

CELEBRATING 21 YEARS

Annual Report

2007-2008



doncaster rape and sexual abuse counselling service

THE DISTANCE TRAVELLED

Annual Report

2007—2008

Doncaster Rape & Sexual Abuse Counselling Service

**It does not matter how slowly you go
so long as you do not stop**

Confucius

The Organisation

Trustees 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008

Kay Marriott	(Chair)
Malcolm Briggs	(Secretary)
Matthew Smith	(Treasurer)
Judith Smith	

Staff at 31 March 2008

Sarah Beckett	Independent Sexual Violence Advocate
Jan England	Counsellor
Penny Flintoff	Development Officer
Ian Gowland	Counsellor
Catherine Higgins	Counsellor
Caren Horsfield	Counsellor
Adriana Lombardi-Bonfeld	Counsellor
Alison Turner	Finance Officer
Pat Wymer	Counsellor

Objects of DRASACS (Formerly DRSACC)

The objects of the charity, as stated in the constitution, are:

To relieve the mental and physical distress of people who have suffered sexual assault, in particular by providing a counselling service.

To relieve the mental distress of people supporting and/or caring for adults or children who have been sexually assaulted by a third party/parties, in particular by providing counselling, group work and information.

To advance the education of the public, by raising awareness and promoting and/or conducting education and research around the issues of sexual assault.

Chair's Report

I am pleased and proud to report on this, our twenty first year of operation. It is a remarkable story, and one that everyone who has been involved since 1987, and before, until the present day should take pride in. That it is not an unusual story, as so many voluntary sector organisations began and grew in a similar way, I think is a testament to the difference ordinary people can make to society when they have the inspiration, determination and courage to stand and to work for what they believe in.

My thanks and commendations again go to the staff. This has been an unusual year, in that several counsellors left for different reasons in a fairly short space of time, leaving us in a position of recruiting almost a whole new team. Working in the area of sexual abuse can be distressing and is not without personal cost, so my appreciation and best wishes go to those who have left but who contributed so much while they were with us. However, I am delighted to welcome the new team, who have brought fresh energy to the organisation, have worked so well together to contribute to positive change and to maintain the high ethical standards that have always been a hallmark of the agency. Although not involved in direct service delivery, other staff enable its delivery, supplying vital financial controls, funding bids, admin support, accountability to funders, liaison with external bodies and many other functions, without which we should be unable to operate.

Once again I pay tribute to my fellow trustees for their continued steadfast support and commitment that is freely given, rewarded only by the knowledge that their time, experience and expertise is helping to make a very real difference to the lives of so many vulnerable people. We aim to recruit additional trustees in the coming year to enhance the range of skills and knowledge available for the organisation.

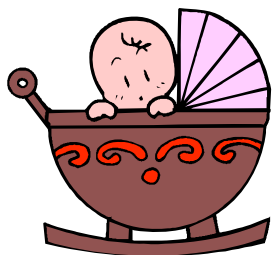
This is a very different organisation from that of twenty one years ago. It has grown and diversified from the original telephone help line to a service providing not only a help line but face to face and telephone counselling, independent sexual violence advocacy, a counselling service in Doncaster Prison, information, training, education, awareness raising, consultation and support and representation for the wider voluntary sector. Because of increased staff numbers and a growing range of services, this year we have begun to examine our structure, which hitherto has been non-hierarchical, in order to decide whether a change will now be of benefit. In the spirit of openness which has always been a feature of the service, this is with full involvement of both staff and trustees.

Our priorities for the coming year are, as always, to maintain funding for all areas of service delivery; the DoVeS project in Doncaster prison, in particular this year has been sustained by a number of one-off grants and we are very keen both to achieve secure funding for the work in Doncaster and to extend this work to both Lindholme and Moorlands. The staff situation during the year meant that we temporarily suspended plans to develop work with young people, but this is now once again an issue we wish to address. The work that we do is vital for the support of those who have suffered the most painful and damaging experiences, with profound and deep rooted consequences. The greatest reward that we, or they, could have, is for this service to be no longer required.

Kay Marriott
Chair of Trustees

The First 21 Years

Birth



One Thursday evening, 21 years ago, I was sitting in a small, rented room in a building on the outskirts of Doncaster, anxiously waiting for the phone to ring. Had I been less anxious, I may have been aware of the echo of human despair within that environment, for the building had housed the old National Assistance Board, where people on basic benefits had queued to plead their case for additional assistance to feed and clothe their families. Now we were inviting women to call and share their despair and desperation born, not from financial deprivation but from rape and sexual assault. This was the opening of Doncaster's Rape Crisis helpline and the culmination of over three years unpaid work, struggle and determination by a group of women to provide a service for other women and girls who were victims of a crime rarely acknowledged and for which even more rarely did they receive justice.

It was also the beginning of the long process of growing and developing the service to meet the need that we knew existed. The growth and development that we have achieved has exceeded the most optimistic dreams of that time. When the phone first rang that evening, I reached for it with some trepidation. We had spent months learning and training, using the best resources we could at that time but this was the real thing! I heard the friendly and encouraging voice of a neighbouring Rape Crisis Centre congratulating us on the opening of our help line. The hundreds and thousands of calls that have followed have not been so easy to listen to.

