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**Violence Abuse and Mental Health Network**

**April 2024 Newsletter**

**VAMHN Announcements**

**NEW VAMHN BLOG: Impact in Qualitative Research: Sian Oram on creative workshops with coercive control survivors**

Read VAMHN Director Dr Sian Oram’s blog for the Qualitative Applied Health Research Centre (QUAHRC) about our survivor-led creative workshop, which explored coercive control: available [here](https://www.quahrc.co.uk/impact-in-qualitative-research-sian-oram-on-creative-workshops-with-coercive-control-survivors).



**Other Training, Events and Opportunities**

**The Nuffield Department of Women's and Reproductive Health** is running the "Maternal Mental Health in Africa - Conversations" symposium. This hybrid event, taking place on 19th June. They are currently inviting abstracts on the following themes:

* Moving from Trial to Scale
* Working with Social Determinants
* Sustaining Capacity beyond Research

Submissions are welcome from researchers, advocates, practitioners, and individuals working in the NGO sector, with a focus on experiences and work conducted in Africa or with relevance to the African context. The deadline for abstract submissions is 15th April. For more information and to register your attendance click [here](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/maternal-mental-health-in-africa-conversations-tickets-853571624707?aff=oddtdtcreator).

**VISION and the Violence & Society Centre** are running a conference on Adolescent Domestic Abuse on 18th April at City, University of London from 10am-5pm. Registration is now open. To find out more and book your place, click [here](https://vision.city.ac.uk/news/upcoming-conference-adolescent-domestic-abuse/).

**NIHR** have issued a funding call for applications to Stage 1 of their Public Health Research Programme. This includes the “NIHR James Lind Alliance Priority Setting Partnerships rolling call” for projects which addresses the JLA PSP’s research priorities. The deadline for applications is 1pm on the 23rd April. Full information is available [here](https://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding/23176-nihr-james-lind-alliance-priority-setting-partnerships-rolling-call-phr-programme/35023).

**Prof. Gail Gilchrist** is giving her inaugural lecture at King’s College London on “New understanding and approaches to addressing intimate partner violence in the context of substance use” on the 16th May from 5.30pm-6.30pm at The Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience (London). To find out more and to attend click [here](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/professor-gail-gilchrist-inaugural-lecture-tickets-851342597627?aff=oddtdtcreator).

**Ongoing research**

**VISION** have extended the deadline of their consultation on Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) dashboard. The ONS data dashboard that brought together statistics and charts using various data sources on violence and abuse has now been taken down, due to reprioritisation. This consultation explores whether there is a need for such a dashboard to continue, and if so in what form. To share your thoughts, click [here](https://cityunilondon.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eG7pIc5tfc0EvT8). The deadline for contributions is the 22nd April. For more information about the dashboard click [here](https://vision.city.ac.uk/news/consultation-is-there-a-need-for-a-vawg-data-dashboard/).

**Evanthia Triantafyllidou** (a PhD Researcher at University of Bristol) is looking into the potential role of mind-body practices such as yoga, in the healing journey of women after experiencing domestic abuse. For this, she is currently conducting workshops and interviews -online and in-person- with survivors who have practised yoga after experiencing abuse as well as trauma informed yoga professionals delivering classes in community settings. In the interviews and workshops, she is using body-mapping which is an arts-based method, to offer participants the option to express themselves in non-verbal ways. For more information about the study, please get in touch at  [et14167@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:et14167@bristol.ac.uk).

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Books         Resources **Prevalence and risk of sexual violence victimization among mental**  **health service users: a systematic review and meta‑analyses** – *Kaul et al, 2024*  This systematic review aims to estimate the prevalence and odds of sexual violence victimisation within mental health services by gender and mental health setting (i.e. inpatient, outpatient and mixed settings). To read the full paper published in *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology* click [here](https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007/s00127-024-02656-8.pdf).  **Helping autistic people recognise unhealthy relationships** – *Pearson et al, 2024*  Following VAMHN funding, guidance on healthy relationships written specifically for autistic people has been developed. To access the guide, click [here](https://www.durham.ac.uk/news-events/latest-news/2024/04/autistic-guide-to-healthy-relationships/).    **Economic Abuse by An Intimate Partner and Its Associations with Women’s Socioeconomic Status and Mental Health**- *Mellar et al, 2024*  This study used a population-based and representative sample of 1,431 ever-partnered New Zealand women to explore associations between their experience of economic abuse and a range of mental health and financial outcomes. To read the full paper published in the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* click [here](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/08862605241235140).  **Domestic Homicides and Suspected Victim Suicides 2022-2023 Report** - *Domestic Homicide Project, 2024*  This is the third annual report from the national Domestic Homicide Project which examines all deaths identified by police as domestic abuse related to improve understanding of risk indicators, victim and perpetrator demographics. The report finds that across the three-year dataset, the most commonly identified antecedent risk factors for all suspects in domestic homicides and the perpetrators of prior domestic abuse in suspected victim suicides following domestic abuse were a) coercive controlling behaviour; b) mental ill health; c) alcohol and drug misuse, and; d) (threat/fear of, or actual) relationship ending/separation. To read the full report and executive summary click [here](https://www.vkpp.org.uk/vkpp-work/domestic-homicide-project/).  **What Women Want: Mental Health in the Context of Violence Against Women in Sri Lanka—A Qualitative Study of Priorities and Capacities for Care** – *Palfreyman et al. 2024*  This paper explores the views of survivors and service providers in Sri Lanka to better understand the mental health needs and preferences of VAW survivors and the develop suggestions for beneficial interventions in Sri Lankan contexts. To read the full paper published in Violence Against Women click [here](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/10778012241230326#tab-contributors).  *For more useful resources and links, look at our website here* | | |



**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:vamhn@kcl.ac.ukl) 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](mailto:vamhn@kcl.ac.uk).

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