



# Annual Report

2015-2016

Foyle  
Women's  
**AID**



# Foyle Women's Aid

Annual Report 2015 - 2016

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Marie with Mayor and other speakers at the Connect the Dots conference March 2016

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VISION, MISSION

ETHOS AND BELIEFS

CORE AIMS

## Vision:

We will create a centre of excellence that leads in partnership working to develop and sustain non-violent, healthy communities in the North West.

## Purpose:

We exist to eliminate violent behaviour by supporting all victims of abuse through support, prevention, protection and justice.

## Respect:

We treat others with equality and fairness.

## Understanding:

We strive to understand the needs, fears and wishes of others.

## Shared Learning:

We are committed to exchanging knowledge, experiences and ideas.

## Trust:

We build open and honest relationships, and act with integrity and confidentiality.

## Non-Judgmental:

We respect the right to hold opinions and the choices of others, even though they might be different from our own.

## Challenge:

We advocate and question to empower all to make changes and reach their goals.

TOTAL NUMBER OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN SUPPORTED  
BY Foyle Women's Aid in 2015-16 = 4,010

# WHERE CAN YOU FIND US

One number for all Services: 028 71416 800

## PATHWAYS

### Marie Brown

Director  
24 Pump Street  
L'Derry, BT48 6JG

**Email:** [marie.brown@foylewomensaid.org](mailto:marie.brown@foylewomensaid.org)

### Sharon Devine

Finance Manager  
24 Pump Street  
L'Derry, BT48 6JG

**Fax:** 02871 365 134

**Email:** [Sharon.devine@foylewomensaid.org](mailto:Sharon.devine@foylewomensaid.org)

## SUPPORT SERVICES

### Jo Corcoran

Support Services Manager  
24 Pump Street  
L'Derry, BT48 6JG

**Email:** [jo.corcoran@foylewomensaid.org](mailto:jo.corcoran@foylewomensaid.org)

## AVERT TRAINING LTD

(Social Economy Business)

### Eleanor McGuckin

Business Manager  
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Address Confidential

**Tel:** 02871 343 191

**Email:** [eleanor.mcguckin@averttraining.com](mailto:eleanor.mcguckin@averttraining.com)

**Website:** [www.foylewomensaid.org](http://www.foylewomensaid.org)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/foylewomensaid>

**Twitter:** @FoyleWomensAid

Vice Chairperson

Chairperson

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer

Secretary

Assistant Secretary

Mrs Eileen Maguire

Ms Eileen Webster

Ms Margaret Logue

Ms Jacinta McCool

Ms Karen O'Leary

Ms Anne Marie Harkin

Company No: NI23041

Registered Charity No: XN 48783/BT

## Risk Management

The Directors, on an ongoing basis, consider the main strategic business and operational risks that the organisation faces. The Directors confirm effective controls and reporting systems are in place to lessen these risks.

MANAGEMENT

COMMITTEE

# Director's Report 2015-16

The past year has recorded higher rates of domestic abuse crimes and the impact has seen an increasing demand on all of the services. The Support, Admissions & Safety and Maintenance Teams have had a challenging year, ensuring that we turn around accommodation services, increasing visits, exceeding targets and increasing workloads in order to increase safety and protection, and keep women and children safe. I would like to commend and thank these teams for their hard work and Jo Corcoran, Support Services Manager, who ensures the smooth management of the excellent support services in the Foyle area. The ASIST justice support service has also exceeded targets and this has resulted in increasing numbers of women accessing justice services, resulting in an increase in the service of Non-Molestation Orders, an increase in referrals to MARAC and a reduction in PSNI recording of repeat victimisation. The interagency collaboration between the PSNI and Foyle Women's Aid is proving effective and, going forward, we will seek to increase this work, which should result in increasing protection for victims, improved safety, increased confidence in the justice process and a range of outcomes for all victims of this heinous crime, and their families.

The road to recovery is a long one and it is crucial that everyone in the family has an opportunity to access the excellent programmes delivered here at Foyle. You can see within the report the variety and scope of all programmes delivered, and the evaluations year on year have been very positive and the demand high. The popularity of this work is evident in evaluation and feedback with women and young people, who state that the additional support helps them to understand their abuse and a key aspect is empowering them to meet others who have shared similar experiences. We are seeing the positive outcomes through their support plans, and an increase in resilience

and confidence. To witness the transformation and recovery from victim to survivor is always very humbling and is a constant reminder to all of us within this organisation of the courage, strength and possibilities all survivors can achieve if empowered to do so. Foyle Women's Aid is always striving to extend the numbers and reach of all the programmes, and has been successful in over-achieving the targets set this year.

The prevention work with children and young people within the Teenlink project and within schools is ongoing and receives very positive feedback. It is our intention to review and strengthen these projects as they have proved very successful. It is crucial that we focus on supporting children and young people to understand their experiences; ensure that they receive a package of support that is tailored to their needs and helps them to recover from trauma; and attend a range of activities that empower and provide opportunities to rebuild confidence and resilience. I am very grateful to Victoria Verner from the Big Lottery Fund, who has been an invaluable support throughout the continuous development of this project. We are currently reviewing the further development and sustainability of this crucial work.

Inclusion and consultation with mothers, children and young people within this project have been ongoing. At the end of last year and earlier this year, they have been meeting with and providing feedback to the architects, Tate Stevenson, on the design and development of the children and teen unit, now to be named POD15. A technology company, i3 Digital, have had some very interesting consultation sessions with the young people, with lots of suggestions on content for the Teenlink App, which will be launched next year.

We are finally in the construction stages of POD15, the new purpose-built facility. At last, a place of their own to house all of the projects we currently run for children of all ages and their mothers to support and build the family bond – a place of safety and a fun normal environment for children to flourish. We would like to acknowledge the WHSST for the ongoing support for our crèche facilities.

We look forward to extending this project, and building further partnerships and networks.

This year, we unfortunately had to deal with another Hague Convention case, which forced a young local woman and her child to return to Australia to fight her case in order to protect herself and her child from being forced to live with further abuse. We launched an appeal and, as always, the community here in Northern Ireland – and indeed expats living in Australia – stepped up to support the young woman we named Sarah. We were successful in raising substantial funds and in-kind support for Sarah. She eventually won her case and this was largely due to the financial and other support received. We were able to bring Sarah and her child out of abuse and home to safety. Sarah's account of her experiences and the trauma, risk and financial burden she had to endure were shocking. This law needs to be examined it is at odds with our current legislation that protects trafficked women coming in, yet we allow women from our own country to be sent into very high-risk situations. The Hague Convention takes no cognisance of domestic abuse, child protection or the risk and vulnerability they are forcing women and their children to return to. Whilst we welcome all the support for Sarah's case, it is only a matter of time before we have another one. We will continue to lobby and raise awareness of this issue.

We have welcomed a new member of staff this year, Louisa Young, who has stepped into the PA and Volunteer Coordinator role, and has demonstrated expert organisational skills, resulting in updated policies, promotional materials and developing our volunteer base even further.

