

Behind Closed Doors

An idea for an exhibition to raise awareness around domestic abuse

The Behind Closed Doors Exhibition has been designed to raise awareness of Domestic Abuse in response to members and individuals' reluctance to acknowledge that the problem exists at all and definitely not in their branch/church.

The exhibition features 16 acrylic A4 sized doors of different colours, each indicating a different type of abuse. 16 life size silhouettes (14 female and 2 male) accompany the acrylic doors. Case studies of survivor stories of the abuse have been produced on one side of A4 with a verse from Psalm 139, a reflection on the case study and a prayer on the other side. These have been produced in English and Welsh.

A pop-up banner illustrating a large yellow door with the Live Fear Free contact details – telephone, message etc so that if the exhibition triggers awareness of abuse and individuals need to seek help, they can do so. We are not the experts; we can raise awareness and then the professionals need to support the victims of abuse.

The exhibition is mobile and can be taken around churches and MU branches initially and then out to the community. It can be displayed as a standalone display or the materials can be used as part of a branch/deanery/diocesan meeting and is flexible in its application. MU members need to be aware of triggers and it is recommended that they have undertaken Safeguarding training or participated in the 'Ask Me' training provided by Welsh Women's Aid.

A Restored Church pack is being developed in Wales to support clergy/lay members address this issue.

Llandaff Mothers' Union has worked in partnership with Restored, Welsh Women's Aid and the Church in Wales Safeguarding Team to develop this exhibition and it continues to be developed. Videos and audio recordings of the Case studies are being produced and a QR code (placed on the case studies) will enable access to the materials on mobile phones.

