

The Magdalene Group



Reaching out to build
trusted relationships

Annual Report 2017

The Magdalene Group has been supporting people affected by sexual exploitation for over 23 years.

We have established an excellent reputation for building trusted relationships and engaging those hardest-to-reach, whilst delivering well-run, evidence-based programmes to suit individual needs. Our track record and expertise makes us well-placed to recognise the routes into sexual exploitation, provide effective prevention, early intervention and support services.

We work to improve the quality of life for women who manage complex and multiple barriers and young people who are at risk of, or who have experienced sexual exploitation and coercion.

Aims

- To develop services that offer women and young people positive and genuine trusted relationships that can address and improve difficult issues in their lives.
- To work towards the prevention of sexual exploitative relationships of women and young people.
- To help women and young people build resilience to sexual exploitation
- To ensure the wider community are better educated and informed about the issues in relation to sexual exploitation.
- To facilitate and empower people to realise their full potential.

Most children that are sexually exploited are first exposed to the abuse in their teens. Many children are unaware of the exploitation because of the tactics employed by offenders which contributes to the drastic underreporting of CSE; it is estimated that the police only hear about 1 in 8 cases.

NSPCC, 2017

“As the extent of the level of sexual offences, including child sexual exploitation, is revealed one still cannot fail to be shocked at the levels of sexual abuse of children in our communities. It is no longer hidden.”

Ann Coffey MP, 2017

Values

The Magdalene Group is a value-driven charity seeking to make a real difference to the lives of the individuals we support. We demonstrate this through our values:

- Unconditional love and non-judgemental approach.
- Compassion and believing change is possible for all.
- Demonstrate social impact and be ‘change-makers’ to meet the needs of people on the margins of society.
- Develop and nurture engagement and build trusted relationships with clients, staff and volunteers.
- Offering a range of high-quality services and actively seeking to work in partnership.

CEO Report

Reaching out to build trusted relationships

The Magdalene Group has worked steadily over the last 20+ years to reach out and build trusted relationships with women and young people affected by sexual exploitation. A recurring theme in research into the experience of children and young people who have been abused or exploited is that they lacked a consistent, trusted adult in their lives with whom they could share concerns about their safety and wellbeing. We know that relationships can transform lives so we strive to create respectful, active relationships where young people and women are empowered. We also recognise just how high the stakes are for each individual who we make contact with, too many women and young people have been let down many times by many services. We work hard to ensure we respond with appropriate compassion and respect knowing that a negative first experience prevents people from seeking further support.

We continue to develop services that offer positive and genuine trusted relationships encouraging both women and young people to recognise or disclose their experiences to someone that they themselves have chosen to engage with and who can help them to explore vulnerability factors and improve their resilience to exploitation. It is with interest that this term has now been adopted in government to define best practice.

Our work is driven by our understanding of the long-lasting psychological impact of child sexual exploitation as we know that 70% of adult sex-working women were sexually abused as children.

In June last year the staff team received training in the Trauma Informed Approach by Zoe Lodrick. In utilising this therapeutic approach we can begin to identify the unmet needs of the young people and women in order to understand how to keep them safe.

This year we have been working with the Centre of Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse in order to build our evaluation capacity. In partnership with the University of Nottingham we have undertaken an extensive literature review of what evaluation tools and methods are available and how we can more accurately measure our impact with young people. This will help us to develop a Theory of Change evidenced through our monitoring and evaluation framework.

We also work to ensure we provide a platform for young people to share their voice about our service and were pleased to be awarded monies from the Listening Fund by Esmee Fairbairn which enables us to develop meaningful listening approaches. Over the next two years we will be looking to develop activities directly with young people to improve outcomes in this area and will share the information we learn with local stakeholders.

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to thank all supporters of The Magdalene Group, trustees, volunteers, staff, funders, church groups, voluntary sector and statutory partner agencies who provide support to us year on year as we continue to work in this most challenging of areas.

Suzi Heybourne
CEO

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse estimated that there are 18,800 children at risk of sexual exploitation, which is 4% of all children that are deemed to be in need of support across England and Wales.

IISCA, 2018

Reaching out to build relationships with women facing multiple and complex barriers

Doorway Women's Service supported 104 women with the following issues

Doorway Services

- **Street outreach** – every week a team of three make vital contact with women who are street-based sex workers providing follow up and support
- **Drop-in** – a place of safety, providing nurture, listening, lunch and hot drink
- **Befriending** – weekly sessions to work through individual needs
- **Prison visiting**
- **Computer suite**
- **Advocacy**
- **Independent Sexual Violence Advisor**
- **Ugly Mugs service**
- **Netreach** – reaching out to indoor sex-workers
- **Trafficked women support**
- **Freephone support and live chat**

Drug and alcohol addiction
Sexual violence and rape
Exiting sex work
Isolation and loneliness
Crisis intervention Domestic violence
Finance, debt and benefits education
Housing Sexual health
Offending, crime and criminal justice
Physical health and mental health
Sexual exploitation and coercion
Losing children to adoption
Safe sex work



“I can be honest with you, you’ve seen me on the street, in prison, in my good times and my bad times, you’ve always been there for me, you’re like the family I never had.”