We sadly said goodbye to Marion Mullen and Rosario McHugh, both staff have been with the organisation a long time and will be sadly missed. Marion retired this year after over 25 years with the organisation. We appreciate all her hard work and contribution to women and children over the years. Rosario, who has made a huge contribution to the organisational development and change management process, has moved on to new challenges in a different organisation. We wish them both well in the future.

Again, thanks to all the staff, Management and volunteers who have worked very hard under ever-decreasing budgets to ensure the high quality of service that is evident throughout the review of services. It is imperative that funders improve budgets, so that we do not lose the well trained and highly committed staff teams who keep women and children safe. We will continue to support the ongoing 'Support Supporting People' campaign.

**Marie Brown**  
**Director**



# The Family Justice Centre: One Safe Place

We have attended a range of consultations and responded both verbally and in writing at local and regional levels to the specific domestic violence and coercive control offences – finally the opportunity for legislation that will give us the ability to encapsulate the emotional, psychological and lifelong impact of domestic violence.

We welcome the launch of the Government's 7-year strategy on Domestic and Sexual Abuse. We supported women to be included and their voices to be heard during the consultation process. It will now be our responsibility to work alongside Government to ensure that its implementation truly addresses the needs of victims.

The lack of political stability in Northern Ireland still remains a challenge as regards progressing plans, resources and legislative change to support victims of abuse. We remain strong and committed to continue to robustly lobby to progress our plans for our Family Justice Centre and other initiatives to ensure women and children have the same rights to equality and legislation to protect them as women in the UK. We will continue the campaign to improve the lives of vulnerable women and children in the Foyle area who depend on us.



Marketing Strategy Workshop November 2015



# Support Services 2015-2016

## Objective 1

To support victims of sexual and domestic abuse and their families

### Referral Services 2015-16

	Total	Engaged
Community Support	502	380 (76%)
Criminal Justice	361	231 (64%)
Accommodation	168	42 (25%)
Court Support	252	252 (100%)
<b>Total referrals processed:</b>	<b>1283</b>	

### Accommodation 2015-16

	Target	Actual
Rose House	93%	94%
Ashley Wood Mews	93%	89% (22 units)
Length of Stay	4 mths	3 mths
Women	69	38
Children		30

### Community Support 2015-16

	Target	Actual
Clients	268	172
Appointments	1,612	1898

### Criminal Justice 2015-16

	Target	Actual
Clients	160	255

# SUPPORT SERVICES 2015-2016

## Objective 3

To increase access to justice for victims of domestic and sexual violence, and reduce repeat victimisation

### Court Support 2015-16

	Target	Actual
Referrals	150	235
Court appearances	130	143
NMO's	160	105
Repeat victimisation	26%	18%

### MARAC 2015-16

	Target	Actual
MARAC meeting attended	26	26
Actions completed by CJ	100%	100%

### Admissions and Safety 2015-16

	Target	Actual
Admissions	n/a	42
Exits	n/a	44
Health and Safety checks	104	94
Repairs reported	n/a	42 (RH) 121 (AWM)
Fire drills	n/a	19
Set-up for meeting/training	n/a	364



Marie at Mothers Union Vigil 28.11.15

# SUPPORT SERVICES REPORT 2015-2016

This was another busy year for the Support Services, with 653 women receiving support from Floating Support, Criminal Justice and Accommodation services.

- A total of 64 women and 49 children lived in our secure short-term emergency accommodation during the year.
- 380 women were supported by the Floating Support Team.
- A total of 2349 appointments were carried out with women living in the community.
- 1283 women accessed information through our Pathways service.
- 231 women were supported by our Criminal Justice Workers.
- 208 women were supported by our Court Support service.
- 148 women were supported in group work programmes such as: Journey to Freedom; The Power of Words; Building Healthy Relationships; and You and Me, Mum.

## ACCOMMODATION SERVICE

*“Thank you for taking care of me so well when I need it most. Without you I wouldn’t be in the place I am now. You all mean so much to me. I will never forget you.”*

Demand for accommodation at our secure, independent units continued to be high – with 100% and 95% occupancy rates recorded at our Ashleywood and Rose House projects. A high level of referrals was received and applicants were referred to other Women’s Aid accommodation or signposted to other agencies to find a suitable alternative. The average length of stay was seven months, with most women moving on to social housing or private rented accommodation in the community. In addition to specialised individual support for clients, the Tenancy Group Work Programme was introduced for residential clients. Developed in conjunction with client feedback and experience of the impact of homelessness on victims of domestic abuse, the aim of the Tenancy Programme is to equip women with knowledge and skills to ensure a smooth transition from Foyle Women’s Aid accommodation back into the community. Adapting to change can be daunting and, when there is little or no preparation put in place, this could result in further moves. The Tenancy Programme looks at the various housing options, budgeting, learning new things and exploring employment options.

Other client activities that took place this year included two sessions of the Cook It programme, arts and crafts sessions, crochet group and the establishment of a Walking Group.

*“The walking group was a godsend to me. Being able to get out for an hour and talking to the other women has been great. It improved my mental health. Looking forward to Tuesday gave me a focus.” “It has definitely made me feel better about myself. Nobody belittles you if you make mistakes and I got more confident as the weeks went on. And I was proud of the pieces that I crocheted.”*

**ADMISSIONS AND SAFETY** - *“Thank you for a nice welcome and support. It means the world to us and we are forever grateful.”*

- *“I would like to thank you all from the bottom of our hearts as we wouldn’t have had anywhere else to go. The bedsheets are washed and dried, but need ironing. I’m sorry that I didn’t have the time to do them before I left. Thanks for putting up with me and listening to me.”*

# SUPPORT SERVICES REPORT 2015-2016

A total of 44 admissions and 42 exits from our accommodation were carried out by this team this year. Presenting a warm welcome into a calming atmosphere for clients who are often distressed and afraid requires skill which this team displays over and over again. In addition to making sure the flats are furnished and maintained to a high standard, the A&S team carried out 1144 Health and Safety checks throughout the year.

**FLOATING SUPPORT** – *“You truly helped me through a time when I needed support. You haven’t just helped me, but helped my son to live his life as a child with a normal life – with no fear or worry. Thank you from us both.”*

Client engagement levels continued to increase, with 76% of all women who were referred taking up the service. The centralised referrals service introduced last year was further developed and refined, and has resulted in quicker appointments for clients and a rapid response for high-risk clients. The Floating Support Team, which covers L’Derry, Strabane, Limavady and Dungiven areas, carried out 1740 appointments and a further 609 were carried out by the Rapid Response Criminal Justice Workers. Support Workers also assisted in the delivery of the Teenlink Programme and Summer Residential for young people.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICE/COURT SUPPORT/WOMEN’S SAFETY SERVICE** – *“I came to Women’s Aid looking for someone to guide me through the process, which at times felt worse than the abuse. It was good to know that there was someone there for me.”*

Demand for this service continued to be high, with 236 women supported by our two Rapid Response Criminal Justice Support Workers. 208 women were helped to attend court and 106 attendances at court related to applications for Non-Molestation Orders. Our Women’s Safety Worker, Steph Brownrigg, continued to support the women whose partners/ex-partners were taking part in the Probation Service of Northern Ireland’s IDAP programme.

