



During 2004/2005 the volunteer project recruited 101 volunteers, delivered 10 six-week training programmes and 12 information sessions in rural and urban areas.

Volunteering

Volunteers are a valuable and integral part of Women's Aid staff teams. Volunteers work alongside paid staff in roles that are distinctive and complementary. Each volunteer opportunity, contributes significantly to the organisation as a whole and adds value to our services. Women's Aid provides training, guidance and support to all volunteers to enable them to do their jobs effectively.

Northern Ireland Volunteer Development Agency is currently funding a initiative across five Women's Aid groups to promote the recruitment of volunteers in rural areas and the development of management systems.

This year volunteers have had the opportunity to become involved in all aspects of the work of Women's Aid, including the following:

Management

Management Committee comprises volunteers who take responsibility for the governance of the organisation.

Helpline

Volunteers provide information and support to anyone calling the 24 Hour Domestic Violence Helpline.

Administration

Volunteers carry out receptionist and administrative duties, produce publicity materials and maintain local information.

Refuge Accommodation Project

Volunteers provide support; accompany women to appointments; support childcare; provide emergency on-call; befriend; advocate and help out with education and leisure pursuits.

Aftercare, Outreach and Community

Volunteers provide practical and emotional support to families moving from refuge to independent living, and provide services for women who are living in the community who are experiencing difficulties as a result of domestic violence.

Childcare

Volunteers assist in playroom activities. They plan programmes for children and young people and assist children and young people during leisure activities, outings and visits.

Education and Training

Volunteers deliver a range of preventative and public awareness programmes to community and statutory sectors. They support the development of programme materials for women at risk of, or experiencing, domestic violence and co-facilitate this work.

How to get involved

Visit www.womensaidni.org or contact Women's Aid Federation Northern Ireland or any Women's Aid resource centre directly.

women's aid

Federation Northern Ireland