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**Violence Abuse and Mental Health Network**

**December Newsletter**

**VAMHN Announcements**

**VISION Call for Small Projects**

Our partner organisation [VISION](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvision.city.ac.uk%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7C8c18367f5e7a43f3948c08dbbea80e4f%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C638313401224413151%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=p%2BJOknOHFYRoZQ4Lx1G2zPBxo84Q6JEntMzMFcysM6g%3D&reserved=0) has announced a [Call for Small Projects](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvision.city.ac.uk%2Fcall-for-small-projects%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7C8c18367f5e7a43f3948c08dbbea80e4f%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C638313401224413151%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BJNBFRhjCEknTNEtAMeeq6vgXBLCSVdve90pmyYFtT0%3D&reserved=0). They have funding available for a limited number of complementary projects that each contribute to at least one of [VISION’s five core objectives](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvision.city.ac.uk%2Fresearch%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7C8c18367f5e7a43f3948c08dbbea80e4f%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C638313401224413151%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=7B17LRiln%2BDvmFZwYB0Jzuh2wngVNx%2F%2FNGrpkyNRJqQ%3D&reserved=0). Projects of up to £25,000 should address gaps in existing knowledge and data on violence and health and can use quantitative, qualitative, review, mixed or other methods. Projects can involve research, knowledge exchange, arts and/or other approaches. Projects should start between 1st April – 31st October 2024 and should last up to one year. There is a simple application form to complete which should be emailed to VISION\_Management\_Team@city.ac.uk by 17.00 on 10th January 2024.

This call is a great opportunity for any academics particularly Early Career Researchers, any voluntary and community sector organisation working on violence prevention where money and resources are tight, but research ideas and needs are plentiful, and any partnerships across sectors and organisations working together to reduce violence. More information and the downloadable application form can be found here: [https://vision.city.ac.uk/call-for-small-projects/](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fvision.city.ac.uk%2Fcall-for-small-projects%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7C8c18367f5e7a43f3948c08dbbea80e4f%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C638313401224413151%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2BJNBFRhjCEknTNEtAMeeq6vgXBLCSVdve90pmyYFtT0%3D&reserved=0)

**New VAMHN Podcast – coming soon!**

The VAMHN is excited to announce the upcoming launch of our new podcast *Pulling the Strings: Conversations About Coercive Control*. This podcast hosted by Dr Sharli Paphitis, Dr Katherine Saunders and Anjuli Kaul will explore the diverse aspects of coercive control, featuring a different expert guest in each episode. The podcast will launch in the new year and will be available on all major streaming platforms – watch this space for more information shortly!



**Other Training, Events and Opportunities**

**16 Days 16 Films** will be screening a series of short films online as part of their annual short film competition. The screening takes place during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence beginning November 25th and running until 10th December, with one film being released each day. For more information visit their website [here](https://www.16days16films.com/).

**The Centre for Social Justice Research (CSJR)** is hosting a roundtable to explore how research and practice can contribute to the prevention of domestic abuse. The event titled “16 Days of Activism 2023: Pioneering Prevention through Research” will take place on 4th December from 3-5pm at the University of Westminster. To find out more click [here](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/16-days-of-activism-2023-pioneering-prevention-through-research-tickets-756092943347?aff=oddtdtcreator).

**16 Days 16 Films** will be screening a series of short films online as part of their annual short film competition. The screening takes place during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence beginning November 25th and running until 10th December, with one film being released each day. For more information visit their website [here](https://www.16days16films.com/).

**Saint Mary’s Centre** are running their 21st Annual Conference at the Midland Hotel, Manchester from the 23rd-24th April 2024. The conference is titled “Breaking Barriers: Reaching underserved groups and navigating the criminal justice system”. Their call for abstracts for posters and papers addressing all aspects of sexual assault closes on the 31st December 2023. To find out more and reserve your place, contact stmarys.sarc@mft.nhs.uk or call 0161 276 6515.

**The Journal of Gender Based Violence** have issued a call for papers around vicarious trauma prevention for gender-based violence researchers. Abstract submissions close on the 1st February 2024. For more details click [here](https://bristoluniversitypressdigital.com/view/journals/jgbv/jgbv-overview.xml?tab_body=call-for-papers).