**GROUP WORK** – *“Journey to Freedom is right! I cannot believe that I am the same desperate and afraid woman who nearly didn’t go to the first night. The support from the other ladies, the wisdom and kindness of the staff helped me face the future without fear.”*

A total of 148 women availed of the various group work programmes on offer, 76 of whom completed the Journey to freedom course. In addition to the Building Healthy Relationships and Power of Words programmes, a new six-week Holistic Therapies programme was on offer. Developed and delivered by Alexis McClements, this group looked at the use of holistic remedies and a healthy diet as a means of combatting stress.

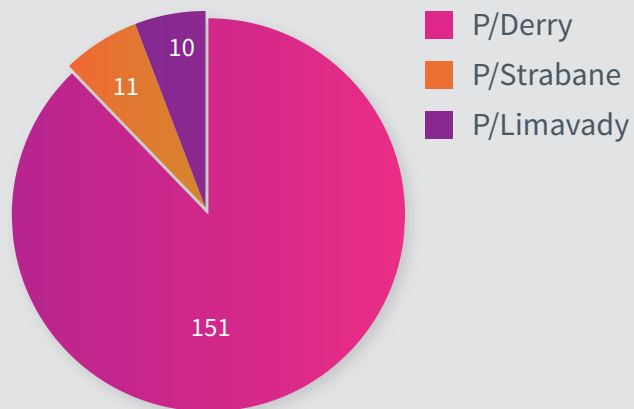
**VOICES FORUM** – *“You helped me and now I want to give something back.” – a survivor*

This group met seven times throughout the year to provide feedback on our services and issues important to survivors of domestic abuse. Made up of women who have been through our service, the group was asked to look at first impressions of our service and to review our publicity material. They provided invaluable insights, which were contained in a report and presentation. Many of their observations and recommendations have been incorporated into Foyle Women’s Aid practise. The Voices Forum was also consulted about their experiences of using the court system, and their report has been used to feed back to the Department of Justice and Courts Service about the experience of victims of domestic abuse who seek protection and redress through the legal system.

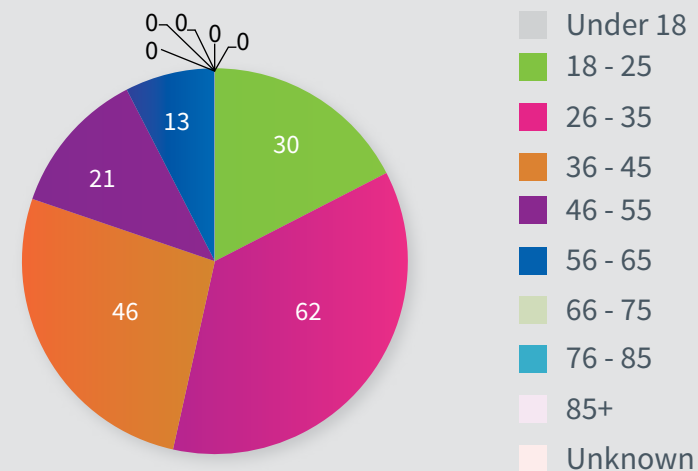
# FLOATING SUPPORT STATISTICS 2015-16

New Women Requesting Floating Support

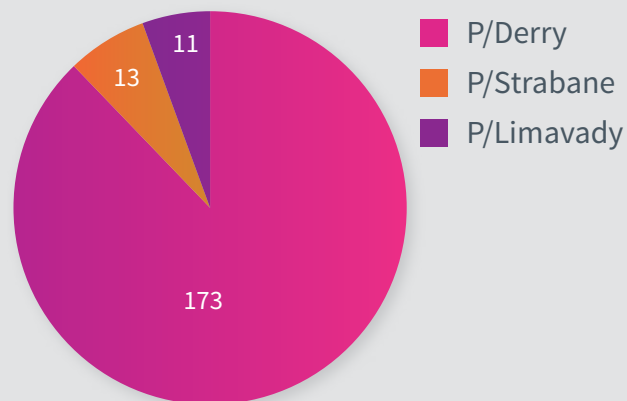
Total = 172



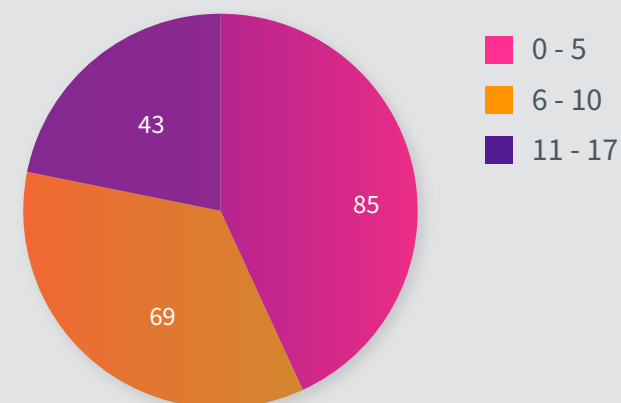
Age of Women



Number of Children Indirectly Benefiting from Work with the Mother Total 2015 - 2016 = 197