The Early Steps

We spent around four months in that building, providing two hours a week of help line service with a small group of volunteers and financed only by a grass roots funding, before our first successful bid for funds enabled us to move premises and employ our first paid worker. Inner Area Programme funding lasted for three and a half years and enabled the organisation to begin to mature, develop the structure that comes with employing staff, train and support more volunteers, spend time on raising the profile both of the agency and sexual violence and develop links and networks locally and nationally. We also began to provide a face to face, as well as, a telephone, service. Intensive efforts at the end of this period were rewarded, at the 11th hour and 59th minute, by being taken on to the mainstream budget of Doncaster MBC's Social Services Directorate.



Teenage Years



The relative security of this funding enabled us to move on to a further stage in our life. We changed our name to Doncaster Rape & Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre to better reflect the range of our work, had a further two changes of premises, moved from collective working to being governed by a management committee, made a number of successful funding bids including, notably, a National

Lottery bid which increased our paid staff to four and began to benefit from the emerging training for counselling qualifications. Then, two counsellors completed their Diploma in Counselling; today it is a minimum qualification for any counsellor working in the organisation. During all of this time we continuously worked to evolve and improve the service, using training and personal development, being abreast of thinking and development in the counselling arena, taking into account service user feedback and developing policy and practice to deliver the best possible service.

Growing Up

In 2003 we took another major step in starting to work with men. It took a long time for society to begin to accept the prevalence of the sexual abuse of women, and bringing this into public awareness, to a great degree, was a result of the justifiable anger and outrage that fuelled the feminist movement, from where the majority of Rape Crisis Centres sprang. Now, perhaps as a result of that progress, men were beginning to acknowledge that they too were abused and needed similar services. In a further mark of the growing maturity of the organisation we researched the need and began to offer the service; take up of this has grown from around 9% of total caseload to around 25%.



Other landmarks have included a groundbreaking project in HMP & YO1 Doncaster, providing counselling for prison inmates, as well as an Independent Sexual Violence Advocacy (ISVA) service which offers immediate practical and emotional support, primarily to recent victims of sexual violence. Professional external evaluation of the service in prison shows remarkable positive results for its users and the ISVA service adds a valuable extra dimension to the overall provision for victims; although available whether the crime is reported to the police or not, it should nonetheless help to address the shameful rates of prosecution and conviction, as the ISVA supports victims throughout the whole legal process, from report to court. We have also been a key partner in working to develop a Sexual Assault Referral Centre in South Yorkshire.

Coming of Age



Twenty one years on, after yet another move to larger and much more user-friendly premises, a full time Finance Officer manages an ever-more complicated basket of funding which includes Health, Local Authority and Central Government as well as a range of charitable trusts and foundations. A complement of nine full time staff includes six counsellors, all of whom have a full case load and there is a waiting list to use the service. We continue constantly to evaluate and review what we do, striving always to be the best that we can in service delivery, in efficient and effective management, in working to reduce or eliminate sexual abuse in society and in being a voice for the wider voluntary sector. This sounds like a success story, and indeed it is. It does not, however, fully reflect the constant pressure to maintain the service in an environment of time limited and short term funding, the times when it has been reduced to a bare minimum because of that situation, nor the commitment and dedication of staff who have stayed on to the very brink of redundancy when most rational people would have looked for safer employment.

Within recent years we have taken part in a Government consultation on their action plan to reduce sexual violence and abuse. This clearly spelt out the cost to society in financial as well as human terms of sexual violence, and it was hard not to be aware that we were now being told what we had been telling any who were prepared to listen, and many who weren't, for so long. For twenty one years we have been part of the collective voice of the survivors of sexual violence and of those providing services for them. Now we dare to hope that those in power have begun to listen and to put things in place to ensure availability of services for victims as well as education and public awareness so that our children do not grow up to repeat the patterns of a society that condones the abuse of its most vulnerable members. How many more years will pass before that becomes a reality?

Penny Flintoff
Development Officer



Report on the Year

As we entered our twenty first year, it was a time to reflect not only on how far we had come but also how far there is still to go. Sometimes, when a journey seems to stretch before you, it is only possible to appreciate how far you have already travelled by looking back; and the distance travelled is certainly remarkable. We can be proud of our achievements but can never lose sight of what there is still to achieve.

This year saw the challenge of most of the existing counselling team deciding, for their own individual reasons, to move on. It was sad to say goodbye to colleagues, some of whom had worked here for many years, and a time too of some anxiety. Inevitably in the interim period the amount of counselling we were able to provide was reduced, it was essential that we recruit a new team who would bond and maintain the values of the service and vital that the depth of knowledge and experience be not lost, but built on. At the same time, there was excitement at the opportunity for new knowledge, skill and enthusiasm to be brought into the organisation. The new team has proved more than equal to the task, bringing with them the benefits from their own varied backgrounds as well as new passion and zeal that have been a revitalising influence.

The DoVeS Project in HMP & YOI Doncaster continued to deliver impressive results, benefiting not only the clients themselves but the prison environment too, as positive changes in thinking, attitudes and behaviour impact upon this. Second year evaluation, once again carried out by the Department for Community Justice, Sheffield Hallam University, demonstrated the value of this work, building upon the first year's findings. The project also received the prestigious Una Padel award for an organisation working in the field of criminal justice, from the Centre for Crime and Justice Studies at Kings College, London. With the aim of influencing policy and practice within the national prison service, evaluation reports were distributed to key policy makers and a seminar held, where the results were presented. It remains our aim to promote this service in other local prisons as well as nationally. As one client said, "There was still something inside me that I hadn't spoken about and that hadn't allowed me to do the drugs programme properly, and that's why a counselling service is absolutely imperative, and I believe it should be in every jail. Every jail. Every jail".

