



Nov 20

Support Domestic Abuse victims this Christmas at town centre event

Safer Poole Partnership is hosting a Domestic Abuse Awareness event on Saturday 25th November 25^h Poole Town Centre to raise money and collect Christmas gift donations for victims of domestic abuse.

The free event, which is in partnership with BCHA, Soroptimist International, Poole, Dorset Police and Borough of Poole, will be taking place between 9am and 4pm in Falkland Square. Organisers promise plenty of activities including a Bouncy Castle, Tombola, stalls serving everything from hot dogs to sweets, Glitter Tattoos, a Police Car courtesy of Dorset Police that you can sit in and explore, plus live entertainment including the 'Sound of Soul' choir. Southern Entertainment Services will also be providing a DJ for the day.

Rhianon Greenslade from Safer Poole Partnership, said: *"It is wonderful to have so many different organisations come together to make this event possible. It just demonstrates the real passion amongst our community to tackle domestic abuse and raise awareness. Our special thanks go to the various local businesses giving up their time and services for free. We hope to make this an annual event in Poole to help domestic abuse service users have a little more at Christmas time each year."*

Delfino Lounge café in Falkland Square will providing a Christmas Tree, so that shoppers can buy and donate an extra present, such as a Christmas pudding for a family, some chocolate coins for a child, or some bubble bath, this Christmas to a family at the refuge or within Safer Poole Partnership's outreach service. All money raised on the day will be split between local domestic abuse support services at BCHA Women's Refuge, Dorset Rape Crisis and The Purple Teardrop campaign.

Laura Argent, Project Leader of Poole Domestic Abuse Project for BCHA, added, *"We are delighted that Safer Poole Partnership is supporting BCHA, and in particular our Poole refuge, through this event. Christmas can be an incredibly difficult time for women and children, not just young children but teenagers too, experiencing domestic abuse. When women get into the refuge their priority is their children and focusing on rebuilding that relationship, and it can be difficult for them to make time for themselves let alone think about planning for Christmas. Through people's generosity, we can help provide some joy through small gifts and support them through the festive period in the knowledge that this year they are safe and not living with fear, intimidation and violence."*

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