



Impact Report

2022

Registered Charity No. 1154070

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About Us

Aims and Objectives

Our mission is to provide free family legal advice and support to those experiencing domestic abuse, with the aim of empowering individuals to rebuild their lives. We work to raise awareness of legal rights and collaborate with other organisations and government agencies to 'ensure access to appropriate resources to enable our clients to make better informed choices towards escaping abuse.



To achieve our aims we:

- Establish a network of trained legal professionals to provide free, confidential family law advice to domestic abuse victims
- Raise awareness of people's legal rights and the legal process
- Work with local resources and organisations to strengthen networking and relationships
- Advocate for policy changes and legal reforms that protect domestic abuse victims' rights

Our Story So Far

Located in Newbury, Berkshire, FLAG DV serves those experiencing domestic abuse in Thames Valley and Hampshire. Our service is available to anyone, regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation.

In October 2023 we will mark our 10 th anniversary. Flag DV was established in direct response to the legal aid changes that took place in 2013 and introduced additional barrier for victims of domestic abuse.

We provide free legal advice and support to empower individuals experiencing domestic abuse to make informed decisions about their situation. Our approach is non-judgmental, we believe in providing a safe and open space for clients at any stage of their journey and we support their choices at the time they seek our advice.

For some it is about gaining an understanding of the steps they need to take before leaving an abusive relationship and to understand the challenges they may face in order to prioritise their next steps. For others, it is about navigating the ongoing challenges of uncoupling from a manipulative and controlling partner, including child custody and family court proceedings, as well as seeking advice around protection orders, divorce, and separation.

Our aim is to support them with legal options and empower them to make informed decisions about their future.

Message From Our CEO

As I reflect on my first year as FLAG DV's chief executive, I'm incredibly proud of what our small charity has achieved in response to the pandemic and the subsequent cost of living crisis.

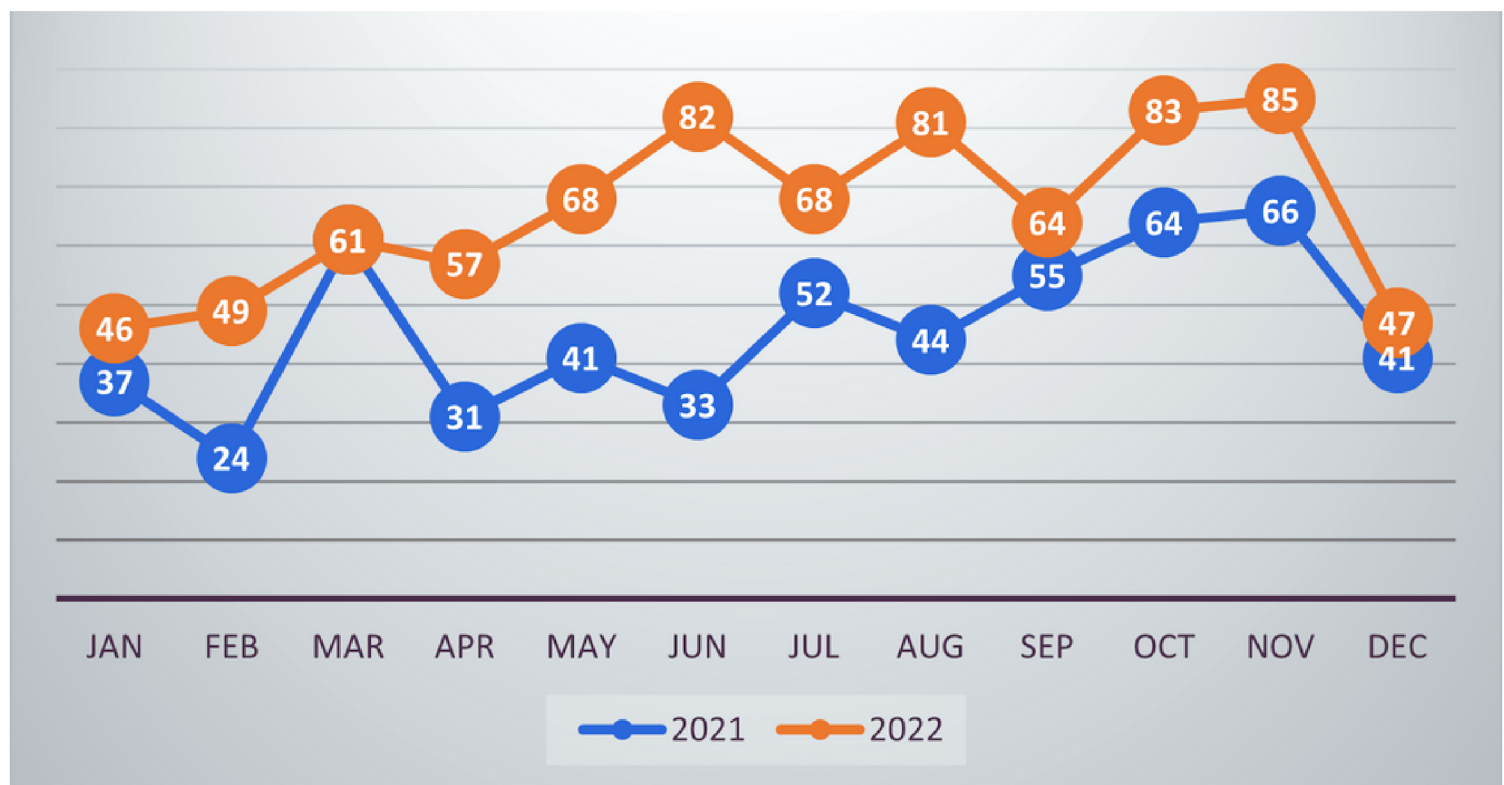
Despite a 44% year on year increase in referral demand, our staff and volunteers worked hard to maintain our service delivery, keeping the wait time for an appointment as low as possible, despite the strain on resources.

