



**Macclesfield Town Council
Community grant feedback form
Interim project update**

It is a condition of Macclesfield Town Council community grants that a report of how the grant was used is given to the council on request.

Therefore, when requested, you are asked to complete the below form and return to the Assistant Town Clerk. The form will be shared with the Finance Committee and in the committee reports which are put onto our website.

We are requesting an interim progress report.

Name of organisation	Cheshire Without Abuse
Contact name	[REDACTED]
Date grant awarded	11 th November 2024
Amount awarded	£680

Have you made any progress on your project so far? If so, tell us about this below:

At the start of 2024 we experienced drastic funding cuts to which we had to adapt and scale back our services. Unfortunately, we had to halt the delivery of our Congleton and Knutsford sessions but desperately didn't want to lose our well-attended Crewe and Macclesfield Peer Support Lounge's as we know this is such crucial support for clients.

By granting our funding application, you made it possible for us to continue to provide our Macclesfield fortnightly sessions for all the members that already attend and benefit. The group sessions have grown and new survivors join to receive the support they need. This gave us the opportunity to support and directly impact the lives of female survivors and their families.

Statistics for Peer Support Lounge, from June to December 2024:

This is how many women/girls have been impacted by the project/service provision in Macclesfield.

15 Sessions delivered from our community hub within our Live Free Shop on Jordangate, Macclesfield.

78 individual clients attended these sessions in this period.

46 attendees, were new referrals.

Facebook group statistics:

These figures relate to how many survivors have been supported through the private Peer Support Lounge Facebook group, ran and maintained by our Amplified Voices Lead (who also delivers the in person sessions):

647 total current Facebook group members (survivors accessing online support).

308 active members per day (people who respond/engage with posts).

158 average posts per month (people posting new comments, sharing, supporting etc).

What have you learned from so far from this project?

We have listened to our clients, and their voices are extremely important in shaping our service. We always prioritise their needs and they have expressed the critical demand for this service. They feel that attending a peer group with other local survivors plays a key role in helping them recover from trauma and leads to vast improvements in their emotional, mental health and overall well-being.

We sought client feedback to ensure that survivors felt safer, seen and heard, and that the sessions provided were relevant to domestic abuse and supporting them with their recovery and onward journey.

We received some lovely feedback from the women who attend these sessions. The testimonial below (in addition to those shared above), shows how our different weekly topics are beneficial in raising awareness and extremely relevant:

“I’ve learnt so much about DV, the red flags, my own triggers and how to better cope. My upbringing was abusive and you’ve all given me a sense of worth and taken time to genuinely care and help restore my self-esteem and empowered me. You’ve sincerely seen and listened to me, truly heard me (nobody has before). I would not have come this far without each and every one of you. “Thank you” doesn’t seem enough. I value you all and this group is essential to recovery. Much Love (Heart emoji)”

When do you expect the project to be complete?

We have budgeted that this funding will be used by April 2025.

We have consulted with survivors and their priority is to keep Peer Support Lounge as this is incredibly important to them; we are doing our best to ensure that it continues.

We are already applying and seeking funding to be able to continue our support of our clients in Macclesfield.

Please return this form to helena.gowler@macclesfield-tc.gov.uk