities. We aim to increase safety and stabilisation and reduce harm, by empowering women to make positive and informed decisions, this can sometimes include support around issues such as physical and mental health, housing, finances and other forms of gender-based violence.



Dundee Women's Hub

Dundee Women's Hub (DWH) opened in August 2023 and is funded by CORRA. Dundee Women's Hub is a multi-agency support hub for women who are experiencing or have experienced multiple disadvantage, with a particular focus on substance and alcohol use, homelessness and housing issues, gender-based violence, isolation and trauma. The aim of Dundee Women's Hub is to reduce barriers for women to access support by offering holistic support under one roof.

"Thank you so much for everything, I feel so much better now" (after being able to access showering facilities at DWH)



Wk commencing 29th Jan

Day	Services
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10am-1pm: We Are With You1pm-4pm: Positive Steps Outreach Team1pm-4pm: Tayside Council On Alcohol1:30-4pm: Cosy Clothes Drop-in
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10am-4pm: Dundee Women's Aid1pm-4pm: DDARS - Direct Access and Review2pm-4pm: DCC Welfare Rights
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">9am-1pm: CLOSED1pm-4pm: WRASAC1pm-4pm: ASPEN (Psychology Support)
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10am-4pm: Hillcrest Futures (Recovery team all day, BBV and harm reduction team in AM)1pm-4pm: Dundee City Council Housing1pm-4pm: DDARS - Direct Access and Review
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">12pm-2pm: Art and Crafts Group

2 Dudhope Street,
Dundee,
DD1 1JU

The Dundee Women's Hub Support Worker provides support to women accessing Dundee Women's Hub. This support could include exploring support needs, advocacy support to access and attend appointments, safety planning, emotional support to develop healthy coping strategies, understanding trauma and the impact it has and building confidence.

2023 - 2024



The DWH Support Worker has provided support to 50 women. There were **25** women open to the DWH Support Worker for **ongoing support**, the other **25** were supported on a **one-off basis**. One woman described the support she received as "life saving".

"I felt listened too and validated by Isla and Julia too the organizers. It meant a lot when they said it was an act of wellbeing coming to the group in the first place, as I think it's easy to forget that. And also I forget sometimes that the wee things are an act of wellbeing too, I think it was mentioned by the organizers said about having a coffee and feeling the heat in your hands and just slowing down or going in the garden or nature or petting your dog on the sofa."

"You have really helped me to make some sense of what has been holding me back for so long.... I know what happened will stay with me forever but having this space to talk about it has made a real difference. Thank you for changing my life."

"Will miss Megan very much she has helped me beyond words I will be forever grateful for her kindness and support."

"Sian has helped me more than anyone else ever has"

"It's been a privilege to have had your help, you're the best therapist I've ever had, and I've had loads in the past 35 years and there's no contest between you and the all the others combined. Your job is to listen and get people on the right path to move forward. You're truly awesome and like I said before, I'll be eternally grateful for your help"

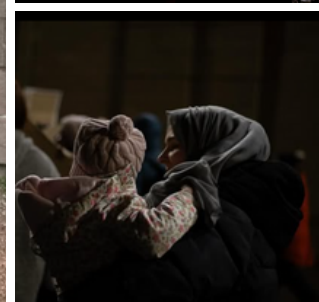
"I feel I have been listened to after so many years. 2. Support has been amazing. 3. You have given me guidance and coping strategies for my future . 4. You supported me to "open up" my world again. 5. Believe in myself. 6. Embrace life again and beauty around me. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for you and the work WRASAC do"

"needs were met and Pauline was on it with what I needed out of supportthis is genuinely the first time I have ever made it through therapy. Pauline was great and I will really miss her. We formed a fantastic connection, thank you"

