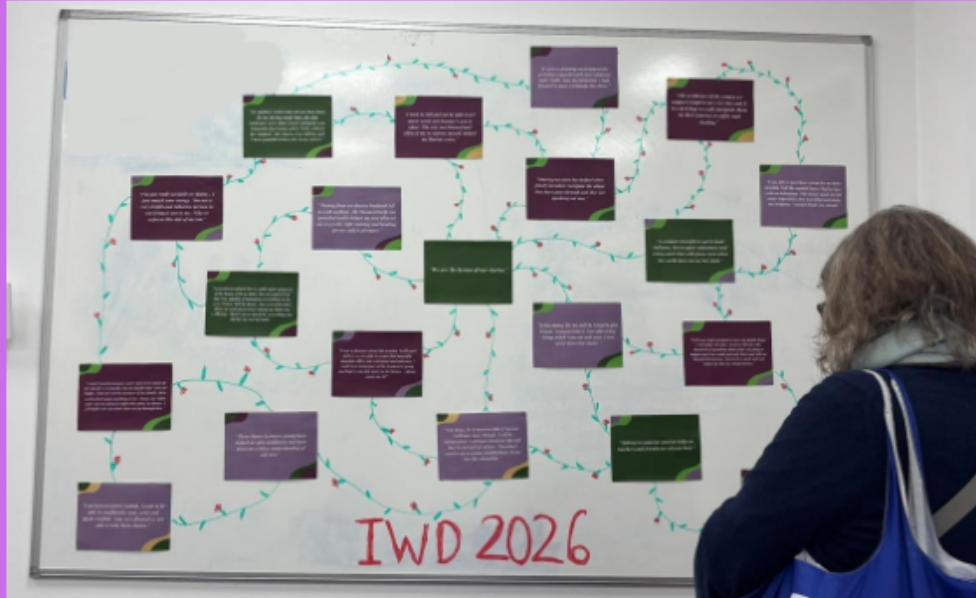


Celebrating 45 years



Welcome to the January 2026 to March 2026 Newsletter from Hemat Gryffe Women's Aid

The beginning of the year has marked a significant transition to our new office in Glasgow City Centre. This year is also particularly special as it coincides with our 45th anniversary of delivering specialised, culturally sensitive support services to women, children, and young people from Asian, Black, and minority ethnic communities experiencing domestic abuse, forced marriage and honour-based abuse.

Moving to the City Centre

Our official move-in date was 19th November 2025, and since then we have welcomed over 250 people. The new office at 98 West George Street has created valuable opportunities, strengthening both our support for victim-survivors and our partnership working.

Moving from a four-room basement flat in the West End to a bright, spacious and centrally located office has transformed how we work. The new premises provide dedicated rooms for managers, two private rooms for service users and a large communal space for staff. This environment has also enabled us to improve women's group activities, with women attending our sessions sharing positive feedback about the welcoming, spacious and supportive setting.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to FFM Services Limited, Martin Montgomery and his team, as well as Brian Cooney at Fleming & Reid Solicitors for their support helping us move and settle in to the new environment. A big thank you to Pieri Graham Solicitors for their substantial donation of furniture.

A Year for Celebrating

In March, we hosted two Open Days to mark International Women's Day, our 45 years of service and the move to the new office. This threefold celebration brought together partners, professionals and supporters from across Glasgow and Scotland. It was a valuable opportunity for networking, reflection and celebrating the work of Hemat Gryffe over the 45 years.

During the events, attendees were given a tour around the office - including a brief walk through the history of Hemat Gryffe displayed in picture frames throughout the hall. We also showcased artwork from women, children and young people, which is exhibited throughout the office - and of inspirational quotes from service users on our whiteboard pictured above. We also asked attendees for their feedback on the new office space.

Attendees shared: "I had an amazing day, met lots of amazing and inspiring women. Brilliant chats. Well organised and very welcoming. Women empowering women."

"Lovely, inviting, warm space. It's great to hear about the work you do! The artwork from women's group is amazing!"

"Beautiful, welcoming office in a great accessible location. Staff are so passionate. Great to hear about the history of the organisation."

Team Updates

As we move into the Spring season, we continue to grow our team and are currently recruiting a Women's Support Worker. If you are passionate about supporting women affected by domestic abuse, you can find out more and apply [here](#).