The Independent Sexual Violence Advocacy service completed its first full year, the advantages of the early promotional work becoming apparent with ever-increasing referrals. This new service complements our core work, adding a new and valuable dimension to services for people who suffer sexual violence. There is great potential for development and much work still to be done, but this year has seen great strides, and the service can only grow when the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) in Rotherham opens early next year.

Staff have taken part in training as varied as working with children from both mental health and a legal focus, procurement, challenging public law, prison service and mental health, person-centred expressive art, attachment and therapy, dealing with fraud, note taking for legal processes, prison systems, and attended events focused on tackling sexual violence, governance, voluntary sector working in prisons and working with sexual violence. This is part of our commitment to both personal and organisational development. Also this year work began on evaluating and improving our data collection system; also preliminary work towards redesigning all our publicity materials, incorporating a new logo. It was at this time that the decision was made to

change our name from “Centre” to “Service”, to be implemented when the new materials were completed.

Our networking, liaison and awareness raising work continues, with membership or representational roles on Doncaster Domestic Violence Working Party, Doncaster CVS Board, Community Health Action Forum, Mental Health Partnership Board and Local Implementation Team, Safer Doncaster Partnership Executive, Violent Crime Theme Group and the newly formed Sexual Violence Forum and South Yorkshire Rape & Sexual Violence Steering Group. Individuals such as medical students, trainee counsellors, mental health workers and others have visited for information about the service or on sexual abuse generally. We are often contacted by local or regional radio stations for comments on media stories, and we take every opportunity to raise the profile of the prevalence and effects of sexual abuse and of the organisation.

Twenty one years on, we are a larger, better funded and more professional organisation, but we still face the same challenge of maintaining the service in an environment of short term funding. The difference is in the size of that challenge, with each successful development bringing with it the responsibility to sustain it. Twenty one years on, we have seen and contributed to some shift in public attitudes, but in a world where people still believe that those who suffer rape and sexual abuse should themselves be blamed for it, we are clearly not at the end of our journey. Thanks to the efforts of ourselves and others, understanding and awareness are increasing at Government levels; our hope is that the pace of change in the coming years will accelerate and we shall continue to be part of promoting that change.

Report from the Counsellors

Over the last twelve months the counselling team has undergone a dramatic change. With the exception of Caren, who continues to work mainly in the prison, there is now a completely new counselling team, including the organisation's first male counsellor. We took this opportunity to review policies and procedures and our counselling practices in line with current counselling thinking, our person-centred approach and, most importantly, the needs of those for whom we provide the service.

The waiting list for those seeking face to face counselling has reduced from its highest level, 130 in August 2007 with an average waiting time of eight months to see a counsellor, to 17 at the end of March 2008 and a waiting time of one to two months. In addition, with the re-introduction of the helpline service, we are offering an alternative support option both to those seeking initial help and those who may be waiting for counselling.

We continue to see a small number of refugees and asylum seekers with the support of interpreters from the Dove Centre and to offer support to those providing this sensitive interpretation.

The service has historically offered training and workshops to promote our work, provide information about the issues around rape and sexual abuse and to offer insight into the role of counselling as a means to resolve such issues. We have put together a new training strategy and workshops are available to local agencies, schools, colleges and other interested groups or organisations.

As part of our commitment to providing a professional service of the highest quality, we have continued to access relevant training and development opportunities. All current counsellors are actively working towards and being supported to achieve, professional accreditation with BACP. Workshops looking at balancing our responsibilities to our clients and to the courts regarding note taking have led to a revision of our note taking policy and procedures here at DRASACS.

We are currently using the CORE questionnaire with clients and have begun a more formal review process both during and at the end of counselling. These changes are enabling us to collect a broader range of information about our clients throughout their counselling. This is then useful, anonymously, in supporting our work in continuing to obtain adequate funding and in monitoring and evaluating the efficacy of the service provided and whether or not we are reaching as broad a cross-section of our client group as possible.

In addition to formal supervision arrangements, counsellors offer each other informal peer support for issues arising through their work and the new team has brought renewed energy and enthusiasm to the counselling service offered.

It is recognised that, due to the nature of counselling and the difficulties experienced by those who have been raped and sexually abused, it is important that our clients feel safe and that they can work with issues in ways and at a pace appropriate for them. The counselling we offer, therefore, is open ended and can often be long term. Being able to offer this to our clients enables them to relax and feel in control of their counselling so that they are then able to decide when they have done the work that they need to do and to end their counselling. This can be a significant experience for

those who have lived through the very powerlessness and lack of control associated with rape and sexual abuse.

The Counselling Team

My Experience as DRASACS's First Male Counsellor

Five years ago, DRASACS opened its doors to male clients. With the history of Rape Crisis agencies coming from the Women's Movement, this was a ground-breaking move and a major step towards recognising and responding to the needs of men who had experienced rape or childhood sexual abuse. It is unusual to find an agency such as DRASACS that provides a counselling service to both men and women, and this reflects the progress of the organisation. Since that time, DRASACS has received referrals from over 200 men, and currently, of the people who approach the agency for counselling, about one quarter is male.

Male survivors of childhood sexual abuse or sexual assault face many different barriers from women when it comes to disclosing that sexual abuse has happened to them. They may feel that they will be judged by society as incapable of defending themselves or as not masculine.

In August 2007, I joined the organisation as its first male counsellor. My background includes working at Survivors UK in London, an agency that supports male survivors. However, I was not employed to work exclusively with male clients, in fact my colleagues and I work with both male and female clients.