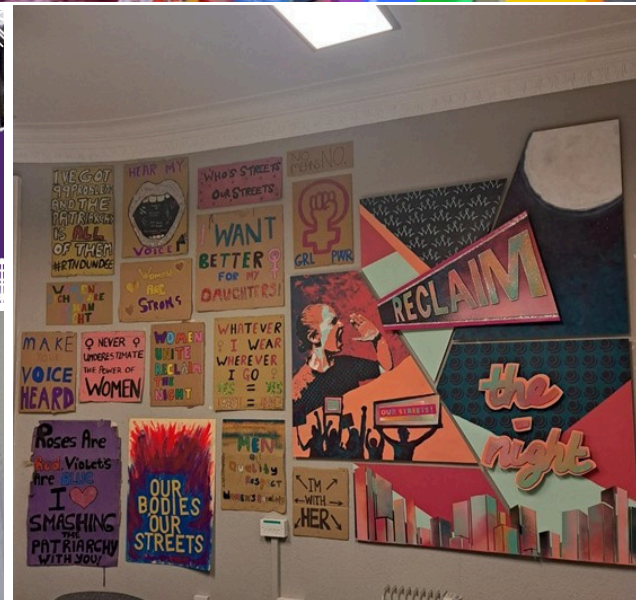
"This is the best support I've ever had. It's been life-changing for me. My ways of thinking have changed, I've gone from feeling angry all the time to learning I can walk away instead. I don't feel vulnerable anymore. I am free and more in control of my own life"

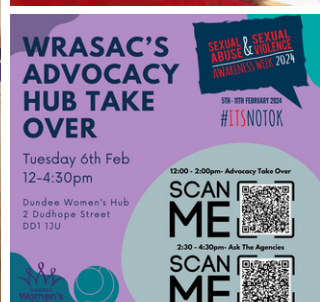
"You have been wonderful to work with, I can't thank you enough for the support you've given me"

"I have no words, WRASAC are experts on their field, the knowledge and attention given is second to none. if carlsberg made counsellor's...."



A collage featuring a purple lip graphic with text inside, a sign that says "I'M WITH HER" with arrows, and a purple "VOICE" sign.





"I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you so much for everything you done for me in our few months we were together. From the bottom of my heart, you have no idea the impact you have had on my life and the way you helped me understand and process me being groomed is something I will never forget. I know to you, I may just be another person on a waiting list needing help and advice, but to me, our sessions were so much more than that. You were the reason I held onto life for a wee bit longer as I enjoyed seeing and talking to you every week, even if it wasn't always about the grooming and I'm sorry we had a slow start with me missing the first few sessions."

"I like the way you describe trauma responses I now have a better understanding of my own triggers".

"Hello, just thought I would check in and give an update. I'm still working on intrusive thoughts and it has opened so many that I never knew I was having... I also seen perpetrator's friend two weeks ago and have very little reaction to them, I was a little anxious but nothing like the way I used to be. Thank you for your support it's really helped."

"One of my survivors has now left a domestic abuse situation, and we have managed to support her with getting furniture to start over when other services have failed her,"

"It's been a privilege to have had your help, you're the best therapist I've ever had, and I've had loads in the past 35 years and there's no contest between you and the all the others combined. Your job is to listen and get people on the right path to move forward. You're truly awesome and like I said before, I'll be eternally grateful for your help".

"I would like to thank everybody for running such a great service. Thank you so much to Pauline she is just phenomenal. To everybody at WRASAC, keep up the amazing work"

Gender Based Violence (GBV)

TRAUMA LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (LDO)

The Trauma Learning and Development Officer role is a co-located position between the Women's Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (WRASAC) and Dundee City Council (DCC). This role focuses on enhancing trauma-informed practice within the workforce, ensuring that training and professional development opportunities are meaningful, effective, and accessible.

A key area of work this year involved a comprehensive review of the **NHS Education Scotland (NES) National Trauma Transformation Programme (NTP) Safety and Stabilisation Training (Level 3 - Enhanced)**. This training was evaluated both as an external reviewer and as a participant, providing valuable insights into its content, delivery, and overall impact.

Through direct participation, the officer was able to assess how theoretical concepts translated into practice and gauge real-time responses to training activities. This dual perspective enabled a deeper understanding of both the strengths and areas for improvement. Feedback gathered indicated that while the training was highly detailed and beneficial for those new to trauma-informed practice, many experienced practitioners found it overly clinical and lecture-based.

Some participants expressed that the format did not fully acknowledge the diverse levels of expertise in the room, making parts of the training feel overly formal.

These findings were shared with a cross-sector development team, including Learning and Development, Educational Psychology, and Third Sector representatives (Hillcrest Futures), to explore how the training could be adapted to better suit the needs of the Dundee workforce.

