



Yuva

A service for young people using or experiencing violence in close relationships.

Yuva works with young people (age 11- 25) who have used violence/abuse in their close relationships and the family members and/or (ex) partners who have experienced this behaviour. The service is being developed by the Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP), with the primary aim of increasing safety and supporting positive relationships for all involved.

Yuva's services include 2 separate but integrated services:

- The Programme, which works directly with young people who are using violence/abuse against family members/(ex) partners;
- a Survivor Support Service, which offers support to the family members/(ex) partners who have experienced young people's abuse (the survivors)

Although our work with survivors and young people using violence/abuse is separate, the two strands of the service integrate their practice in a way which promotes the safety and well-being of all clients. We can work with the young person using violence/abuse and survivors in parallel or offer services to survivors if the young person using abuse is not involved in the Programme.

Programme for young people who are using violence/abuse.

The Yuva Programme works with young people, aged 11-25, who have used or are using violence/abuse in close relationships. Through structured 1-2-1 direct interventions Yuva helps young people to identify and challenge their violent/abusive behaviours and adopt non-violent/non-abusive alternative ways of interacting in close relationships. Rather than trying to 'cure' or 'treat' young people Yuva works *alongside* them to support their ability to form positive relationships. In this way we help them to own the work that they are putting into making changes and take responsibility for not only their involvement in the Programme but, more importantly, their behaviour towards members of their family and/or (ex) partners.

Yuva staff understand that young people are not a homogeneous group; that their backgrounds, skills, abilities and needs are many. Many young people using violence/abuse have a variety of needs to address, but it is beyond the scope of the Yuva Programme to offer holistic support. Where needs are identified, Yuva will attempt to make referrals to more appropriate or additional services.

Survivor Support Service.

Yuva offers a support service to family members/(ex) partners who have experienced young people's violence/abuse. This includes safety planning, emotional support and referral to appropriate services, such as counselling and housing. Where appropriate this service may also provide information concerning the Yuva Programme, with the intent of giving survivors a clear picture of what the Programme involves and realistic expectations about the outcomes they can expect from their (ex) partner's/child's involvement.

Having contact with and supporting survivors is an important part of any response to violence and abuse. Wherever possible this service is offered to survivors of the violence/abuse used by young people who are involved in the Yuva Programme, although it can be offered irrespective of their involvement.

How much does the service cost?

The service is free for Southwark residents.

Who can refer?

Young people using violence can self-refer. If you're not sure about how to do this, or want to speak with a Yuva worker first, contact us on the number at the end of this document.

Professionals can refer young people who have used or are at risk of using violence and abuse and/or survivors. Before making a referral to Yuva please seek the client's consent to do so and, where necessary, the person who has parental responsibility.

Making a referral to the Yuva service.

To make a referral or refer yourself to Yuva please complete the referral form including as much relevant information as possible. You will note that we request information regarding the family members/(ex) partners who have experienced the young person's use of violence/abuse. This helps us to offer survivors appropriate safety services and is a crucial part of the referral.

Please note that the referral form asks you to identify who is using and who is experiencing violence/abuse. If you are referring a young person to the service because of their use of violence and abuse please enter their details in the 'Young person using violence' section of the form.

Young people who are using violence in their own relationships may be survivors of or have witnessed domestic violence. We acknowledge the significance of this and ask that you include such information in the section detailing the history of domestic violence, as well as the young person's own use of violent and controlling behaviours.

It is important to provide as much information as you can about the person you would like to refer. Please complete all sections to the best of your knowledge and ensure that your information is accurate and concise. Where information which you feel is relevant does not fall into one of the sections provided, please attach separate sheets including details of the referring worker and reference to this form.

For forms and to make further enquiries concerning the service we offer
Tel: **020 7928 2322** or email **shem@dvip.org**