

Domestic Abuse Survivors

Registered Charity 1183864

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I set up Domestic Abuse Survivors (D.A.S) in 2019 after attending a white Ribbon event and taking up a voluntary placement in a Domestic Abuse Refuge to give back to society. After 14 Months working with families and single Survivors of Domestic Abuse and after my own experience of being in a Domestic Violence relationship for 7 Years ending when I secured a 30 Month conviction where the perpetrator served the full 30 months due to being released after 15 months and breaking all bail/additional bail conditions upon release. I started helping to supply items into refuge with the support of the local community clothes, food, toiletries, cleaning products, weekly washing supplies and toys for the children. It was huge success and so gratefully received, it really made me really think how lucky I was to not have had to of fled to a refuge and leave everything behind. D.A.S was born and I helped anyone who reached out for support and supplied items just to make life that little bit easier after fleeing Domestic Abuse and to show there is hope and light. It was really successful I then went to work In a Semi-Independent placement working with 16–18-year-olds on care orders, I helped those young people through the charity and ‘Christmas was huge!’ I would take in food and toiletries when needed as these young people were also victims of Domestic Abuse weather Directly or Indirectly the emotional impact can be huge in all cases. Then I took on a role as a Sexual Assault Crisis worker supporting victims (Men, Women and Children) of Sexual Assaults through forensic examinations this again strengthened my knowledge of supporting Survivors. In August 2020 I was granted funding by Buckinghamshire Children’s Social Services as an Independent support worker for those aged 16-18 years (Care Leavers), Again this role is all about helping survivors of Domestic Abuse. I take the young people on days out, for coffee or Lunch, I help them with items when they move into there own accommodation, Birthday/Christmas gifts, help with food shopping, Toiletries, cleaning products, clothing anything they need that would usually be provided by a support network these young people are often lacking. I still have weekly contact if not more with my very 1<sup>st</sup> client and I send her and her children gifts every Christmas! Aside from young people the charity supports any survivor of Domestic abuse with items including clothes, food, toiletries, cleaning products, Toys, household items new and donated but not limited too. The Charities aim is to help Survivors build a new start with a little less worry! The service is completely client led and helps those to regain control of their futures after fleeing or helps to support them to flee.

We are a non-profit organisation that runs completely on fundraising and grants to be able to do our work. We Thank everyone for the wonderful support offered however big or small.

Kind Regards,

Vicki Wheaton