Initially, there was an understandable apprehension that any client, who had been abused by a man, as is the case for the majority of our clients, would not want to work with a male counsellor. In those first few months, I experienced many different challenges and new opportunities for learning.

With my appointment at DRASACS, we were able to offer clients a wider choice with regards to the gender of their counsellor. Offering choices to our clients is something that is very important to us as the survivor would have had no choice in when or by whom the abuse took place. By offering more choice we give the client a voice and the opportunity to decide for themselves who they share their experiences with. We are also able to offer a male counsellor to clients who did not wish to work with a female counsellor.

This time last year, of the 22 referrals that we received in one particular month, over half wished only to work with a female counsellor. In the same month this year, that number has dropped to just two. For me, this shows a shift and a willingness to experience different kinds of reparative and healing counselling relationships.

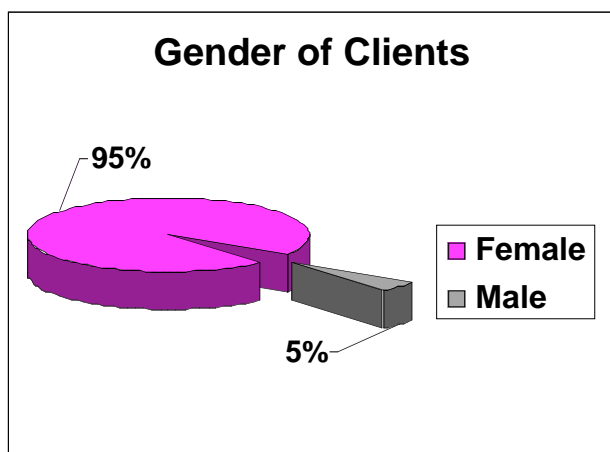
Ian Gowland
(DRASACS Counsellor)

Independent Sexual Violence Advocacy Service

The year began with this new service having been in place for just four months, the majority of which had been spent in designing and distributing publicity, making contact with a range of agencies to publicise the service and beginning to develop pathways and protocols for referral. A small number of clients had used the service, and now these numbers were beginning to grow. A total of 132 clients used the service in the current year. Some would engage with the service relatively briefly, having their needs met and moving on; others, particularly those who chose to report to the police, needed a level of support over many months as their cases proceeded through the system.

This year has been a time of frustration and reward in almost equal measure. There is huge satisfaction in enabling victims of sexual violence to access the help they need and, if they choose to report, supporting them through the full judicial process to a successful prosecution. On the other hand, trying to influence and change procedures and practice in large, statutory organisations with their own structures, traditions and institutionalised ways of being is a task that will not be achieved overnight.

Clients accessing the ISVA service have a range of different needs. They may have reported the offence; they may wish to report, but not have the strength to do so alone, in which case the ISVA can accompany and support them through this process. Equally, as many people do, they may choose never to report and they will also be supported with whatever is appropriate to their needs, whether that be emotional support or referral to a variety of agencies dealing with health, housing, domestic violence, debt, counselling, child protection or social services.

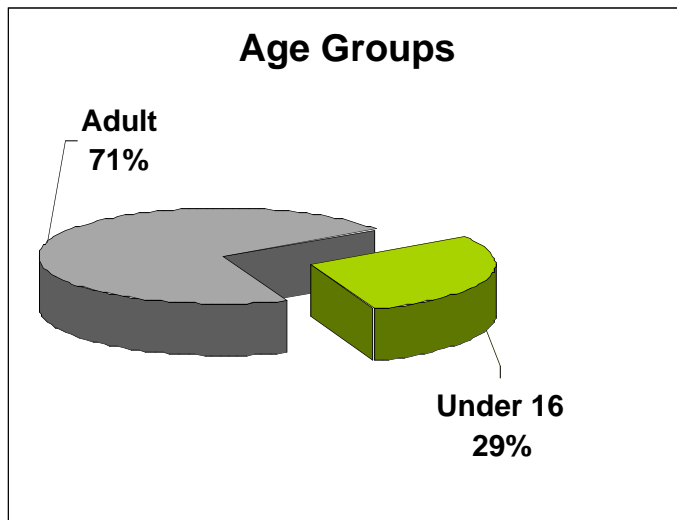


A person who does choose to report will be supported at all stages of the process. The ISVA can help with the reporting and through any medical forensic examination; she will link with the police, keeping the client informed. She will liaise with Crown Prosecution Service, the Trials Unit, Witness Care, Witness Support and the courts; she can arrange court visits and whatever special measures a victim may need for giving evidence, as well

as help in accessing the services appropriate to that person's individual situation.

The ISVA role was initiated by Central Government as part of their commitment to improve the prosecution and conviction rate of sexual crimes, in recognition of the fact that a person who is well supported and has their needs met is more likely to stay within the judicial process. Certainly this year, sixteen cases have proceeded to trial and four are awaiting trial; given the high threshold of likelihood of conviction required for a prosecution to proceed, this is encouraging. Indeed, a senior SY Police Officer commented, "The work Sarah has completed has had an extremely positive effect on the outcomes of numerous investigations carried out over the last 12 months". There has also been notable success in the prosecution of historical

abuse, which is notoriously difficult to prove, with one conviction resulting from abuse that occurred twenty years ago. Support given to families whose children disclosed abuse has also been a vital part of keeping them engaged through the long, difficult and painful process.

