



# Victim First

## Monthly Newsletter – Issue 3

### Overview

Greetings from Victim First! We are delighted to welcome you to our newsletter. We are thrilled to share these updates with you and hope you find the newsletter both enlightening and engaging. Thank you for your continued support.

### Catch22 Spotlight

Catch22's annual justice conference is back. The second edition of “**The role of the third sector in the criminal justice system**” returns on Wednesday 27th November in London.

It will provide an opportunity for those working across the sector to explore how third sector services can better collaborate and coordinate to ensure the best possible outcomes for those it supports.

To find out more and reserve your free tickets visit - [Eventbrite](#)

### Magic Moments



#### Lights, camera, action!

We held a filming day with our staff to some get new and exciting content. We've got so much content coming your way! You won't want to miss this!

### Key Statistics



We received **22 self-referrals**



We provided **advocacy** to **40** service users



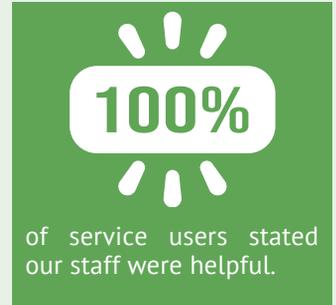
We provided **practical support**, including personal alarms to **45** service users.



We spent **38.5 hours** at community events



We have provided **information** about Victim First to **134 professionals**



\*September 2024

### Hate Crime Week 2024

From October 12th to 19th, 2024, we observe **National Hate Crime Week**, a time dedicated to standing in solidarity with those impacted by hate crimes. This week encourages individuals and organisations to take a firm stand and actively confront hate crime.

This initiative offers a chance to:

- Raise awareness about hate crimes
- Promote tolerance and inclusivity
- Encourage reporting of incidents
- Support prevention and intervention efforts



During Hate Crime Week, our goal is to raise awareness and understanding of all forms of hate crime, as well as the support available for those affected. **Be sure to follow us on social media to stay informed!**

At Victim First, we stand against hate. If you or someone you know feels targeted, we're here to help.

### A Visit to Gloucestershire

Manjeeta and Daniel visited **Restorative Gloucestershire**, to talk all things RJ. Manjeeta said “I had the most inspiring afternoon discussing all things restorative. The most important learning that I'm going to take away is that being restorative is always about the individual/s and THEIR journey to where THEY want to go.”





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### Feedback

“Victim First are doing a fabulous job and are an invaluable service.”

“I had a understanding caseworker, was able to be provided with the information provided.”

### Engagement



Throughout September, our team has been actively participating in university fresher fairs. We took part in the **De Montfort University Fair** and the **University of Leicester Support and Opportunities Fair**. This was a fantastic chance to connect with new students and share information about the support services we offer. Including specific support sessions for students.

### Contact Us

Email us: [victimfirst@catch-22.org.uk](mailto:victimfirst@catch-22.org.uk)

Visit our website: [www.victimfirst.org](http://www.victimfirst.org)

Call us: 0800 953 95 95

### Case Study

This young service user was referred to **Victim First Futures via Leicestershire Police** after receiving malicious communications from family members.

Upon first contact with the service user, they explained that they were particularly struggling with **feelings of anxiety**, causing them to not be able to eat and **unable able to attend school**.

The service user was provided with a **mental health safety plan** and information regarding distraction techniques, with the aim of keeping the service user safe. **Advice, information, and emotional support** was also provided, encouraging the service user to engage with the school regarding a return. A referral was also made to the **Restorative Justice** provision at Victim First.

At the end of support from Victim First Futures this service user had **returned to school** full time and was completing their exams. The service user also had **reduced feelings of anxiety**. The service user thanked for all the support provided by Victim First Futures.

### Staff Spotlight

**Name:** Manjeeta **Role:** Head of Service

Being Head of Service means that I lead the amazing team at Victim First and I get to shape the way my service fits in with local, national and organisational strategy. It means I can make a difference.

I've been at Victim First for 9 years, and what a journey it has been. Here are some of my favourite highlights:

- In my first role at Victim First, as an Administrative Data Analyst, I developed a case management system on Excel. I had no idea how to, but after watching countless YouTube videos, I taught myself how to 'code'. That case management system (although not perfect) was the system we went on to use for 8 years.
- We have won Catch22 Team of the Year twice!
- Being nominated by colleagues and chosen by the CEO at Catch22 to attend the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in 2017

Outside of work, I am a huge football fan, I'm an avid reader and absolutely love anything to do with Harry Potter.

### What's next for Victim First?

#### Victim First Annual Conference

Exciting work is underway at Victim First as we prepare for our inaugural Victim First Annual Conference, scheduled to take place in early 2025. Stay tuned for more details in our upcoming newsletters.

#### Subscribe to our newsletter

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