

Victim First Monthly Newsletter – Issue 5

Overview

🌲 Warm holiday greetings from Victim First! 🌲

We are thrilled to have you join our newsletter during this joyous season. We can't wait to share our updates with you and hope you find the content both informative and enjoyable. Thank you for your ongoing support, and we wish you a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!

Key Statistics: November 2024



New Downloadable Resources

Our Victim First Futures service, for young victims of crime, now has downloadable resources on our website.

This includes our **NEW Victim First Futures Guides**, which includes self-help information and engaging activities. They are available for the following ages:

- 4 to 7 years old
- 8 to 12 years old
- 13 years old upwards

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You can download these resources here - <u>Victim</u> <u>First Futures Downloadable Resources</u>

Giving back to the local community

Over the past month, Charlotte, our dedicated Domestic Abuse Specialist, organised a food collection. Just before Christmas, we had the privilege of delivering our contributions to the **New Parks Food Bank.**

This effort provided much-needed support to those in our community but also highlighted the spirit of giving that defines this festive season. **We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who donated, y**our kindness has made a significant difference.



Catch22 Spotlight

This month Catch22 held a webinar focusing on Romance Fraud: The Scam Sweeping the UK. Within the webinar it focused how on to identify warning signs, discussions around the legal framework and how victim services can support those impacted.

You can watch it back here - <u>Romance Fraud</u> <u>Webinar</u>



Magic Moments

On Wednesday the 18th of December, the Victim First team enjoyed a fantastic Christmas Away Day filled with fun and learning.

It was wonderful to spend quality time together, and celebrate our achievements.

A huge thank you to the entire team for your hard work and dedication this year!





Feedback

"She gave me all the information I needed but hadn't had from the police"

"Thank you so much. You did everything. You saved my life. "

"Chloe knew the court procedures, and gave a bigger explanation of what was going to happen. She got rid of my fears and worries about the unknown really."

"Victim First Futures was a really good thing for my daughter."

Staff Spotlight



Contact Us

Email us: victimfirst@catch-22.org.uk
Visit our website: www.victimfirst.org
Call us: 0800 953 95 95

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Case Study

Victim First provided long-term support to a victim who had been subjected to **ongoing ASB** for several years with her neighbour, involving **verbal and physical abuse.** She didn't feel safe inside the home and felt unable to go out and was too scared to take her son to the park. This was causing her to become very **deflated and depressed**. She had been trying to move house for a while but this was proving difficult.

Our Case Worker provided the service user with a **personal alarm**, to increase her feelings of personal safety and to support her leaving the home with her family.

Our Case Worker offered to write a **supporting letter** to her housing officer to assist her in her application to move house. In this letter, the Victim First Case Worker outlined the concerns and the harm this was causing to the victim and her family. A few months later, the victim was told she had won the bid on two properties. Things were starting to look up and she was really looking forward to moving and starting her new life.

Two months later, she **moved into her new home.** The family was much happier and are doing lots of fun family activities. The service user said that having someone to talk to about everything was one of the best things for her. **She said she would recommend the service to anyone who may be in need of it.**

Staff Spotlight

Name: Jasmine Role: Interim Partnership Manager

It has been a privilege to serve as the Interim Partnership Manager for Victim First over the past nine months. In this role, I have been responsible for managing partnerships with local organisations, overseeing service communications, and engaging with the community across Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland (LLR). A highlight of my tenure has been the creation and mobilisation of our new community response model, which addresses both local and national demands, ensuring that residents across LLR can access our services.

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family and animals, and I find relaxation in attending yoga classes whenever I can.

After two and a half years at Victim First, where I previously supported young victims of crime, I am now handing this role back to Sian, who will continue to develop our partnerships and expand our presence across LLR. I am excited to begin a new chapter within Catch22 with the Young Londoners Victim Service, where I will support a new team in delivering trauma-informed support to young victims of crime across London.

What's next for Victim First?

Victim First Conference

Our first conference is being held on Wednesday 29th January, if you are a professional across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland and you want to attend drop us an email for more information. <u>Victimfirst@catch-22.org.uk</u>