In addition to training reviews, the Trauma Learning and Development Officer has played a pivotal role in facilitating **Learning Exchange Events (LEEs)**. These events focus on specific trauma-related topics and feature expert speakers from various disciplines, as well as individuals with lived experience. Each session allows for participant reflection and discussion, fostering a deeper collective understanding of trauma and its impacts.

Gender Based Violence (GBV)

TRAUMA LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (LDO)

The impact of these sessions extends beyond the live events, as recordings allow the learning to reach a wider audience. For example, at the launch of the Dundee Women's Hub, a visitor approached the officer, having recognized them from the Trauma-Informed Language LEE recording. This individual shared that their CEO had attended the session and subsequently made the presentation on 'Social Interaction and Social Communication and the Autistic Community' mandatory viewing for all staff.

Recognizing that public speaking can be a barrier for many, a new 'gradual exposure' approach has been introduced to encourage and support individuals who may feel anxious about presenting at LEEs. This initiative fosters personal and professional development, ensuring a broader range of voices and experiences are represented in these vital discussions.

From here, when searching for speakers for any upcoming and future LEEs, the Trauma LDO introduced a gradual exposure to the event approach to support and encourage personal and professional development opportunities for people who would like to present but feel anxious or nervous about doing so.

An example which neatly encapsulates the lasting value of recording the LEEs is at the launch of Dundee Women's Hub in August, a visitor approached Linzi to say she recognised her from watching the Trauma Informed Language LEE recording.

The CEO of her organisation had attended this and made it mandatory for all staff to watch my presentation: Social Interaction and Social Communication and the Autistic Community.

“I WATCHED THE TRAUMA LANGUAGE LEARNING EXCHANGE RECORDING, IT WAS FANTASTIC!! YOU DID A BRILLIANT JOB, AND YOUR PRESENTATION WAS REALLY AMAZING!!! WELL DONE!!!”

By continuously evolving training approaches, creating inclusive learning environments, and fostering collaboration across sectors, this work is making a meaningful difference in shaping a more trauma-informed workforce in Dundee.

Gender Based Violence (GBV)

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (LDO)

The GBV Learning and Development Officer is co-located between WRASAC and Dundee City Council. The primary focus of the role is to upskill and equip the Dundee workforce with GBV knowledge. This is done through delivering training, identifying GBV knowledge gaps within Dundee and developing or finding resources to address. The role seeks opportunities to ensure that GBV is incorporated across different social issues.

The 2-day Violence Against Women Overview Trainings were delivered to multi-agency staff each quarter. The training provides an overview different forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG) including street harassment, sexual violence, human trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, domestic abuse and harmful practices. It also explores intersectionality, multiple disadvantage, barriers to disclosing and perpetrator interventions.

To meet the training demand, a **Train the Trainer Model** was developed to increase capacity to deliver training. Facilitators were recruited from the Violence Against Women Training Consortium and the Violence Against Women Dundee specialist services including Dundee Women's Aid, WRASAC, Dundee ASSIST and Barnardo's. They shadowed the training in March 2024 to become facilitators.

Two **learning exchange events** were held this year. One was the Young People, GBV and Online Influences, looking at the role of technology in young people's lives and its links to GBV. The other was the **Trauma Learning Exchange Event (Trauma Informed Language)**, which looked at the importance of language and words we use to not further harm or stigmatise service users and build trust.

The **Violence Against Women Training Consortium** has continued to run on a quarterly basis, bringing together the Dundee International Women's Centre, Deaflinks, WRASAC, Dundee Women's Aid and NHS Tayside who feed into the Dundee Protecting People Learning Framework from a violence against women angle. The PPLF is the Dundee workforce wide website where learning and development opportunities are hosted e.g. violence against women, substance use, child protection and adult support and protection. By feeding into this, it will expand the violence against women learning opportunities for the Dundee workforce and upskill them on this and ultimately, better support survivors.

Gender Based Violence (GBV)

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (LDO)

The GBV LDO has also been involved in a test of change with **Dundee City Council HR Department** and our **Trauma Learning and Development Officer**. This work was in response to the acknowledgement that council staff with lived experience of trauma could be further traumatised by workplace systems failing to recognise the importance of gender and trauma. The GBV LDO worked with the Trauma LDO and the HR department to evaluate various policies, including the absence management policy and gambling policy, providing detailed feedback and suggestions on language changes.

