

## Activity on Domestic Abuse 2019-20

Angela Howe takes the lead on all PA activity relating to Domestic Abuse

**31 October 2019** – application made to Medway Towns Charitable Trust and approved to fund reprinting of 5000 ‘Love me...Love me not...’ cards (originally produced in 2013) at a cost of £210. Members encouraged to distribute cards widely including schools.

**7 December 2019** – Four Soroptimists attended the Annual Medway Domestic Abuse Conference on ‘Getting to Grips with Coercive and Controlling behaviour’.

- We provided refreshments to the 125 attendees at the conference.
- ‘Love me ...Love me not...’ cards were distributed to all stakeholders at the conference.
- A donation of £100 was made towards the Medway Domestic Abuse Emergency Flight Fund

**9 December 2019** – Request received from Mary Murison Community Learning Manager at Brompton Academy who had recently received a supply of the ‘Love me..Love me not..’ cards from one of our members, requesting approval to reproduce the wording onto posters to put on notice boards around the Academy. Approval given and evidence seen of the posters on display in the main school cafeteria.

**13 December 2019** - Members donated luxury food, Christmas items and personal toiletries to fill Christmas hampers for distribution at the local Refuge together with gifts for the individual children residing there.

**April 2020** – Contacted the local Women’s Refuge in Medway having noted the increase in Domestic Abuse during lockdown to enquire if any support needed.

**28 April 2020** - Response received from Clarion Housing who manage the Refuges identifying items they would be grateful to receive including food items, single bedding including mattress protectors, new basic mobile phones, radio, and baby equipment. Request sent out to all members of Medway and Maidstone Soroptimists asking them to donate items and or monies.

**7 May 2020** – All donated items plus those items purchased with financial donation were delivered to the Women’s Refuge. (**Article will be in SEE News Extra – May edition**)

**11 May 2020** – Thank you received by the club from Lisa Fuller (Clarion Housing) for donated items.

**18 May 2020** – Member has contacted Lisa Fuller to enquire about current situation with Women’s Refuges in Maidstone area and she is making enquiries on our behalf. Prior to SI Maidstone closing they had had limited contact with the Refuges having some ago years provided pamper packs as and when required

**18 May 2020** – Request sent out to members to sign the Amnesty international petition to help make sure migrant women can access the specialised help they need, if they face domestic abuse.