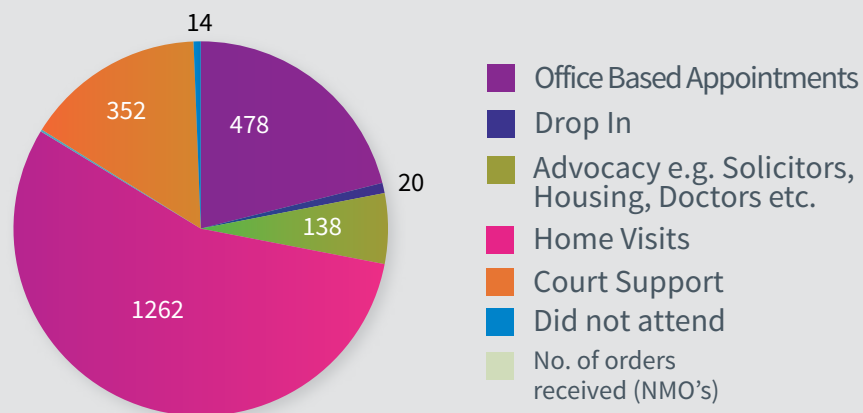


Age of Children 2015 -2016

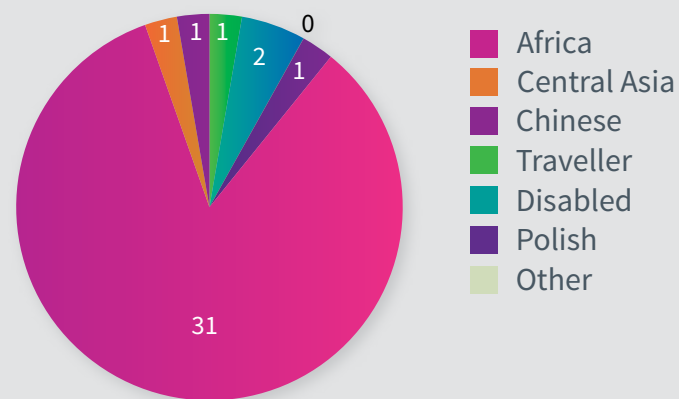


# FLOATING SUPPORT STATISTICS 2015-16

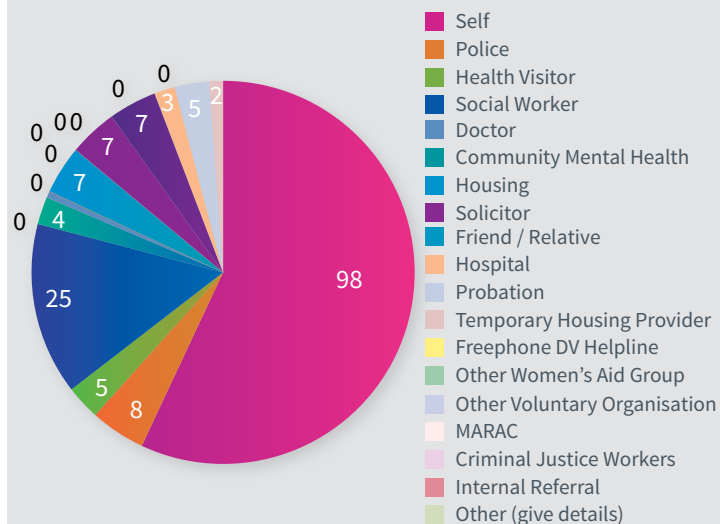
## Floating Support Direct Contact



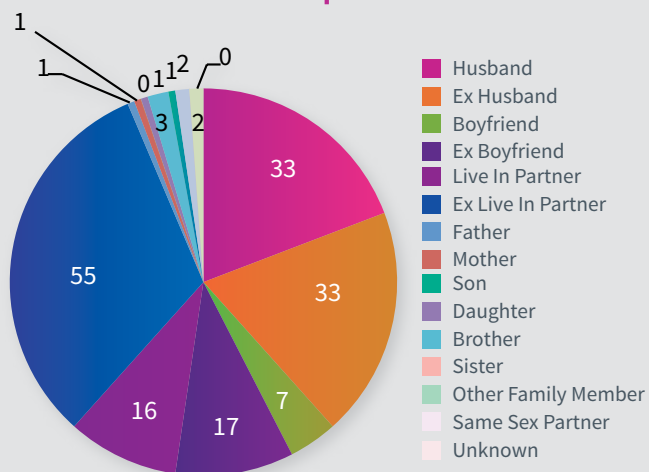
## Women from Minority Communities 2015 - 2016



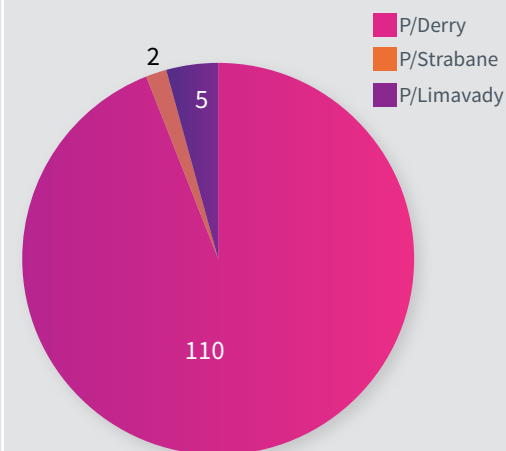
## Source of Referrals



## Relationship to Abuser



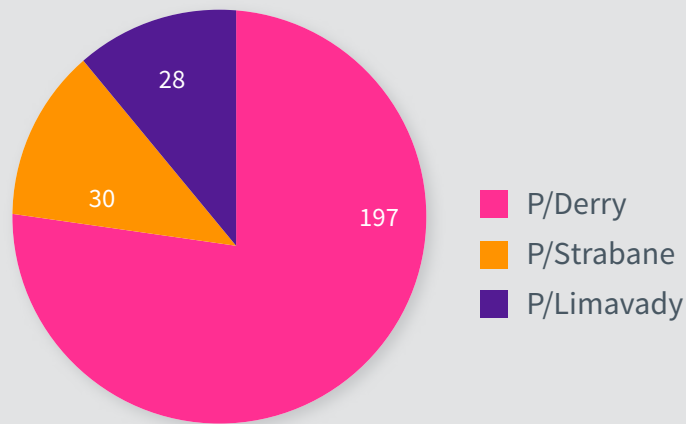
## Numbers of Marac Cases



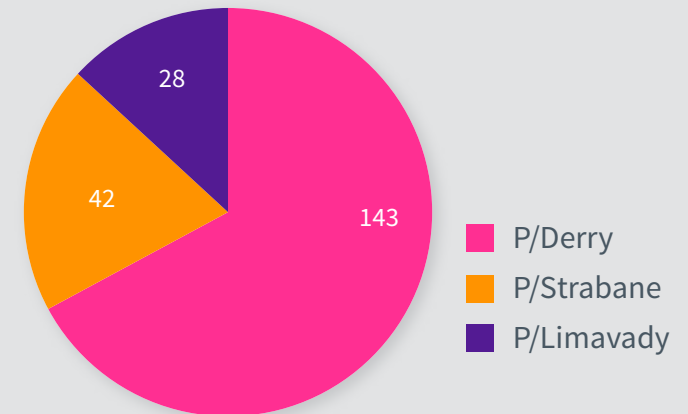
# CRIMINAL JUSTICE WORKER STATISTICS 2015-16

Increase Client Engagement ( Objective 1, Objective 2) Responding to risk and crisis (Objective 1, Objective 3)

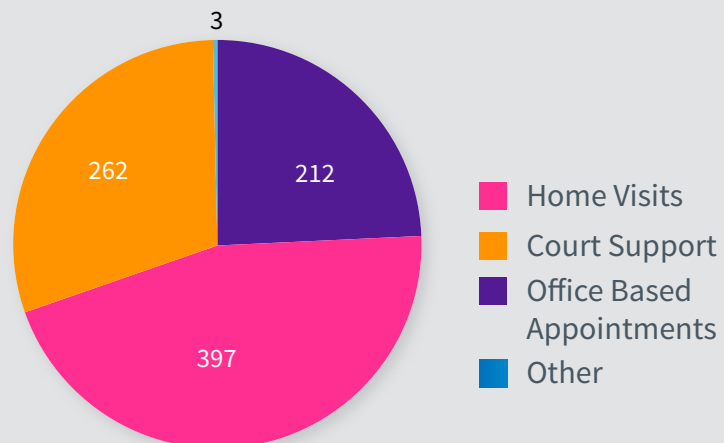
**New Women Requesting Support from Criminal Justice Workers 2015 - 16 Total = 255**



