



Artwork from women's group

ANNUAL REPORT 2010 - 2011



CHAIR'S REPORT

As Chairperson of Edinburgh Women's Aid (EWA), I am delighted to contribute to the annual report on behalf of the trustees. 2010 – 2011 has been another busy year with many challenges. Alongside our partners and other voluntary sector organisations, the backdrop of increasing financial constraints remains a constant and the Board and Staff are working proactively to ensure the organisation is in the best position to survive. Staff work hard to deliver quality, person-centred services. So whether it's supporting children, raising awareness about the effects of violence, providing accommodation for women and their families or working with women to rebuild their lives, our services provide a critical lifeline to women and their children who are at risk of, or who need support in order to move on from domestic abuse.

It is my privilege to be Chair of EWA and to be part of the ongoing struggle to eliminate violence against women and children.

Tamara Mulherin (Chair)

MANAGER'S REPORT

Edinburgh Women's Aid, like all of the Third Sector, is struggling to cope in the current economic climate where funding shrinks rapidly whilst demand for services grows. How are we managing? Simple, we have a dedicated and hard working staff team who are committed to delivering our high quality service to women, children and young people and have those who need our support as their priority. We also have a dedicated and hard working Board of Trustees who have difficult decisions to make but who ensure that their priority is also continuing to provide a diverse and quality

Mural made by women at weekly group



service to those who need it. It's going to be tough for the next few years but, with our excellent staff team and board, we will get through this and ensure continued services for women and children who have experienced and/or are at risk of domestic abuse.

Michele Corcoran (Manager)



CYP REPORT

FOREST SCHOOLS

Forest School is a project that operated with the health & wellbeing of both the student and the natural environment central to its ethos. *"Forest School involves regular visits to a local woodland area that becomes the 'base' for learning activities. It is an inspirational process that enables children to build their confidence and self-esteem through hands on practical learning."*

The project was for YP accessing our service, and also their mums and any siblings. One of the main outcomes of the project was to be an improvement in relations within the families.

Every week we could see an improvement in the confidence of the young members of the group. They began to take ownership of their group, behaved responsibly at all times and clearly felt valued and included. Participants said, "I like it here cos I feel safe and I don't usually... I want to do it again cos it was so amazing... I want to be a Forest Schools teacher and help other children have the same experiences I've had." That the young people were able to escape the unsafe feelings that they sometimes experience in their lives, and say that they felt safe during Forest School, is a great reflection on the project.

OUTREACH

"Before I had the help of Woman's Aid Outreach I was lacking in self esteem and had very little belief that I myself could change things. Women's Aid changed this and more importantly my support worker helped me to change this. Over the last 2 years I've had tremendous support, encouragement and a listening ear. I changed things and saw things in a different light and without the help of my worker I would be in the same rut and putting up with the same mental abuse as before."

Woman in Outreach Service

GROUPWORK

I go along to the group that is run on a Monday which is fantastic, the workers are great. I cannot thank Edinburgh Women's Aid for what you have done for me. I am slowly but surely rebuilding my life – thank you!

Woman attending group

LOBBYING AT THE CITY CHAMBERS

Late last year we joined with Shakti Women's Aid to lobby councillors at the City Chambers in Edinburgh. We used Scottish Women's Aid's "I'm here because I'm not safe at home" campaign

We aimed to highlight how important our funding and services are to women and children and young people in the city. Thanks to everyone entering the City Chambers who acknowledged or supported us. It was nice to make contact.





REFUGE

"The service I have received from you has been amazing you have saved me from the nightmare that I was living in by giving me somewhere safe to live. The support I have received has been brilliant, my worker is helping me get my life back on track. She is such a positive woman who listens to me and gives me advice and information, everything that I need."

Woman staying in a refuge



Artwork of butterflies from IWD

24 HOUR REFUGE

"The refuge for me is a haven. A safeguard against the cruelties that the world outside has to throw at us. It is also a crutch to aid me on my way to recovery, helping me find strengths within myself that I never knew about. The refuge is about the people who work here, the people who enable me to be the person I want to be. Then there are the everyday things like assisting with a phone call or attending an appointment or just a shoulder to cry on when life gets too rough. The refuge and the wonderful people who work here have helped me be more positive about life and myself. I would like to thank my workers and all the staff for their kindness."