This work has been well received by the HR department, and they are taking our suggestions on board which will benefit all the employees at one of Dundee's largest employer. Along with Dundee City Council, the GBV LDO have helped facilitate **Safe and Together Online Briefings** and **Practitioner Forums** to the Dundee workforce. Safe and Together principles are seen as the gold standard in working with domestic abuse, and Scottish Government has made clear this is how all services should work with domestic abuse survivors and their families.

“LOTS OF VALUABLE INFO TO TAKE FORWARD AND USE NOT ONLY IN MY EMPLOYMENT BUT PERSONAL LIFE”

2023 - 2024

Over 12 sessions, **299** professionals in Dundee attended the training delivered by our Learning and Development Officer

Session	Attendees
Violence Against Women	40
Learning Exchanges	72
Safe and Together Briefings	162
Safe and Together Practitioner Forums	162

Gender Based Violence (GBV)

MARAC LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The MARAC Learning and Development Officer started their seconded role with Dundee ASSIST in October 2023. The organisation are the domestic abuse court advocacy organisation and work in partnership with Dundee Women's Aid and Barnardo's. It was created to raise awareness of MARAC, how to refer to MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) and the roles and responsibilities in relation to MARAC.

The initial months were spent understanding how ASSIST operate and learning more about and observing MARAC, identifying the knowledge gaps and key stakeholders to speak with and target the training to.

Domestic Abuse Risk Management and MARAC Workshops were organised to run twice a month – one to social work and one open to multi-agency colleagues. Between October 2023 and March 2024, 60 professionals attended the workshop. This included social workers, housing, charities and NHS staff.

The workshops cover what domestic abuse risk assessing is, the importance of it, to equip Dundee professionals with knowledge and enhance confidence when undertaking risk assessments with victims of domestic abuse through a practical exercise alongside a safety planning exercise.

The workshops also give an outline of what MARAC is including the purpose, how it functions differently to other social work and public protection processes and inform attendees about the MARAC process.

"I REALLY ENJOYED THE TRAINING AND THINK IT FURTHERED MY KNOWLEDGE. I THINK I WILL APPLY THE KNOWLEDGE I LEARNED FROM TODAY TO MY WORK."

This demonstrates the significance of bringing those involved in MARAC together to give opportunity for reflection and support to colleagues. It was also identified that attendees would like more development days as well as MARAC awareness raising, the importance of it and value of MARAC is necessary. A further Development Day debrief was held in July to discuss the feedback.

Gender Based Violence (GBV)

MARAC LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

“BEING MINDFUL WHEN SPEAKING TO INDIVIDUALS - I WOULD NOT ALWAYS BEEN CONSIDERING EVERYTHING COVERED ON CHECKLIST.”

This evidences the realities of domestic abuse during the live risk assessment and how much victims of domestic abuse will minimise their situation and risks involved, which emphasises the need for the continuation of these workshops.

With the support of the Domestic Abuse Team Manager within Children and Families Social Work, an introduction was made with some of the social work teams in Dundee. This was to promote the Domestic Abuse Risk Management and MARAC Workshops and some of the work the MARAC Learning and Development Officer was going to undertake.

The MARAC Learning and Development Officer also supported with the Tayside MARAC Development Day, which was held in March 2024. A pre-event survey was developed to gather insight into the experience of those involved in the Tayside MARAC. This helped shape discussions on the day.

The Tayside MARAC Development Day identified gaps in MARAC for example more communication is needed in updates from the MARAC Steering Group to those involved in MARAC.

**Between October 23
and March 24**

60

professionals attended the workshop which included social workers, housing, charities and NHS staff.

Overall, it was positively received with attendees enjoying the element of

“Peer supervision/discussion with colleagues. First opportunity to meet and have any training off screen”

And acknowledging that

“MARAC has progressed vastly and still has more room for development”.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Our community engagement worker played a vital role in connecting with different people in the Dundee area focusing on women and young people who have experienced sexual violence, ensuring that their voices are heard and their needs are met. Through a variety of initiatives and events, we strengthened our commitment to supporting and empowering those within our community.

This year, our community engagement worker focused on achieving the LGBT Charter Award, an essential step in fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for all individuals. The process involved extensive outreach to local LGBT groups, conducting needs assessments, and implementing feedback to enhance our services. By committing to this award, we aim to ensure that our support services are accessible and responsive to the needs of LGBT survivors of sexual violence.