**Job Opportunities**

**Wiltshire’s Substance Use Support Service** have a vacancy available for a Practitioner Psychologist. The job is offered at full time (or part time) at £51,975 - £60,803 DOE. The deadline for applications is the 6th December 2023. For full information and to apply click [here](https://careers.turning-point.co.uk/jobs/job/Practitioner-Psychologist-Connect/8757).

**University College London** are running a PhD opportunity on technology-facilitated abuse. The deadline for applications is the 8th January. To find out more click [here](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/epsrc-doctoral-training/-students/apply-ucl-epsrc-dtp-studentship).

**Ongoing research**

**The RIVA Study** is run by researchers based at King’s College London, the Newcastle University, the University of Exeter, and Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. They are conducting a study that aims to understand how to support the involvement of people with lived experience in the successful development and implementation of Independent Domestic Violence Advocates (IDVAs) in healthcare settings. They are running 5-6 online focus group of around 8-10 participants (or individual interviews if preferred), followed by a brief online follow-up survey. They are seeking participants to attend these focus groups. You are eligible to participate if:

* **You have recently been supported by an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) –** [click here to view the study flyer.](https://www.canva.com/design/DAFf4Jjr5no/gt1Yup8rDTPA18qP1CQ4mg/edit?utm_content=DAFf4Jjr5no&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton) *(Participants will receive a £50 e-voucher for attending the focus group, and a further £12.50 e-voucher for completing the follow-up online survey as a thank you for your time.)*

OR

* **You are a professional with knowledge of healthcare-based IDVA programmes –** [click here to view the study flyer.](https://www.canva.com/design/DAFf4ZHWm-0/NzvRzo2aflEtXD7RFuKCPA/edit?utm_content=DAFf4ZHWm-0&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=sharebutton)

Groups will be run separately run for people with lived experience and for professional stakeholders. If you would like to find out more, please email Anjuli Kaul at anjuli.1.kaul@kcl.acuk or call/text Camilla Forbes at 07407 856476.

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| Books         Resources**Life or Death? Precenting Domestic Homicides and Suicides of Black and Minoritised Women** – *Imkaan and the Centre for Women’s Justice*Exposure to domestic abuse can lead to long-term negative impacts on the victim's physical and psychological wellbeing. The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act requires agencies to collaborate on crime reduction strategies, including data sharing. This study aimed to examine the knowledge obtained by integrating information from police and health-care datasets through data linkage and analyse associated risk factor clusters. To read the full report click [here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwomensaid.us18.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3D352a5d9f70ad29212c221f6fd%26id%3D05501943dc%26e%3Dd2062923ac&data=05%7C01%7Canjuli.1.kaul%40kcl.ac.uk%7C861e84c4d099405b7ada08dbf0c48c76%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C638368499175778494%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=q8v6QqqlipOjNTMeqPwdYWYK4UciUeH4Zx%2FPkBYztis%3D&reserved=0).**Psychosocial interventions for survivors of rape and sexual assault experienced during adulthood** – *O’Doherty et al, 2023*This review presents an assessment of the international evidence on any type of psychosocial intervention offered to individuals who experienced rape, sexual assault or sexual abuse as adults. Thirty-six studies were included in the review with 3,992 participants in total. To read the full paper published in the *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* click [here](https://www.cochranelibrary.com/cdsr/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD013456.pub2/full).**Life insurance and economic abuse** - *Surviving Economic Abuse*This briefing identifies the impact of life insurance policies on victim-survivors of economic abuse. It makes recommendations for how the insurance industry can prevent the use of their products as a form of economic abuse through changes to policies and practice. The recommendations also set out the critical role of industry leaders in producing guidance, like UK Finance’s Financial Abuse Code, published in 2021 with the support of SEA. This guidance should make best practice recommendations for firms to follow, in line with their Consumer Duty to prevent foreseeable harm to victim-survivors of economic abuse as vulnerable customers. To read the full briefing click [here](https://survivingeconomicabuse.org/news/life-insurance-and-economic-abuse-a-new-briefing-from-sea/).**What Is Justice? Perspectives of Victims-Survivors of Gender-Based Violence** – *Hester et al, 2023*This article explores “how do victims-survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) experience and perceive justice?” based on interviews with 251 victims-survivors with experience of different types of GBV and criminal, civil, and family justice systems. Victims-survivors were found to have multiple perceptions of justice, related to different points in their journey following abuse and regarding individual, community, and societal responses. To read the full paper published in *Violence Against Women* click [here](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/10778012231214772).*For more useful resources and links, take a look at our website here*  |

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**VAMHN Forum**

Whether you want to share a survey, find collaborators for a bid or discuss a paper you’ve written, the VAMHN forum is a space for you to do that. To sign up to the forum and start connecting to other VAMHN members click [here](https://vamhn6.wixsite.com/forum). Full instructions on how to use the forum can be found on the homepage.