Ruth, 2018

“You know me here, I don’t have to repeat my story over and over again, it is so lovely to be known, I’m not a client or service user here, I’m just me! I’m just Jodie! I’ve never had that before, never!”


Jodie, 2018

Reaching out on sexual exploitation of young people in Norfolk

The Rose Project offers

- Specialist support services to young people at risk of, or who have experienced, child sexual exploitation (CSE) in Norfolk through 1:1 support based on the individual's needs and risks
- Specialist support to young people who are reported missing in Norfolk
 - Return Home Interviews and follow up support
 - Helping explore the reasons why they go missing
 - Addressing triggers and behaviours to help reduce patterns and cycles
 - Identifying the young persons needs
 - Reducing the risk of repeat missing episodes
 - Helping young people to be aware of the risks when missing
 - Missing support work sessions

“We hear all too often how young people mistook the sexual exploitation they experienced for love because they had little experience of warm and loving relationships. Very often they feel that the only person who is showing them any care in the first place is the person who is abusing them”

 Rose worker



1st April 17-31st March 18

500 young people accessed the Rose Project

940 face-to-face sessions

699 1:1 sessions around CSE work.

189 return home interviews and missing support work sessions.

District	Out of 500
Breckland	12%
Broadland	6%
Great Yarmouth	15%
North Norfolk	15%
Norwich City	25%
South Norfolk	8%
West Norfolk	17%
Unknown	2%

Ages	Out of 500
8-9	1%
10-11	4%
12-13	18%
14-15	34%
16-17	34%
18-25	3%
Unknown	6%

“Because when I talk about it I can see it, feel it, hear it and taste it ... I try to say the words. I feel dirty inside, I feel more dirty telling you about it because it hurts me inside, it really hurts but I really want to share this with you because I trust you”

Young person

Reaching out to educate and inform young people how to recognise the signs of sexual exploitation

“It is amazing how two of the hardest to reach young people have just sat there and engaged with you - both workers done a fantastic job!”

Care Home Manager

The Jigsaw Programme has developed a range of accredited education programmes which are delivered through small group work, drop ins and larger workshops throughout Norfolk in schools, youth groups and care homes, ensuring we work to prevent child sexual exploitation and ensure young people recognise and understand how to stay safe.

We introduced a range of sexual health interventions to young people where there are concerns of CSE and we continue to respond to emerging issues by developing new courses that cover how young people understand healthy relationships in the ever changing arena of increased availability of online pornography and the constant emerging of new digital dangers.

Reaching out to provide a warm and nurturing home for girls affected by Child Sexual Exploitation

En Route is our new supported accommodation service providing a therapeutic home for girls aged 16–18

Our approach is to safeguard young women in a community setting, where they can learn how to manage risk, receive specialised therapeutic support and develop self-esteem, whilst living somewhere welcoming and safe.

En Route places high emphasis on building trusted relationships in order to provide the opportunity for young women to continue to live in Norfolk when this is in their best interest.

The project being located in the community necessitates managing risk differently and depends on trusting and collaborative relationships with all stakeholders.



“It Does Not Stop Because You Turn 18”

Report by NWG June 2018

Reports have shown that this milestone birthday can be a difficult time for many young people in need of any kind of support. We will continue to develop our transitional programme to ensure vulnerable young people continue to receive the support they need when they turn 18. A time when young people could be particularly vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.

Financial Report

September 2016–August 2017

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS £	RESTRICTED FUNDS £	31/8/17 TOTAL FUNDS £	31/8/16 TOTAL FUNDS £
INCOMING AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	83,756	275,092	358,848	408,797
Investment income	118	-	118	665
Total	83,874	275,092	358,966	409,462
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities				
Training and consultancy	-	8,691	8,691	11,369
Travel and similar items	-	18,852	18,852	14,263
Insurance	-	1,391	1,391	1,276
Printing, postage, and stationery	-	4,618	4,618	3,795
Telephone	-	5,079	5,079	5,112
Rent and rates	-	12,165	12,165	12,165
Equipment repairs	-	1,191	1,191	787
Miscellaneous expenditure	-	1,985	1,985	-
Accountancy	485	1,938	2,423	1,778
Volunteers expenses	-	2,357	2,357	1,785
Depreciation	3,408	-	3,408	3,489
Salaries	14,570	224,540	239,110	181,488
Client expenses	-	3,479	3,479	5,182
Fundraising fees	4,354	4,352	8,706	8,645
Refreshments	-	1,201	1,201	1,352
Cleaning	-	2,640	2,640	2,489
Advertising	620	2,482	3,102	6,670
Bank charges	99	394	493	500
Professional fees and subscriptions	-	6,883	6,883	3,235
Motor expenses	-	1,794	1,794	2,746
Exceptional items	-	-	-	53,645
Total	23,536	306,032	329,568	321,771
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)	60,338	(30,940)	29,398	87,691
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	108,524	199,934	308,458	220,767
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	168,862	168,994	337,856	308,458

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities

Our Trustees

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Nicholas Miller, Company Secretary
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The Magdalene Group,
61 King Street,
Norwich, NR1 1PH

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