Social Media

We paused social media activity to review our content and develop a branding kit, including theme, font, and style, to ensure a consistent and engaging look. A cross-team social media engagement group was created to ensure diverse, representative content across the organisation. We also refined our strategy to improve user engagement and shared this process via our stories to invite public feedback.

Freshers

Our community engagement worker also organised and participated in several Freshers' events at local colleges and universities across Dundee. By setting up information booths and conducting workshops we were provided the opportunity to meet and engage with members of the University looking to increase their knowledge of our service and the impacts of GBV on women and girls.

Partnership work

Collaborating with other community organisations, we hosted joint events and information sessions to amplify our collective impact. By working together, we were able to share resources, support one another's initiatives, and build a stronger network of advocacy against GBV.

Training

During the 16 Days of Activism, we collaborated with Dundee Women's Aid to deliver Bystander Training to student support staff at Dundee University and the Abertay Student Association, alongside several student sessions. We also developed and delivered a GBV workshop at Abertay University, supporting staff to understand GBV and respond to disclosures. Through these activities, we shared resources, raised awareness of sexual violence, and promoted a culture of consent and support among students.

AWARENESS RAISING



16 DAYS

Throughout the 16 Days, we organized a series of workshops focusing on topics such as consent, healthy relationships, and bystander intervention. These sessions were designed to empower participants with knowledge and skills to challenge and prevent sexual violence in their communities. Our community engagement worker facilitated discussions and provided resources to help attendees understand the importance of active participation in promoting safety and respect.

RECLAIM THE NIGHT

A cornerstone event of the 16 Days campaign, the Reclaim The Night march brought together survivors, activists, and community members to raise their voices against sexual violence. Our community engagement worker coordinated logistics, liaised with local authorities, and collaborated with other organisations to ensure the march was well-organised and safe for all participants. The event was not only a powerful demonstration of solidarity but also an opportunity to educate attendees about the ongoing issues surrounding gender-based violence.

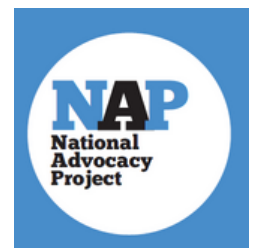


Our Funders

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our funders for their continued support. Your investment enables us to provide a vital, specialist service for women and children affected by gender-based violence across Dundee and Angus.

As a local organisation, we understand the specific needs of our community – but we simply could not do this work without your backing. Your funding has allowed us to offer safety, advocacy, and ongoing support to those who need it most. It has also helped us to remain responsive, trauma-informed, and rooted in the voices of survivors.

Thank you for standing with us, and for recognising the importance of accessible, specialised support for women and children experiencing gender-based violence .



Draft Financial Statements at 19 November 2024 at 16:06:45

WOMEN'S RAPE AND SEXUAL ABUSE CENTRE DUNDEE AND ANGUS LTD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted fund 2023 £	Restricted fund 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Notes							
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	14,678	978,898	993,576	12,543	1,110,921	1,123,467
Other income	4	5,000	-	5,000	13,224	-	13,224
Total income		<u>19,678</u>	<u>978,898</u>	<u>998,576</u>	<u>25,770</u>	<u>1,110,921</u>	<u>1,136,691</u>
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	5	19,623	1,110,510	1,130,133	10,301	1,037,316	1,047,617
Total expenditure		<u>19,623</u>	<u>1,110,510</u>	<u>1,130,133</u>	<u>10,301</u>	<u>1,037,316</u>	<u>1,047,617</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>55</u>	<u>(131,612)</u>	<u>(131,557)</u>	<u>15,469</u>	<u>73,605</u>	<u>89,074</u>
Transfers between funds							
		9,933	(9,933)	-	10,328	(10,328)	-
Net movement in funds	6	<u>9,988</u>	<u>(141,545)</u>	<u>(131,557)</u>	<u>25,797</u>	<u>63,277</u>	<u>89,074</u>
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		<u>143,247</u>	<u>249,891</u>	<u>393,138</u>	<u>117,450</u>	<u>186,614</u>	<u>304,064</u>
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		<u><u>153,235</u></u>	<u><u>108,346</u></u>	<u><u>261,581</u></u>	<u><u>143,247</u></u>	<u><u>249,891</u></u>	<u><u>393,138</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