Woman in 24hr refuge

RESETTLEMENT

"The Resettlement team has helped me through one of the most difficult and terrifying transitions of my life to gain my self esteem and to face each new day with a positive attitude. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Resettlement team at Edinburgh Women's Aid for being so helpful and listening to me with a non-judgmental attitude. Also for encouraging me and liaising with other organisations on my behalf, whilst assisting me with the transition of re-emerging into life as a single independent woman. With their help I have been encouraged to move on beyond my abuse and whilst I no doubt still mourn the truth of yesterday, they have encouraged me to acknowledge the hope that lies in today and tomorrow and to attain a positive outlook and acknowledge that 'the future is my friend!'"

OUR NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED THIS YEAR



www.edinwomensaid.co.uk

Become a friend or donate to us on our new website



FINANCES

INCOME

Donations & appeals	5,526
Grants and Housing Income	983,665
Bank Interest	3,108
Other Income	1,054
Total Income	993,353

EXPENDITURE

Staff Costs	704,836
Service Delivery Costs	161,392
Administrative Costs	86,158
Governance Costs	11,190
Total Expenditure	963,576



FUNDED BY
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MAIN FUNDERS

CEC Services for Communities, CEC Children and Families, Scottish Government Violence Against Women Fund, Scottish Government CYPEDA Fund, Streetsmart.

Thanks to Lifecare and all the social landlords from whom we rent our properties.

SUPPORTERS

South Leith Parish Church, The Women's Group (SLPC), R Low, FS Mackay, A Christianson, HMRC Charities, Worldwide Church of God, M Lourie, The Avenel Trust, HSBC matched giving, HMRC-SA, AGM Collection, Edinburgh Association of Spiritualists, M Forrester, Beverley Wood, St George's School for Girls, MR Dillon, OU Scotland, Canonmills Baptist Church, Catherine Elvin, Balerno Church of Scotland, H Olson, Erskine Stewart's Melville, Artemis Charitable Foundation, Neva Baglione, CAF, Balerno Parish Church, St Ninians Church, Colinton Mains Church, Corstorphine Old Parish Church, Fairmilehead Parish Church, Murrayfield Parish Church, St Andrews and St Georges Parish Church, M&S Donations Committee, Catherine Robertson, Lloyds Banking, The Royal College of GPs, Wight Chiropractic Clinic, PRG recruitment, DTTO, MRC McLean Hazel, Aulds Bakery, HBJ Gately Waring, Tesco Extra Corstorphine, Aegon, Rotary Club of Edinburgh, CEC Building Services, RBS HQ, Joyce Pringl, Emma Robertson.

Thanks to anyone who has been inadvertently left of this list or who has chosen to support us anonymously.

CURRENT STAFF MEMBERS

Michele Corcoran, Evelyn Jardine, Mariea Nairn, Susan Rae, Debbie Bell, Clare Philpot, Miku Healey, Ann Monaghan, Val Waugh, Wing Li, Karen Griffiths, Mary Sinclair, Lee McCormack, Rachel Gollan, Sherry Singh, Alison Roxburgh, Catriona Robertson, Rosie Smith, Margaret Gibson, Jasmine Clark, Mauline Zvaita, Cathy Todd, Allison Pupkis. **Welcome to** Lisa Dowie and Katie Anderson. **Goodbye and thanks to** Susan McWalter, Mary Innes, Suzanne Moran, Catherine Heaven, Christine Monaghan, Lindsey Raeburn, Jean McKenzie

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

Tamara Mulherin, Helen Farmer, Lesley McFall, Christine Bennett, Vicki Di Ciacca, Maxine Cuffe, Rita Biermann. **Hello and welcome to** Morven Maclean, Barbara Matheson, Joanna Patterson and Catriona Laing. **Goodbye and thanks to** Dorothy Denholm, Morag Henderson, Naomi Healy-Cathcart and Elizabeth MacFarlane.