

Level 2

This part of the programme allows women to explore the difficulties of parenting in the aftermath of domestic violence and provides them with practical help. It is a 10 session group programme.

Topics include

- Building strengths, setting goals and planning for safety
- Child-centred child discipline
- Child to parent violence and out-of-control behaviour
- Working with parents around the impacts of domestic violence on their children
- Working with parents around their own childhoods
- Helping parents understand their children's development
- Empathetic parenting following domestic violence
- Therapeutic parenting and domestic abuse
- Dealing with parental separation following domestic violence
- Moving on

This is a partnership project between Solace Women's Aid and Jewish Women's Aid and is supported/funded by Barnet Council.

For more information about the service and/or to make a referral, please contact

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Picking Up the Pieces Levels 1 and 2

Information leaflet for professionals



A group programme for mothers and female carers of children aged 11+ affected by domestic abuse where Children's Social Care (CSC) are involved.

Level 1:

September—December 2012

Level 2 :

January—March 2013

Picking Up the Pieces Levels 1 and 2

Supporting mothers/female carers surviving domestic abuse

Many parents/carers are not aware that statutory agencies will be concerned if their children are exposed to domestic violence.

Many parents/carers are unfamiliar with the British system of safeguarding children and do not know how to respond when child welfare concerns are raised. This can be worse for women from cultures where statutory intervention in family life is rare (people from countries where safeguarding of women and children through government agencies do not exist/are minimal or there is political unrest)..

In most cases families often respond with fear, hostility, avoidance, disbelief, often preventing effective work with statutory agencies in the best interests of the child.

The Picking up the Pieces Programme will support women to increase their understanding of law and guidance as it relates to children in the UK, thus enabling them to make informed decisions about

their children's needs. In addition it will help strengthen the likelihood of increased co-operation with CSC and others involved with the family.

Parents referred to the programme must be willing to make personal changes for themselves and their children.

Picking Up the Pieces Level 1

We will promote and encourage mothers/female carers to work with children's social care, other local authority services safeguarding processes.

We do this by providing a 3 session group educational programme giving women the opportunity to

1. Share and reflect on the effects of domestic abuse on themselves
2. Review film footage on the effects of domestic violence on children/ young people and why it is a safeguarding/child protection issue
3. Be introduced to the Children's Social Care (CSC) system and why domestic abuse is a safeguarding and child protection concern.

This will support women to make informed decisions in how to communicate more effectively with professionals.

Level 1 (introductory) 1.5 hours x 3 weeks

- What is domestic abuse
- Resilience
- Impacts on children
- Attachment and providing security
- DV and impacts on parenting
- Confident parenting
- Children's Social Care involvement (myths and reality)
- Dealing with and overcoming problems (the wall)