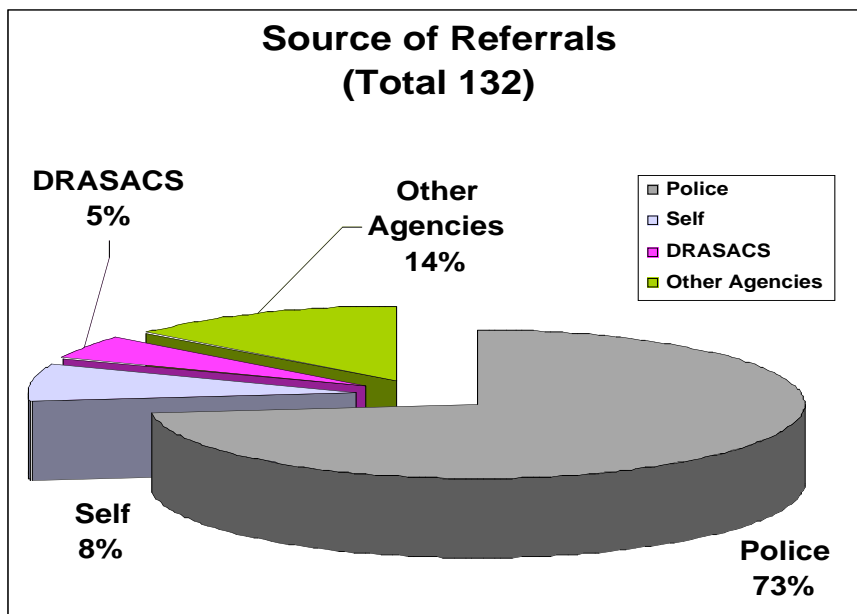


Frustrations have been around ensuring that all agencies involved work appropriately with the ISVA in referrals and consultation. In organisations such as police, CPS and the courts, with thousands of individuals used to working in a certain way, the pace of change is almost inevitably slow. The will to improve exists with those at the top of the structure but, predictably the rate at which this filters down to front line workers is not always

uniform. Sadly, although police responses to reports of sexual violence have improved enormously, there are still occasions where a victim receives less than satisfactory treatment, and it is part of the ISVA role to pursue this also, which not only improves the experience for the individual but also will help ensure that good practice is rooted in legal processes. However, some very positive relationships have been built, and there is scope for much more work in this area.

Attending bespoke training, provided by the organisation Co-ordinated Action against Domestic Abuse (CAADA) was a condition of the initial central government funding and this year saw successful graduation from this training. Other training, either around sexual abuse generally or role-specific has also been attended. Attending Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC), Violent Crime Theme Group and South Yorkshire Rape & Sexual Violence Steering Group meetings as well as feeding into police and other training are also part of this role.

This is a multi-faceted role; an effective ISVA must have a wide ranging knowledge, the ability to be supportive and empathic as well as determined and challenging, good communication skills in a variety of arenas, and the capacity to respond



appropriately, often at short notice. It has the potential to make a real change to the experience of those suffering sexual violence.

It is perhaps fitting, then, to finish with the words of some of those who

have benefited from the service.

“Sarah went beyond the call of duty and assisted with victim support, explaining the legal process and dispelling any fears or concerns.”

“I would like to thank Sarah for her continued support and professionalism”.

“It has been a very difficult situation and whenever I wanted any help or just a simple answer Sarah was always there. The support she has given not just to my daughter but to me and my whole family has been of significant help”.

“The valuable time she spent with my daughter has helped her start to understand what happened and this has been vital for her to start to move on”.

Sarah Beckett
Independent Sexual Violence Advocate

The DoVeS Project

It has been said that success is measured not only by what you accomplish, but also by the opposition you have encountered and the courage with which you have maintained the struggle against overwhelming odds. For me that illustrates both the work here in Doncaster prison and the wider arena of the organisation that has existed now for twenty one years, and bears witness to the dedication, commitment and courage that colleagues in both settings show in their service to others. We come from different sectors and disciplines but are both working to the same aim; to make a difference for clients so they can make healthier choices. Counsellors who work from a Person Centred perspective believe everyone has the facility to change, given the right relational conditions. The prison resettlement team promote changes for clients in a different way, but they want the same outcome for a client as a counsellor would want.

This year has been a period of transition and change for the counselling team at DRASACS, a period faced by both staff and trustees with courage and determination, upholding the important values that I am proud and privileged to be part of. It was also, once again, a time when the lack of secure funding impacted upon the prison project. This uncertainty of funding, and whether the project can continue, mirrors the uncertainty that I and my clients face on a daily basis, of whether they will be able to attend their next appointment or have been transferred. I have learnt that nothing is certain in the prison environment.

Working with traumatised clients, it is important to provide as much consistency as possible in delivering the counselling. The clients, day by day, have to manage their uncertainty in a world they experience as very unsafe, and working in that environment I struggle on a daily basis with the uncertainty of the criminal justice system and the lack of consistency. One thing is very clear; we do not have control over anything. For a client centred service, that is a huge challenge and I have to put my own helplessness and frustration to one side; supervision and personal therapy are a huge support in this and I am eternally grateful to those who facilitate this process.

The client work continues to deeply impact and move me and I hold within many harrowing stories of their experiences. I hope some day the men will find the forum to break their silence, to bring more awareness to society of their suffering and how that shaped their destiny, and of how they fight to change that. Hearing these stories has given me a unique learning and awareness, not only in my professional development but also on a personal level; I experience a deeper emotional level in work within the prison and the impact enriches and shapes me as a person. How that will ultimately affect me I do not yet know, but I do not feel it to be detrimental. I often wonder if the starkness and emotional starvation not only of the environment but also the clients' experiences make the emotional connections more powerful. Sometimes a smile from a client can be as powerful and warming as a flashlight in the dark.

