

Eighteen And Under Monthly Update December 2010

Over the month we continued to provide support to many vulnerable young people. Support was provided through e-mail, message board, text, telephone and face to face to 26 young people. The drop in service continues to be popular for young people in crisis and e-mail contact is continuing to be popular for those reluctant to be identified.

Through the Taywise project we targeted vulnerable young women at risk of exploitation. Drop in support was available and outreach work continued across Tayside and Fife. Our new contact cards are being made available from a wide range of venues across the region. Work in secondary schools on exploitation and gendered violence is increasing and we have provided 2 workshops on gendered violence in the community.

We were grateful to wind up work in the schools for the holidays and used the time to decorate the Centre for the festive period. We continued providing the V.I.P. programme in 3 schools through December working with 72 children and 6 teachers. We also provided more focused work with a further 26 children identified at risk of school exclusion.

We continued our work to form partnerships with other NGO's across the world in order to share our way of working and learn from others. Using existing contacts and links, we approached several NGO's in Kenya, Zimbabwe, Cameroon, South Africa, Zambia, India, South America and the Middle East. We researched what work they were doing already and let them know what we are doing. Several of these NGO's have now confirmed that they would like to be partners with us and we are keen to take this forward.

Christmas came upon us and we were very happy to be able to share the many brand new toys and clothes we receive from the Disney store with some of the families and agencies with whom we work. This long-term partnership with the Disney store is a fantastic example of corporate sponsorships benefitting the community by giving surplus and end of range goods to a charity. We remain happy to share these goods with others.

We provided a further V.I.P. accredited training for another 4 workers over a three-day period using our new training toolkit and our newly trained training worker. The feedback from this was very positive and the toolkit is proving quite successful. Further trials will improve this further.

The Kirkton Beat children's samba drumming group continues to practice weekly with around 14 children now attending the group. Volunteers from Eighteen and Under continue to support this group. Unfortunately, extreme weather prevented their grand performance at the local football club but hopefully this event will be rescheduled in the New Year.

2 new placement workers have started work with us providing us with additional admin support over a three-day period for the next few months.

Contact:

Eighteen And Under
1, Victoria Road
Dundee
Scotland

www.violenceispreventable.org.uk

www.18u.org.uk

01382 206222

UK Freefone: 0800 731 40 80

Eighteen And Under Monthly Update January 2011

This month was incredibly busy. Our first week back was spent in review and planning meetings. We reviewed the work we had done over the last year against all our targets, set new targets and spent time planning the work and activities of 2011. As usual, we have been very ambitious in deciding what we hope to achieve.

This month has seen a drive towards a much higher profile. The promotional team has been busily engaged with the media on a daily basis resulting in some good publicity for us. We are also designing an advertisement for a national newspaper and responding to every media enquiry. Already this drive is showing results.

The Violence Is Preventable web site has been completely redesigned to reflect the new work we are aiming to do and it will soon be re-launched and widely publicised. The new web site will have free resources available for downloading including personal safety worksheets, books and resources which, have been translated into other languages. Our research programme will be made available as a free download for schools to access and hopefully some of those who take this opportunity will also be encouraged to take part in any research.

We have begun a new mailing campaign across England and Wales and are targeting schools and nurseries in areas where there is a high level of abuse and violence. We are also targeting areas where trafficking, forced marriage and exploitation are an identified issue and offering our specialised awareness resources in these areas.

Our e-mail lobbying campaign continues across Scotland as we seek to raise awareness about the need to address all forms of violence and abuse with children and young people.

Support of young people who have experience abuse and violence continues with a growing number of young people finding their way to us through the drop in, Internet and text services. The Taywise service continues to provide for young women involved in sexual exploitation through a number of initiatives across Tayside and Fife. These young women are very hard to reach and very suspicious of the statutory agencies.

We are now working in close partnership with the organization, Izzy's Promise as they are about to embark of work on sexual exploitation,

trafficking and organized crime with young people. This is an exciting new venture and we look forward to its development and partnership work with Izzy's.

The Violence Is Preventable team has started the year with a flurry of activity. There have been 3 promotional presentations to groups of teachers and there have been workers out every single day working in the schools. We are stretched almost to the limit of our capacity, which is great. We are currently working in Falkirk, Fife, Angus, Dundee and various parts of Perthshire.

We have been in 2 High schools providing V.I.P. sessions and also more targeted work with groups of young people at serious risk of school exclusion. We have worked with a total of 40 young people and 3 teachers on this. In addition, we have provided weekly V.I.P. sessions in 4 new primary schools to a total of 836 children and 26 teachers. We have also begun work with a group of 12 children in a church setting. These children have been identified as in need of personal safety focused work.

All this work has led to a huge number of disclosures of harm from the children. All disclosures are treated seriously and this increases work for the teachers and child protection agencies wherever we work. We do offer ongoing support to the children, young people and the schools wherever we work.

An updated internal training has been carried out on the Violence Is Preventable delivery and dealing with disclosures in schools to make sure that all workers are still delivering the programme effectively. Further internal training on child protection and supporting skills is scheduled. External training dates will be announced next month.

This time of year we are also extremely busy rewriting business plans and strategies, carrying out our yearly disclosure checks on all staff and volunteers and getting ready for the financial year-end and the audit. We also have all of our project reports to write and several funding applications to write. All in all, this is our busiest time of year.

Additionally.... the Kirkton Beat children's samba band continues to meet and practice and are getting ready for a really big public performance; the Shadow Management group is about to meet, plan and refocus; the chinchillas continue to need looked after and we are about to carry out a new volunteer drive at Easter.

Contact:

Eighteen And Under

1, Victoria Road

Dundee

Scotland

www.violenceispreventable.org.uk

www.18u.org.uk

01382 206222

UK Freefone: 0800 731 40 80