We also said goodbye to a valued member of our Women's Support team, whose contribution has made a lasting impact. We wish her every success in her future career.

Here's a look at what we have been up to across our Women's Service and Children and Young People's Service from January 2026 to March 2026.



Women's Service

January to March statistics

Between January and March, we supported

- **234** women, both new to the service and those continuing their journey with us.
- Of these 234, **143** were new referrals, meaning they had not accessed our service before.
- Of these 143, **26** women went on to access our outreach service.
- While **3** women were admitted into our Refuge accommodation.

Insecure immigration

A significant number of migrant women were supported, some of whom had no recourse to public funds (NRPF). A breakdown is provided below:

Migrant women supported	Amount
Asylum Seekers	6
Dependant	2
Insecure / No Status	1
Family Reunification	3
Spouse visa	19
Student	4
Work Visa(s)	8
Limited leave to remain	1
Visitor's Visa	3
TOTAL	47

Women's Group activities



Creative sessions with Village Storytelling

In recent months, our Women's Group has blossomed with creativity, connection, and shared learning. We had the pleasure of collaborating with Lababa from Village Storytelling, bringing forth a series of creative sessions in our newly established office space.

During these sessions, the women delved into various art forms. They crafted vibrant mandalas using mirrors and paint, which now grace the walls of our office boardroom. The women designed handmade brooches from felt, employing intricate stitching techniques.

As the sessions progressed, the women experimented with paper collage, creating portraits of inspirational figures of their choice, alongside their own self-portraits.



Empowering women

In addition to creative endeavour's, the group engaged in a variety of informative and wellbeing-focused sessions. These included ESOL classes, conversations about financial safety and scams led by Trading Standards Scotland, and an exploration of the Scottish Budget facilitated by CEMVO. These activities aimed at helping the women navigate changes that could impact their lives.



Celebrations and wellbeing

We also made time for rest and celebration. The women gathered for an Eid lunch, and in February, we organized a wellbeing pamper day in partnership with Police Scotland. This event fostered a relaxed and supportive atmosphere centred on self-care and raising awareness around violence against women and girls.

Community support

We continue to expand our outreach services across Glasgow. Our Women's Workers and Children and Young People's Workers now hold regular sessions in community centres across different localities.

Our schools-based work continues to grow, with more children and young people accessing support in educational settings.

We are also excited to be involved in the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI), supporting students to raise awareness of our work and advocate for our services. We wish them the best with the competition!

Self-Defence and Self-Care

In March, we hosted a self-defence and self-care day. Women took part in an empowering session led by a martial arts and self-defence instructor, learning practical techniques while building confidence. The day also included wellbeing goodie bags and time to relax and connect with others.



"The session was amazing and it really made me feel stronger and more confident about my personal safety. Thank you for organizing it!"

Children and Young People's Service

January to March statistics CYP service

Between January and March, 51 children and young people received support through our services, including refuge, follow-on and school-based support.

Supporting children in refuge

A wide range of activities designed to promote play and creativity and therapeutic support were used. From arts and crafts, sensory play and seasonal activities to celebrating occasions such as Mother's Day and World Book Day, children were supported to express themselves and feel safe.

Mothers were accompanied to appointments with their children. These included health services, schools and nurseries, helping to reduce pressure and ensure families could access the support they need.

During the February school holiday, families enjoyed a trip to soft play. Children also took part in activities, including planting water cress and learning about growth and nature.

Our team continues to provide tailored, individual support to children settling into refuge, adapting spaces and activities to meet their developmental needs and helping them adjust to new environments.



"I would like to say thank you very much for the toys you kindly gave to my son. I truly appreciate your kindness and support, thank you for thinking of our family."

Follow-on support

We supported families as they moved on from refuge into permanent accommodation, helping them settle into their new homes, register with local services and build stability. Children and young people have begun attending new schools and nurseries, forming friendships and adjusting to new routines with ongoing support from our team.

"I would like to sincerely thank you for the support. The assistance will help provide meals and care for women and children who need it most."

Thank you

We'd like to thank Celtic Football Club for their recent generous donation in support of women, children, and young people affected by domestic abuse.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all who donated and supported, including Kids Out, Children in Need and our funders, your kindness and generosity makes a real difference to those we support.

We're also pleased to share that our JustGiving page is now live, making it even easier to support our work and help us continue providing vital services.

If you would like to donate, you can do so [here](#).

