Her Centre – Spring Newsletter June 2020





"To engage, enable and empower women to move away from abuse and to move forward with their lives"

Her Centre provides free and confidential advocacy, counselling, outreach, advice, and training to women in Greenwich. For more information about Her Centre services, please visit our website at www.hercentre.org or call us on **0203 260 7715**.

COVID - 19, Support & Services

Her Centre has been providing support to women referred to us through phone calls, zoom and what's app so that both the women we work with and our staff stay safe. We are also aware that due to many job cuts more of our clients are experiencing money issues and so we have been working with Clockhouse to provide weekly food deliveries.

Our support group has not been able to meet so Caroline who supports the group has been making calls to individual members both new and existing ones, to check that they are ok. The existing group members also set up a peer What's app group to keep in contact. Our individual counselling through our partner Deborah Ubee Trust has reopened for phone and zoom sessions to existing and new referrals. Our back to work scheme is now able to move forward after several months on hold due to the pressures on the Job Centre, who are an integral part of the programme.

Our basic IT classes are on hold too, but we are running our basic English classes online, so any interested women please contact Julia on 07960 755 191.

Thank you to all our Friends and Donors!

We would like to thank all the people who are helping us to support our families who are struggling financially due to Covid 19. Our board members have all been brilliant and thank you Emilie for coordinating and dropping off our trustees' donations. Thanks to board member Zainab too for her collection.

Clockhouse have been amazing at providing and delivering food, both dried goods and cooked meals weekly and sometimes fruit and veg too. Thanks to Kevin, Justin, and Benny for all your hard work.

Thanks to our volunteer Ge, who is doing deliveries to people's homes all over Greenwich two days a week. Such amazing support is much appreciated.

Thanks to Lucy from Bridge Trust who provides a weekly drop of food, and to Asda and Morrisons and M and S for giving food too.

Thanks to GCDA and Fair Share for the additional cooked meals and food they are also providing, on top of Justin's lovely cooking.

It is great to see how much people will give when they see the need. It is making a big difference to the families we support to know there is a weekly food delivery to support them.

Stacy Smith, CEO Her Centre

Registered Charity Number: 1070755

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Investors in People

Her Centre has been awarded Investors in People after scoring a high score on all areas of the review. When compared to other companies who have gone through the Investors in People assessment process our report states

"The average benchmark result you achieved of 855 is above the IIP average of 725 and that of Social Work Activities including Charities of 745." We are proud of all our staff who helped us to achieve this high score showing the commitment and strengths of our team.

New Posts New Staff

Her Centre received new funding for a Housing IDVA based in the community and has just recruited to this post. We also secured renewed funding for the Housing IDVA post that works in Greenwich council's housing department. Both the new post holders are starting the end of June and will be taking work on from early July.

Return to the Office

Her Centre staff will continue to work remotely through June, but we are looking to start a phased return to our office in July and will review our start for face to face client work over that month. All being well (continued reduction in Covid new cases and deaths in London) we will look at starting some client work in person from August.

Weekly One Stop Shop for Women Experiencing Abuse

One Stop Shop will now be closed, until further notice. During the Coronavirus crisis, we are still taking calls and offering support and advice.

Every Friday, 10am to 12pm

For DV Advice, call Winsom on 07538 534981. For Legal Advice, call Angela from Hudgell & Partners on, 020 3096 6843.

For urgent advice call the Greenwich DV helpline on, 0208 317 8273.

Her Centre's ESOL Classes

HER Centre offers free online ZOOM weekly English language classes for Non-English-speaking women.

For more information and to register, please contact Julia Ssengooba on, **Tel no: 020 3260 7772 / 07960 755 191 Email: julia@hercentre.org**

Donations

Her Centre greatly appreciates donations to help us continue our work supporting women.

Donations can be made online at

Virgin giving OR via JustTextGiving: simply text the code HERS11 plus £1, £2, £3, £4, £5 or £10 (e.g. HERS11£5) to 70070

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Registered Charity Number: 1070755