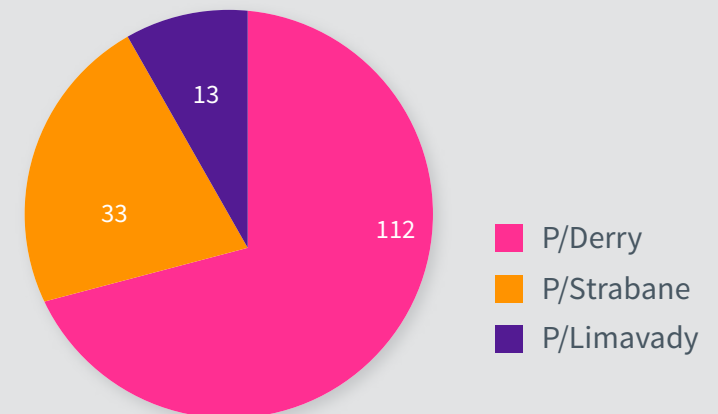
**No. of children Indirectly Benefiting from Work with Mother 2015-16 Total = 213**



**Criminal Justice Workers Direct Contact 2015 -16**



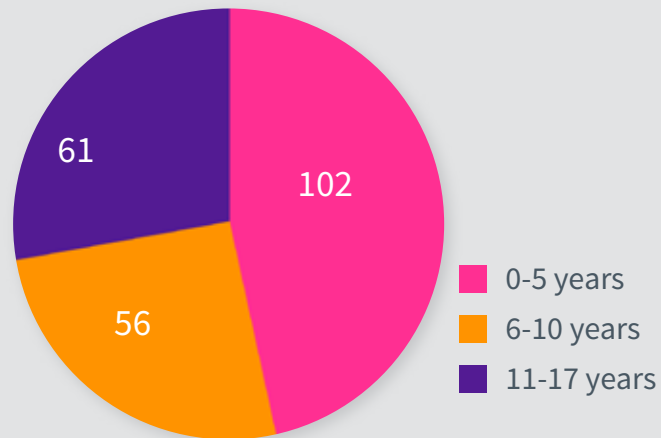
**Criminal Justice Worker Multi Agency Risk Assessment conferences 2015 -16**



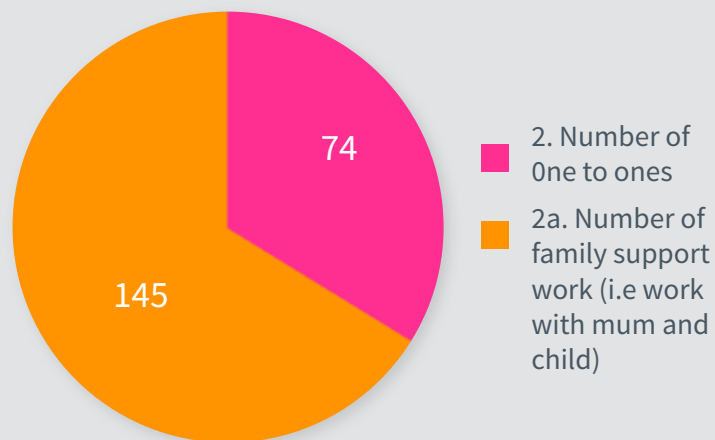


# CRIMINAL JUSTICE WORKER STATISTICS 2015-16

Age of Children & Young People Using Service 2015-16  
Total = 219



Type of Support in Children & Young People Service  
2015-16



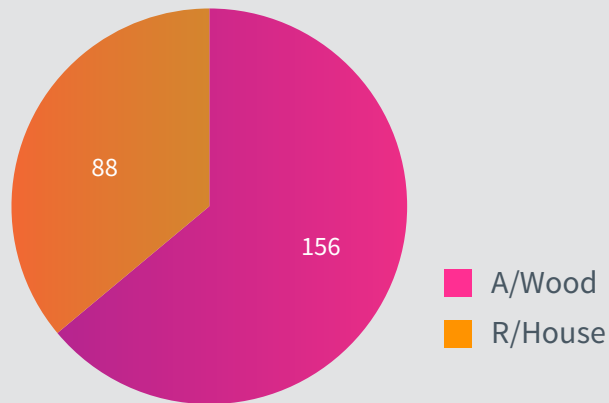
Marie with Declan Morgan, Lord Chief Justice, PSNI, PBNI, Victim Support, March 2016



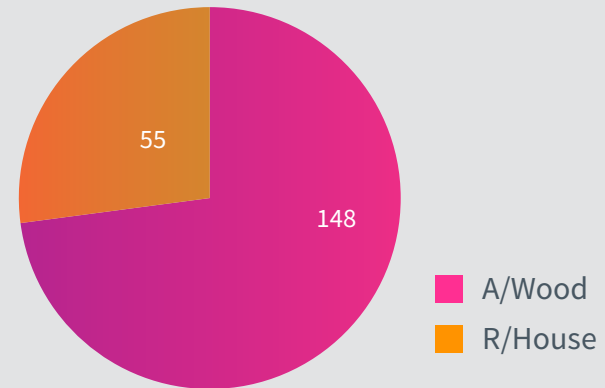
Gold Star Award Ceremony

# ACCOMMODATION STATISTICS 2015-2016

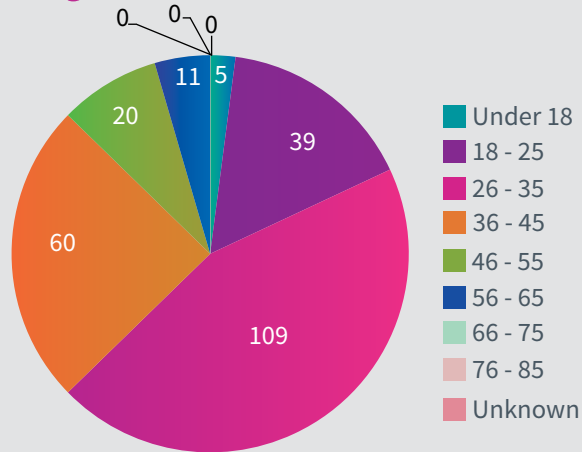
Total Number of New Women Accommodated  
Total = 244



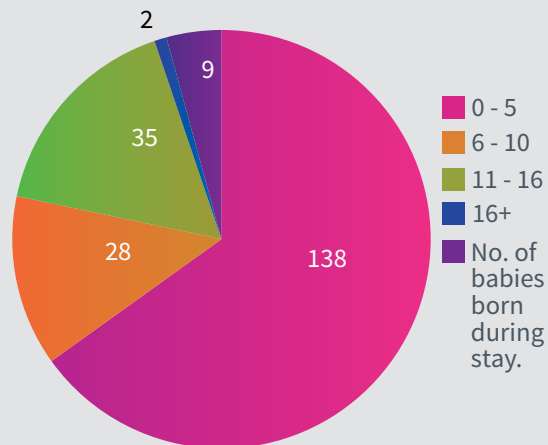
Total Number of Children Accommodated  
Total = 203