These experiences make the emotional attachment to the client and the counselling harder to let go of, when a client leaves without notice, for whatever reason. I hope the client has gained from the counselling, but find myself grieving for the potential of both the therapeutic work and the person. If I have worked for some time with the

client, I feel something important has been ripped away and I can only guess how that feels for the client and what the true impact is.

It saddens me greatly that the system itself keeps reproducing and replaying those traumas for the client, and most of all how this reinforces the helplessness that so many of them experienced as children, while the system is unaware of the impact. All clients are made aware of this potential before they decide to commit to counselling and with great courage they continue to amaze me, and take that risk. The clients are truly committed to the process and, knowing the risk to them, I am humbled by the courage they show in this decision, not having the support mechanisms that can often be accessed by those who engage in counselling in the community. I witness the struggles they experience and their fight against so many overwhelming odds to stay steadfast to their aim of being a better person.

There has been disappointment and sadness also about the project not being truly valued, by secure funding, for what it can offer to the justice system and frustration also on behalf of colleagues whose hard work in its setting up, maintenance and evaluation has not yet been rewarded by achieving this. I compare this to what the early days of the organisation must have been like, struggling to achieve the acknowledgement of the prevalence of rape and sexual abuse.

Within the criminal justice system, we are faced with always having to justify and demonstrate our effectiveness in reducing re-offending. The reality is that the criminal justice system itself does not work; I wonder if the focus on demonstrating our effectiveness in this area is based on the knowledge that what currently exists in the system does not achieve those outcomes. The system lacks the insight to see what success truly means and the courage and passion for change; it is those qualities in abundance that I believe have contributed to the growth, development and achievements of DRASACS over the last twenty one years.

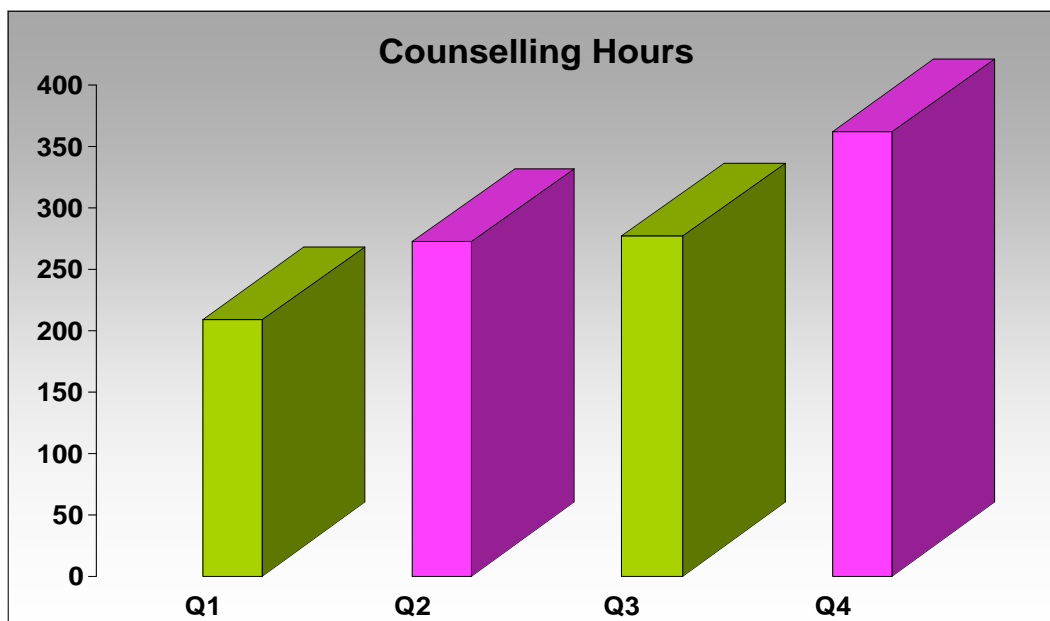
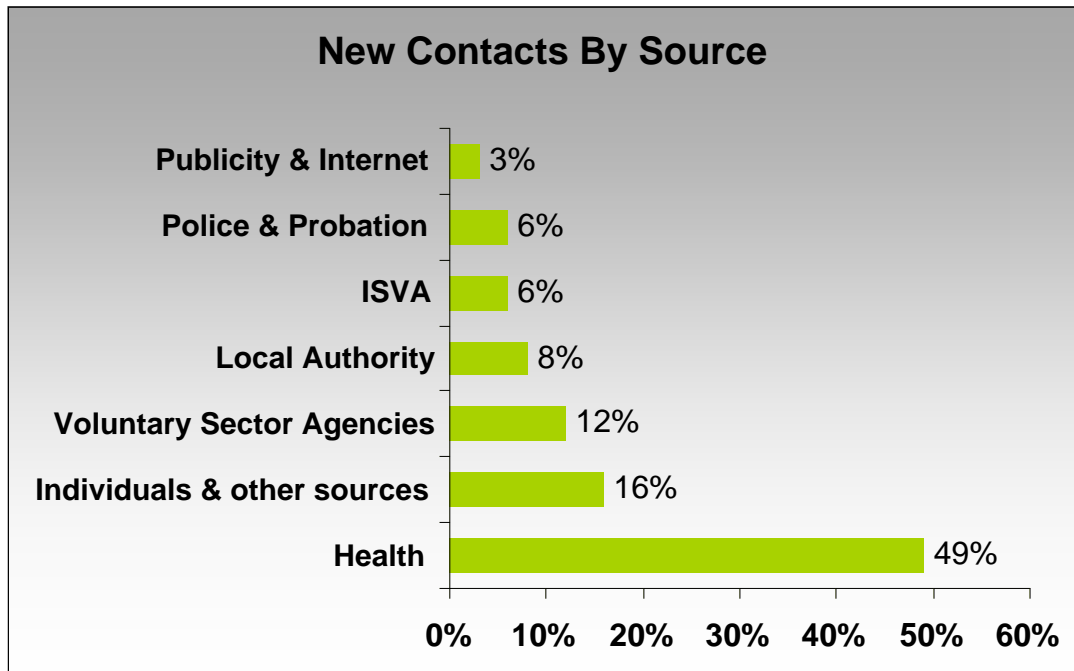
I hope this reflection is a tribute to colleagues, both staff and trustees, for the dedication, hard work and commitment over the years. I hope the future also brings recognition of this service we have developed in the prison, one that Doncaster should be proud of. I hope its clients get the recognition of their rights to have the same services as everyone else. But most of all, I hope that the impact of violence and abuse is recognised, and services are available in all prisons and all communities.