**VAMHN Directories**

The VAMHN has developed three active directories available on our website for our members to access. To access our directories masterpage click [here](http://www.vamhn.co.uk/directories.html).

1. **VAMHN Data Directory**

This resource indexes UK datasets, data repositories, and aggregate/published statistics about violence, abuse, and mental health, providing you with information about these resources and how to access them.  To access this resource, click [here](https://www.vamhn.co.uk/data-directory.html). We’ll be continually adding to the data directory, so if you know of a resource that we haven’t yet indexed, please tell us about it by completing the template at the bottom of the Directory webpage and emailing to vamhn@kcl.ac.uk. Please note that the resource should be either publicly available or available upon application. You do not need a password to access the data directory.

1. **VAMHN Expert Directory**

Our Expert Directory collates details of Network member expertise – e.g., academics, policy-makers, practitioners, those with lived experience, etc. This resource can be used to help members find experts to help with bids or research or more general questions and queries. To access the Expert Directory webpage click [here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.vamhn.co.uk%2Fexpert-directory.html&data=04%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7Ca698467a69994c7b1d3608d93faa0150%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C637610821666076220%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=7i15Fcr0PZl%2Bz4LWqeGwy8mxFxq6cEVgikE47ufXHVk%3D&reserved=0).**The password to the webpage is UKRInetwork1!**

1. **VAMHN Network Directory**

This directory is for organisations and networks – again, academic, policy-making, practitioner, lived experience, third sector, voluntary sector, etc. These may be formal or informal; organisations, discussion forums, mailing lists; etc. The resource can be used to help members find relevant networks to join, to signpost others to and potentially to help with bids or research or more general questions and queries. To access the Network Directory webpage click [here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.vamhn.co.uk%2Fnetwork-directory.html&data=04%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7Ca698467a69994c7b1d3608d93faa0150%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C637610821666086211%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=gPOPvWPmVZ%2FtS2Hy4S3BkI0VNwOneADfYfdNpIeMC2g%3D&reserved=0).**The password to the webpage is UKRInetwork1!**

Both the expert and network directory webpages include instructions on how to use them effectively, and also include a video introduction from our network co-investigator Dr Jude Towers.

If you would like to add your details either the expert or network directory, you can download the template form from our website at the web-links above and send to vamhn@kcl.ac.uk.

We hope you find the directories useful! If you would like to refer these directories onto colleagues who are not currently members of the VAMHN, please kindly ask them to join the network [here](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.vamhn.co.uk%2Fjoin-the-network.html&data=04%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7Ca698467a69994c7b1d3608d93faa0150%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C637610821666096207%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=CSqhbzIFkiWOdWpxFoDCCCRlK73ldG1qKXnLM1XM4lg%3D&reserved=0) and contact us at vamhn@kcl.ac.uk to request the password.

1. **VAMHN Blog Directory**

Our blog directory which contains blogs by people with lived and living experience of violence, abuse and mental health. The blogs are about diverse forms of domestic and sexual violence, diverse types of mental health and different experiences of services e.g. health, policing, research etc. To access the blog directory, click [here](https://www.vamhn.co.uk/directories.html). The password to the webpage is *UKRInetwork1!* For any and all enquiries about this directory please contact vamhn@kcl.ac.uk.

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| Image result for website icon**Useful Links**VAMHN website: [https://www.vamhn.co.uk/](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.vamhn.co.uk%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cvamhn%40kcl.ac.uk%7C6bec7ea2adcb4d744b2c08db3b478d1b%7C8370cf1416f34c16b83c724071654356%7C0%7C0%7C638168950713770494%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=qgvbPGru9Pk6PU%2FWm2Hwlu%2Bfk1bqcLQwrxcppVFKohI%3D&reserved=0)VAMHN twitter: @VAMHN**If you have any collaboration or funding opportunities, events or resources for our newsletter, or you would like your organisation to be featured in our community spotlight, please contact us at** **vamhn@kcl.ac.uk** |

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