



Boots pharmacies now safe spaces

As part of an initiative by UK Domestic Abuse charity, Hestia, Boots have announced their pharmacy consultation rooms as Safe Spaces for victims of domestic abuse.

Pharmacists will encourage and enable victims to contact national DA helplines and signpost them to the free, downloadable mobile app, Bright Sky, which provides support and information to anyone who may be in an abusive relationship or those concerned about someone they know.

GDASS are also in touch with all local pharmacies encouraging them to be aware of domestic abuse and to be a point of contact for victims of domestic abuse.

If your surgery is linked with a pharmacy who may be interested in becoming a Safe Space, please encourage them to contact the GP Team:

Adela.Lategan@gdass.org.uk

Emma.Beckett@gdass.org.uk

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Perhaps you know of service users who are worried about family members experiencing domestic abuse? Or you are worried about friends of family who you suspect may be experiencing DA at this time?

Safelives together with Dr Alison Gregory, a researcher at Bristol University who specialises in domestic abuse and informal support networks, have produced this [guide](#) to help people who are worried about friends or family. It outlines what domestic abuse is, and gives helpful tips on how to speak to victims and support them.

Dr Gregory has also produced a longer guide:

<https://safelives.org.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Domestic-Abuse-Friends-and-Family-Help-Guide-updated.pdf>

Perhaps you could share this with service users? Or have a copy to email to concerned service users, friends or family?

Lets all 'Reach In' to offer a lifeline and support to those affected in our lives.