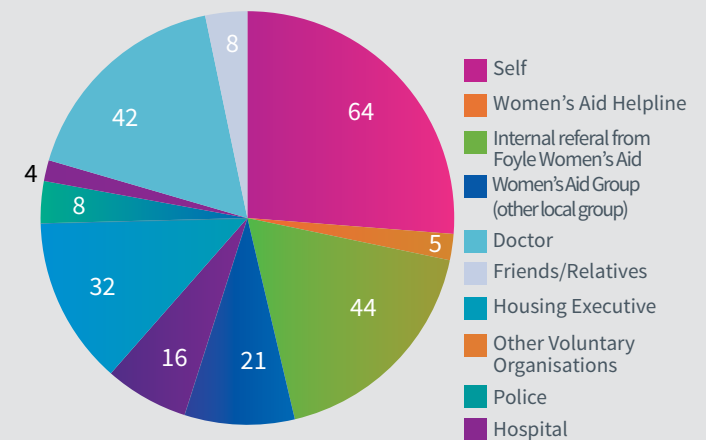
Age of Women in Accommodation



Age of Children in Accommodation



Source of Referrals to Accommodation



# ASHLEYWOOD MEWS STATISTICS 2015-2016

Total number of Women Accommodated in Ashleywood  
Mews each Month April 2015-March 2016



Month	Maximum Expected occupancy each month	Throughput of women each month
April 2015	90%	85.7%
May 2015	90%	100%
June 2015	90%	71.4%
July 2015	90%	93%
August 2015	90%	100%
Sept 2015	90%	93%
Oct 2015	90%	93%
Nov 2015	90%	100%
Dec 2015	90%	93%
Jan 2016	90%	100%
Feb 2016	90%	93%
Mar 2016	90%	93%

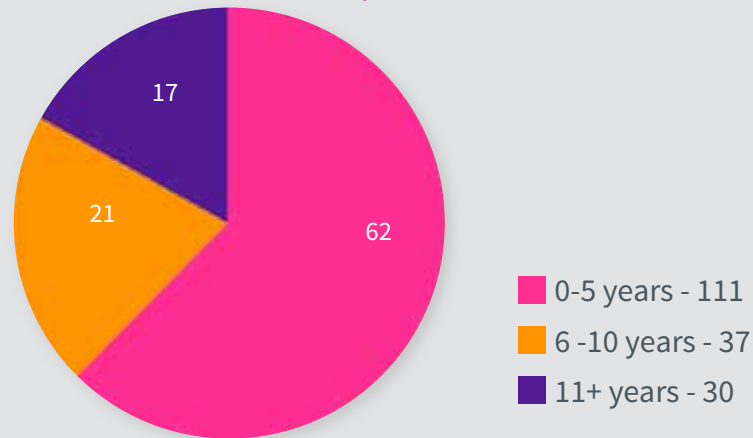
\* the reason for high throughput here means units were used for short stays which means one unit may have been used by different women during the month.



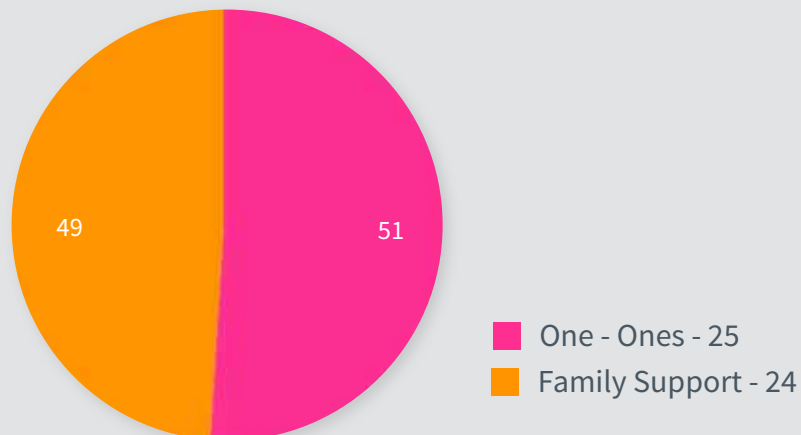
Marie at WSDW16 at Everglades

# Children and Young People's Services

Age Breakdown of children and young people using services  
2015/2016



Number of Support Sessions



Christmas Donations 2015



## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE, APRIL 2015 – MARCH 2016

At Foyle Women's Aid, our children and young people's service has continued to grow and support families with children of all ages, through crèche, afterschool sessions, group work programmes, summer scheme, seasonal trips, activities and family support.

Great news – we received the handover of the new Children and Young People's Centre, POD15, in December 2016. The centre has been consulted on with children, women and professionals. The voices of the children and young people are clear in the building, with vibrant colours and quirky rooms, including the one-to-one Pod and IT area.

This centre will be a fun, creative, lively and supportive space, with children and young people always being at the forefront of planning and services tailored to their needs.

### Early Years

This year, we continue to offer crèche for 8 children in residential and community in an onsite residential unit to facilitate women attending programmes, appointments and also to offer some respite when required.

We currently offer crèche services for up to 2 hours. However, we are now in the process of registration with Early Years to offer playgroup sessions as well as an afterschool provision.

### Group Work

Our Teenlink programme is currently running on a weekly basis. We have been receiving referrals from a variety of both statutory and voluntary agencies, and currently have 70 young people on our database.

Two groups run side by side – under 12s and over 13s – to support the different needs of the children and young people attending Teenlink. Participants are reporting that Teenlink has helped them to communicate more. They also feel more confident and find it easier meeting new people.

Three 10-week Teenlink programmes have been delivered this year, with over 45 young people in attendance.

### Seasonal Events

- Annual Easter Hunt
- Halloween Fancy Dress Party
- Annual Christmas event

# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE, APRIL 2015 – MARCH 2016

## Summer

Our Summer Scheme took place throughout July and August, with family days and structured play for residential families four days per week.

Fun was had on trips and activities all summer with days away on our minibus.  
Here are some of the things we did:

