

Research and Evaluation

- This week Jessica Street joined the team and will be working on the No Woman Turned Away project. Welcome to the team Jess!
- We hosted the R&E Christmas quiz on the before the break. Shout out to Maia who won and always has the most festive outfit (including an outfit change of Christmas themed glasses)!
- The invitation to tender to evaluate Expect Respect closed on Tuesday. Hannah, Sarah and Sarika will be sorting through applications and interviewing over the next week.

Direct Services

[Click here](#) to read this week's case studies.

- We met with the Wake Up Foundation, a Bulgarian domestic abuse charity, to talk about Survivors' Forum and what it might involve to build a similar community for Bulgarian survivors.
- We hosted a testing session to make sure the new Live Chat set up (part of the move between digital agencies) is functioning effectively before we roll this out to survivors.
- **Recommendation:** as we move into the new year, one survivor shared that [her aim for 2024](#) is to post on the [Positive Moments](#) board on Survivors' Forum. Any time you're having a hard day, the [Positive Moments](#) board can be a way to give yourself hope and remind yourself why we do this. We see survivors sharing updates of successfully separating joint bank accounts, starting counselling, being able to watch whatever movie they want now they've left, and so many more stories of healing.

External Affairs

- The Digital Team are continuing to action Love Respect edits ahead of user testing, scoping improvements for the Job Shop, overseeing Annual Audit production, working across the new Google Analytics platform and liaising with an agency on the 50th birthday logo design.
- The Public Affairs team is preparing for Committee Stage of the Victims and Prisoners Bill in the House of Lords, where amendments to the Bill are debated and voted on. The team is also continuing work on our general election campaign as we have entered the election year.
- Sophie is continuing to work with colleagues on the grant agreement for the 'Flexible Fund' (**still not for public sharing**) and is organising a visit for Safeguarding Minister Laura Farris MP to Ashiana, one of our by and for members.

Membership

- The nia project has met all of the recommendations from their Quality Assessment Panel and have now been awarded their Full NQS unconditionally.
- It's been great to hear that a number of our member services have been successful in receiving the Community Organisation cost of living funds.
- We were very grateful to City Group Security and the Lord Mayoress for facilitating donations to three of our member services in London of gifts for women and children in their refuges to receive over the festive period.

Media, Brand and Relationships

- This week BBC Radio 4 released an episode of 'Fixing Britain with Louise Casey' examining male violence against women and girls. Natalie Curtis, a survivor ambassador for Women's Aid, was interviewed and shared her experiences of abuse. Farah was also interviewed and spoke about the challenges of having underfunded policy commitments. You can listen on [BBC sounds here](#).

Starters, leavers and vacancies

- [Senior Community Fundraising Officer](#) - Closes 7th January

If you come across anything else that you think would be of benefit sharing with your colleagues, please email engagement@womensaid.org.uk. All topics welcome.