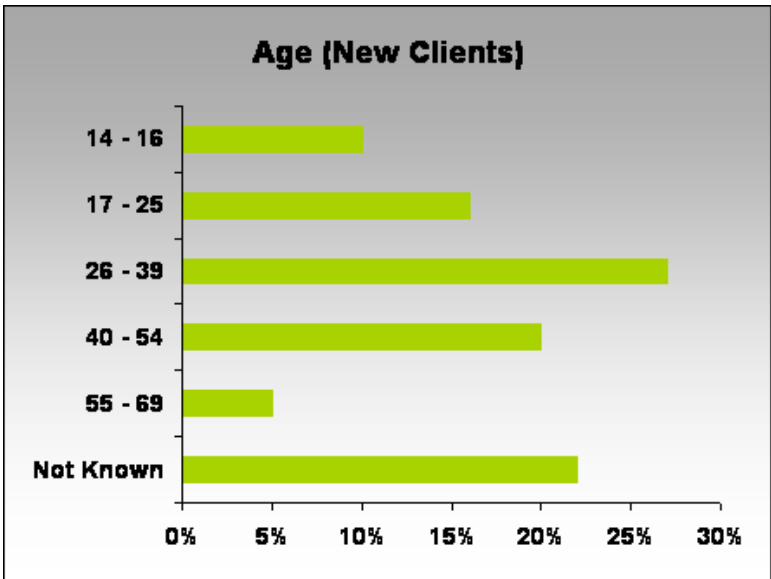
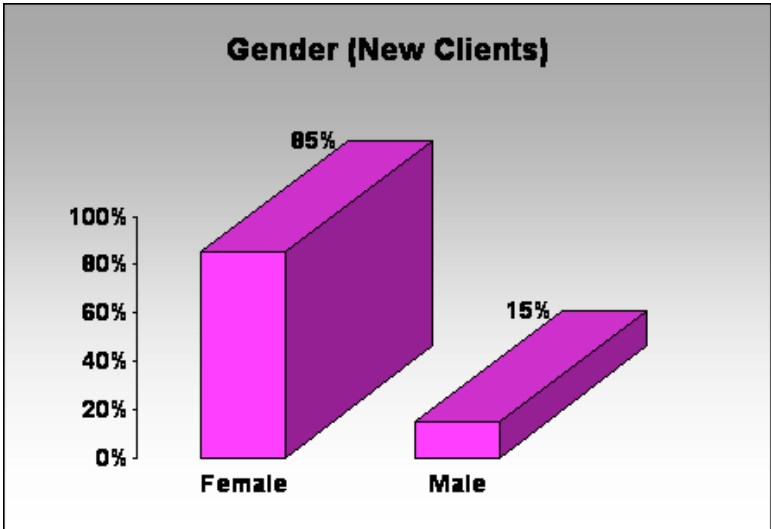
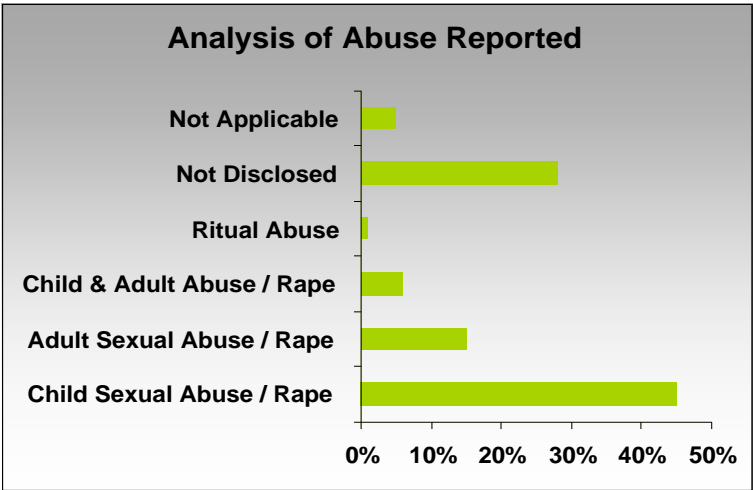
Caren Horsfield,
Counsellor, DoVeS Project