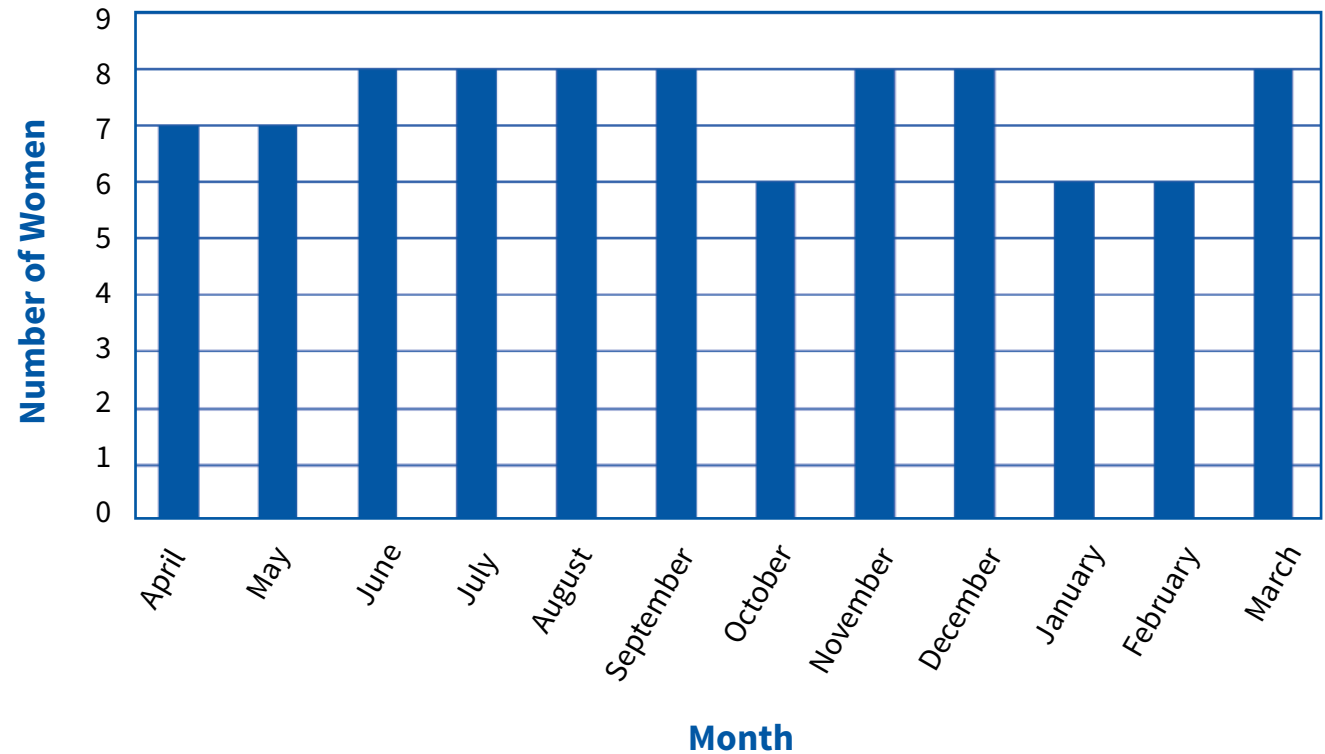
- Park trips
- Movie Bowl
- Belfast Zoo
- Loughs Agency River Watch
- Beach
- Redcastle
- Waterworld, Portrush
- Family BBQs

Activity	Dates	Number attended	No of hours
Registration VOID Gallery	1st July	12	3
Mission Nutrition	5th July	9	2
Creggan Country Park Teambuilding	6th July	11	6
Goal for Youth	19th July	9	2.5
Minecraft Day at STEM	20th July	10	5
JumpLanes	21st July	11	3
Goal for Youth	26th July	7	3
Clean Me Up, Teenlink & Karuna	26th July	8	3
Minecraft Day at STEM	27th July	8	5
Bay Road Soccer	2nd August	12	3
Goal for Youth	4th August	9	2
Lisburn Swimmers	17th August	16	10
Residential – 3 days	22nd 23rd 24th	14	72
<b>Total over Summer Scheme</b>	<b>15 Sessions</b>	<b>136 Attendances</b>	<b>122.5 Hours</b>



# Rose House Statistics 2015-2016

Total number of Women Accommodated in Rose House  
each Month April 2015-March 2016



Month	Maximum Expected occupancy each month	Throughput of women each month
April 2015	90%	88%
May 2015	90%	88%
June 2015	90%	100%
July 2015	90%	100%
August 2015	90%	100%
Sept 2015	90%	100%
Oct 2015	90%	75%
Nov 2015	90%	100%
Dec 2015	90%	100%
Jan 2016	90%	75%
Feb 2016	90%	75%
Mar 2016	90%	100%

\* the reason for high throughput here means units were used for short stays which means one unit may have been used by different women during the month.




POD15 Foundations

# Staff Training Completed April 2015 - March 2016

- Data Collection
- Dealing with the Past Workshop
- Impact Measurement
- Online Safety for Voluntary Groups
- SafeTALK
- Impact of Domestic Abuse on Children
- Introduction to Mediation
- Count on a Statistician
- Supporting Resilience in Practitioners, Supervisors & Managers
- Mental Health First Aid
- HR Health & Safety Essential Skills
- Survey Analysis Workshop
- Common Purpose: Leadership
- Budget Training
- Online Safety Workshop
- Peace Builders Workshop
- Young People & Mental Health
- Walk Leader Training
- Trauma & Compassion Fatigue
- Equality Training
- Facilitating Groups
- Marketing Workshop
- Drink Wise Age Well
- Data Protection
- Human Rights
- Sexual Violence
- Team Coaching
- Awareness Training – New UNOCINI Forms
- Mindfulness
- Email & Helpline Training
- Legal Remedies Seminar
- Financial Planning
- Child Sexual Abuse:  
Raising Awareness & Understanding
- Risk Assessment Made Easy
- Gift Aid
- Observation & Planning
- Volunteer Management
- Young People & Mental Health
- Understanding Illicit Drugs
- WorldHost Training
- Early Movers
- Managing Difficult People
- New Worker Training
- Powerful Presentations

# Social Media Statistics 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016

	Total Page Likes by March 2016 <b>1358</b>	Total New Page Likes Since April 2015 <b>610</b>	Average Audience Reach Per Week April 2015 - March 2016 <b>4000 - 5000</b>
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	Total Followers by March 2016 <b>1110</b>	Total New Followers Since April 2015 <b>289</b>	Average Audience Reach Per Month April 2015 - March 2016 <b>5000 - 6000</b>
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	Average Website Sessions Per month by March 2016 <b>363</b>	Average website users per month by March 2016 <b>343</b>	Average Page Views per month by March 2016 <b>388</b>
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Marie & Martin McGuinness 4.3.16



Marie & Rosin with Apex & LandAid March 2016

# AVERT TRAINING REPORT 2015/2016

## **April 2015 – March 2016 was a good year for Avert Training and the delivery of training programmes.**

We are glad to announce that, once again, we have secured further funding from the Community Development Health Network (CDHN) to run another Pharmacy Health Education programme, which was a very successful programme for 2015-2016. Reported outcomes from the women showed how participating in this programme assisted those women to move on in their lives, and better manage stress and trauma related to their experience of domestic abuse.

In November 2015, Avert delivered Interpersonal Skills and Making Choices in Pursuit of Personal Goals to Roe Valley Residents' Association (RVRA) in Limavady & in December, Building Healthy Relationships. Avert also delivered Protective Behaviours to RVRA in June 2015, which was well attended and such a positive message was delivered that challenged the individuals' attitudes and behaviours in an area that is deemed within the top 10% of socially deprived areas in Northern Ireland.

We continued to hold 1-day training events throughout the year and delivered Domestic Abuse & How to Ask the Questions: The Effects on Children training to external agencies. The feedback was positive and helpful to the clientele. Praxis attended Domestic Abuse & How to Ask the Questions training in September 2015. In addition, staff from the WELB Welfare Services attended the same training in Omagh Technical Centre.

Foyle Women's Aid staff attended OCN Level 3 New Worker Training in September 2015 and volunteers attending Volunteer Training in early 2016. We are pleased to say that all participants received their certificates of accreditation for completion of this accredited training.

Sure Start at the Old Library Trust brought in Avert's services to deliver Building Healthy Relationships from January to February 2016, with 10 service users. PCSP funded Avert from January to March 2016, which enabled us to deliver 2 Heading for Healthy Relationships programmes, reaching 39 pupils, and 3 Helping Hands programmes, reaching 66 pupils. These programmes are always well received and match the current school curriculum.

