

Hertfordshire Sunflower J9 Training

Community J9 Champions are provided with a half day training session developed by Domestic Abuse charity Safer Places. Safer Places work with Hertfordshire's Sunflower Champions Network Manager and lead a consortium of local specialist service providers to deliver the related Champions training.

As part of the wider Hertfordshire Sunflower Champions Network managed by the Hertfordshire Domestic Abuse Helpline, the training will help delegates gain an understanding of domestic abuse, to recognise and respond to victims and understand their role in providing victims with the safe space to seek appropriate help and support.

A Community Champion can be anyone amongst local businesses and services who comes into contact with the public regardless of their job role. It will also provide an ongoing opportunity to further service information and Champions Network training and events.

For more Information and to register your interest in Hertfordshire's Sunflower Champions Network, please contact the Champions Network Manager at:

championsnetwork@hertsdomesticabusehelpline.org



In Memory

Developed in memory of Janine Mundy, a mother of two, killed by her estranged husband in 2003 while he was on police bail.

The J9 initiative was started by her family and the local police where she lived in Cambourne, Cornwall.

The initiative got its name from the way Janine used to sign her text messages 'J9'.



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Herts
Sunflower

Sunflower J9 Domestic Abuse Initiative



www.hertssunflower.org

What is Domestic Abuse?

Domestic abuse rarely involves a 'one-off incident'. More usually it is a pattern of coercive and controlling behaviour by one person (or group) over another, often escalating from something seemingly small such as name calling or threats, to incidents of physical or sexual abuse, and can begin at any stage of a relationship, sometimes continuing after a relationship has ended.

Domestic abuse can affect anyone, regardless of gender, class, age, race, religion, disability, sexual orientation or lifestyle. Domestic abuse can include:

- verbal abuse
- physical abuse
- emotional abuse
- financial abuse
- sexual abuse

In the UK domestic abuse is known to affect 1 in 6 men and 1 in 4 women in their life time, millions each year and currently claims the lives of two people each week.

Only 1 in 5 are known to report to the Police.

What is Hertfordshire Sunflower J9?

The J9 initiative was established with the primary aim to raise awareness of domestic abuse amongst local businesses and services across all sectors.

Providing increased opportunities for those affected by domestic abuse to gain timely help, support and access to services in a safe and confidential manner, staff are trained to identify the signs, provide information about options and choice, and signpost those affected to the appropriate support services according to their needs and wishes.

These staff are commonly known as Community J9 Champions.

Incorporated into the Hertfordshire Sunflower 'Hub', the J9 initiative in Hertfordshire has its own bespoke logo too, which the family of Janine Mundy have agreed.



How does Hertfordshire Sunflower J9 Work?

For the public:

Where the J9 logo is displayed in a premise it provides victims and survivors with the assurance that they can get help to access a safe place where they can seek information and the use of a telephone.

For businesses and services:

The initiative enables staff to become more aware and thus more comfortable and confident in dealing with domestic abuse, but also improves their capability to provide the support and information that victims and survivors need in order to be able to make informed decisions about any support they wish to receive.

This is underpinned by the provision of a J9 pack containing information to strengthen a person's understanding of their rights and detail to accessing help and support.

This pack can be made available to anyone seeking help and disclosing abuse in a safe way.