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

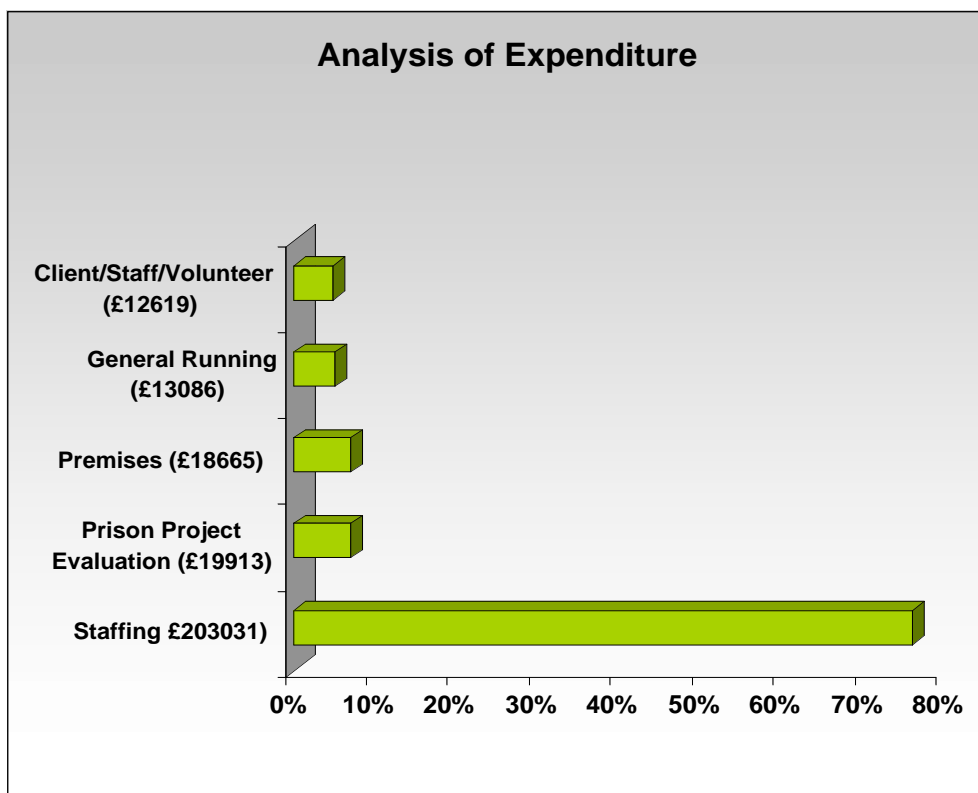
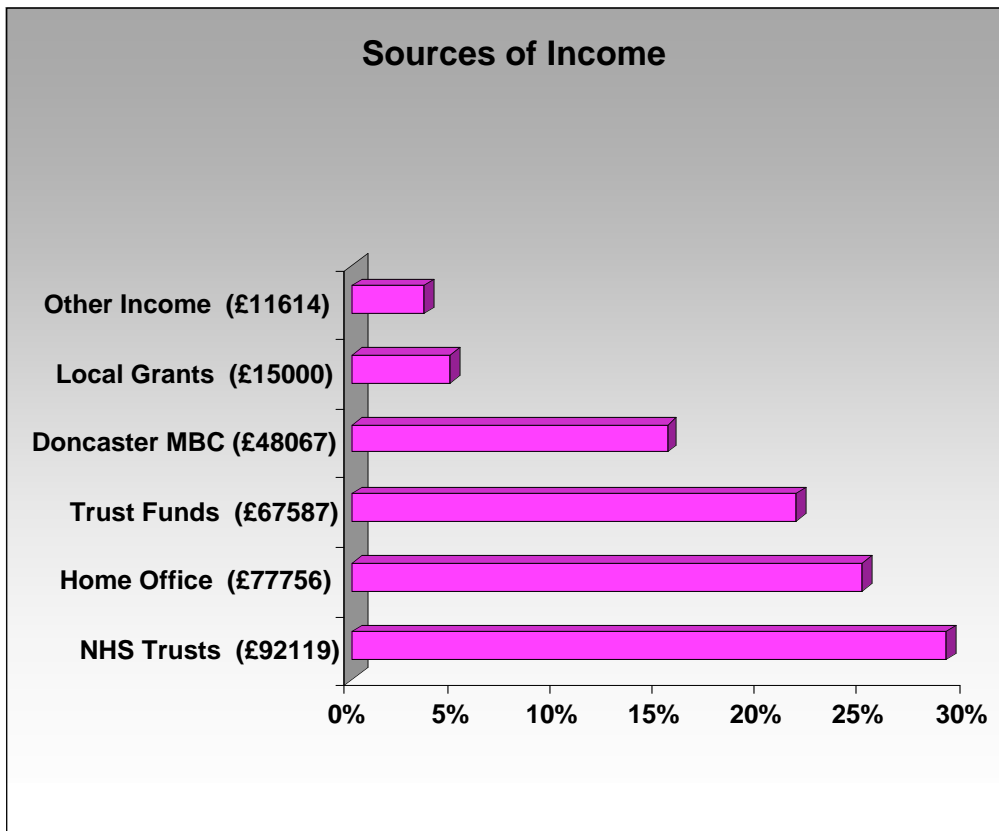
April 2007 – March 2008

The following charts represent some of the information that we are able to gather. During the year a total of 283 people benefited directly from the core service. DRSASACs also provided an Independent Sexual Violence Advocacy Service and counselling in Doncaster Prison. These figures are presented separately.





Summary of Accounts Year Ending 31.3.2008





doncaster rape and sexual abuse counselling service, P O box 470, doncaster dn1 3xw
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