February 2016 saw Avert deliver one-day training to the Waterside Area Partnership on Domestic Abuse, which was well received and Sure Start attended the same training in March 2016. Reaching these organisations was great for raising the profile of Avert and sharing our knowledge with other organisations that come into daily contact with families.

I look forward to continued support in 2016-2017.

**Claire Mc Laughlin**  
**Avert Training Ltd.**

**Avert Training**  
Averting Violence Education Research & Training



# FINANCE Report 2015/16

Our principal funders are Supporting People, and we received continued funding from the Big Lottery and Western Health & Social Care Trust. We also secured valuable support and funding from PBNI, Downtown Cash for Kids, PBNI Community Grant and the Community Development & Health Network.

2016 saw Foyle Women's Aid celebrating its 40th Anniversary. We had great success with fundraising and holding key events throughout the year that helped to raise our profile.

Generous support was received from a number of individuals and organisations. Tate Stevenson made a donation in lieu of sending Christmas cards. A volunteer made a donation by paying back her travel claim expenses. We received a donation from the winning darts teams at The Bentley. The Good Shepherd Primary School P7 class nominated Foyle Women's Aid for a donation and Emma Cusack donated the funds raised from her 5K run.

Our Christmas appeal, 'Silent Night, Violent Night', raised £5,690.00 in donations from the Diocese of Derry, CHNI, Derry Credit Union, Seagate, Foyle Port and Harbour, as well as numerous private donations. This money was distributed throughout the Christmas period by providing hampers for the women in residence, Christmas gifts for the children, gas and electric top-ups for the women in residence and oil fills for women in the community. As with every year, we held a Christmas party

for the women and children, where Santa and Mrs Claus handed out gifts to the children and a hot buffet was provided for all who attended. Any underspend from this appeal goes back into supporting the women and children throughout the year.



FJC Strategic Operational Board, 01.03.16



**CLIENTS TRAINING****Building  
Healthy  
Relationships**

*“I enjoyed the course and I am going to have healthy relationships due to the course.”*

*“Handouts were very good and also the presentation.”*

*“I really enjoyed this course opened my eyes to the different ways to sort our situations.”*

*“I didn’t realise that I would get as much out of this course as I did and would like to do more of these courses.”*

*“It helped me to recognise a problem and also helped me how to deal with certain situations.”*

*“It was all good and helps develop you as a person.”*

**INTERNAL TRAINING****Protective  
Behaviours**

*“I have learned to take a step back and be always ready to listen to others, and remember you can change the way we feel if we are not happy or, if it doesn’t feel right it’s not.”*

*“I am going to be more positive in life no problem cannot be solved and I am going to put the steps that I’ve learned in the course to be more assertive in life.”*

*“I enjoyed the course very much I looked forward to it on a Friday morning, always feeling benefits from each week”.*



## Pharmacy Programme



## Interpersonal Skills

*“I really enjoyed the class and hopefully will be able to help me with life.*

*“Loads of handouts will be useful when you get home and you can get time and sit and read them.”*

*“Learnt a lot about stress and how it can affect your way of life, and how to overcome it.”*

## AVERT EXTERNAL TRAINING

Domestic  
Abuse &  
How to Ask the  
Questions

*“Great course, well presented.”*

*“I learned how to speak appropriate language and how to phrase my words when asking questions, I saw through DVD how horrible this situation is and why it is so hard for the person to leave, I now have a better understanding.”*

*“Course excellent & lots of information to take home which is very informative, no improvement needed.”*

*“I very much enjoyed the day and learned a lot.”*

*“I enjoyed the course today, it was not stressful and it was easy for people to speak up and to be listened too. Any questions or queries were promptly answered. I am looking forward to tomorrow’s course.”*

*“Raising awareness is important, greater awareness of those who are abusing and their needs.”*

*“While it was difficult to watch the video was useful in helping me to realise how the issue of DA is prevalent everywhere in society.”*

*“Delivered well, friendly, relaxed - use of video clips was great.”*

*“I learned about the Indicators of abuse, where to seek support and types of support available.”*

## AVERT EXTERNAL TRAINING

Domestic  
Abuse Basic  
Awareness

## WHAT ARE YOU LEAVING WITH TODAY?

***“It’s important to see the perpetrators behaviour learned behaviour is essential, it’s important to work together with both the victim of the perpetrator.”***

Perpetrator  
Programme

The  
Effects of  
Domestic Abuse  
on children &  
Young  
People

***“ I found the Signposting to appropriate agencies and how to correctly respond to disclosures and to look and pay more attention to signs of domestic abuse most useful.”***

***“Very informative and well facilitated course.”***

***“I found the training very good and useful and got to the point in an easy but informative manner.”***

**AVERT EXTERNAL TRAINING**

Social  
Guardian  
Training

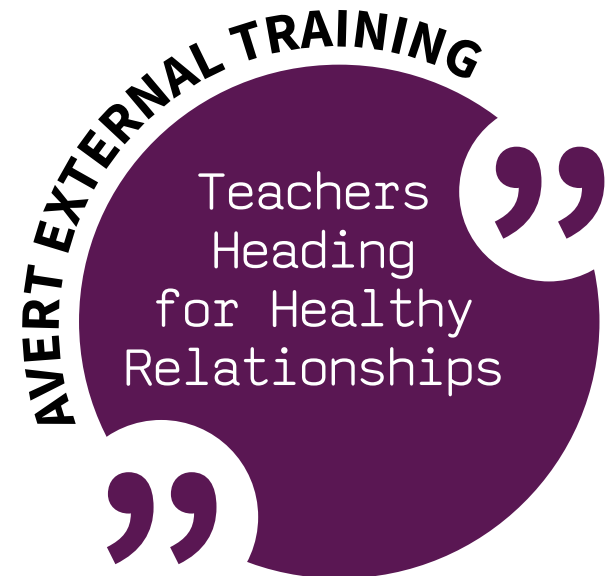
*“Excellent fast pace course which was engaging and all totally relevant to my workplace. Thank you.”*

*“Although a very high subject it was good to have time to think about it and hopefully will be able to put the programme in place and help children in the future.”*

*“Thank you very much it was very informative.”*

*“An excellent programme and we would be very interested in any other programmes you would like to offer.”*

*“I learned about the Indicators of abuse, where to seek support and types of support available.”*



*“We have really enjoyed this programme and will be sad that it’s over. Really made the children think about some very important issues.”*



*“My class really enjoyed it appropriate for children in today’s world.”*

## THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FUNDERS

Our thanks to all the agencies listed and to all the wonderful individuals, organisations and companies who supported our work so generously during the year.



**Big Lottery Fund . Supporting People NIHE . North West Development Office . Probation Board NI**  
**Big Lottery – Awards for All Community Development & Health Network**

Company Registration Number:  
**NI 23041**

Date of Incorporation  
**6 September 1981**

Charity Number  
**NIC103223**

Auditors  
**Baxter's Associates**

Bank  
**Danske Bank**

Solicitors  
**Caldwell & Robinson Solicitors**

Contact Foyle Womens Aid: 24 Pump St, L/Derry, BT48 6JG | T: 028 7141 6800 | E: [info@foylewomensaid.org](mailto:info@foylewomensaid.org)