

Domestic Abuse Statement

MCFB is opposed to all forms of abuse and exploitation. We fully support the definition of domestic abuse in the '*National Strategy to Address Domestic Abuse in Scotland*' (Scottish Executive 2000)

"Domestic abuse (as gender-based abuse) can be perpetrated by partners or expartners and can include physical abuse (assault and physical attack involving a range of behaviour), sexual abuse (acts which degrade and humiliate women and are perpetrated against their will, including rape) and mental and emotional abuse (such as threat, verbal abuse, racial abuse, withholding money and other types of controlling behaviour such as isolation from family and friends).

The following principles underpin MCFB's approach:

- Domestic abuse is a fundamental breach of human rights
- Domestic abuse is not acceptable and will never be tolerated
- The perpetrator of domestic abuse should be held accountable
- The victim should never be blamed
- Domestic abuse is a form of child abuse
- MCFB will work to prevent domestic abuse and to protect women and children who experience domestic abuse
- Children affected by domestic abuse want adults to listen to their experiences
- MCFB will seek to develop flexible and innovative services for children and young people which reflect their expressed needs and wishes



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THE RS Macdonald
CHARITABLE TRUST

Multi-Cultural Family Base

The Banyan Project



Individual and Group Work support for young BME people
(7-25 years) affected by domestic abuse

MFCB is committed to the development of equal opportunities and anti-racist practice which responds to the needs of Scotland's multi-cultural society

The Banyan Project

Aims to help young people, particularly from BME communities, who have experienced the domestic abuse of a parent or other family member. We can help young people by offering one-to-one and or group work support to:

- Help them to manage day-to-day life
- Improve mental and emotional well-being and resilience
- Help to keep them safe and protected from future harm
- Help them to talk about their experiences and share their experiences with other young people

We are also happy to offer advice and support over the phone and to put people in touch with other agencies that can help them.

Why is this called the Banyan Project? In all cultures trees are a symbol of health and growth. In India the Banyan tree is known as the wish-fulfilling tree. It suggests shelter and a safe place to talk.

Groups will be:

- Small
- With young people of similar ages
- Take place after school during the school term
- Transport will be provided if required

Confidentiality:

In both individual and/or group work young people can share their experiences safely. BUT, if the workers feel that the young person or another vulnerable person is at serious or immediate risk then information may need to be shared with relevant agencies.

Referral can be made by:

- Young people themselves
- Mothers
- Schools / G.P.s / other agencies
- Friends and family

To make a referral or to find out more about the project please contact:

Boon Drysdale (Project Leader)

Multi-Cultural Family Base (MCFB)

50 Coburg Street
Edinburgh
EH6 6HE

Tel: (0131) 467 7052

9.30 – 5 p.m Monday to Friday

Or you can send an e-mail to: boon.drysdale@mcfb.org.uk

You can find out more about MCFB at www.mcfb.org.uk