Our work is only possible thanks to the support of our donors, volunteers, and staff. Thank you for standing with us in our mission to make a difference in the lives of people experiencing domestic abuse.



Laura Hunter
Chief Executive
Officer

Our Year In Numbers



2022 saw referral figures hit 791, a 44% increase from 2021.

20%

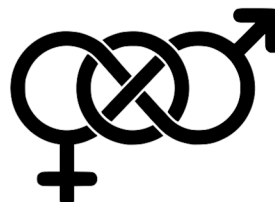
Clients indicate they move forward to representative services with the advising solicitor

60%

Referrals signposted into other support services



Arab - 1%
Other - 2%
Mixed Race - 3%
Black - 6%
Asian - 16%
White - 67%
Unknown - 5%



Gender Queer or Transgender - 1%
Male - 8%
Female - 88%
Unknown - 3%



Appointments conducted in 15 different languages



32 organisations referred their clients to our service for support

Our Impact

It's crucial to have our clients' voices at the centre of our work and success metrics. This helps us better understand their needs and experiences, and how we can drive change to maximize our impact.

Centring their voices in our work ensures that we prioritise their needs, enabling us to continually evolve and improve to better serve our community.

Our clients have reported positive outcomes as a result of engaging with us



**Positive
change to
mental health**

37%



**Feel more in
control of their
situation**

65%



**Feel better
informed to
move forward**

83%

Feedback

"This was very helpful. My questions were answered and I feel calmer, and more confident to keep going with the case, which is hard as it is so all consuming. The solicitor was very calm and this is definitely something I am so appreciative of, it is helpful to hear it from a professional that the legal process and all the support given is to help me through and to get a resolution and the right outcome."

"Massive thanks for the team efforts. Only if this was given to me a couple of years ago, I probably would have finalised everything by now. But better late than never. My health has been severely suffering due to these complexities and I didn't know who to turn to."

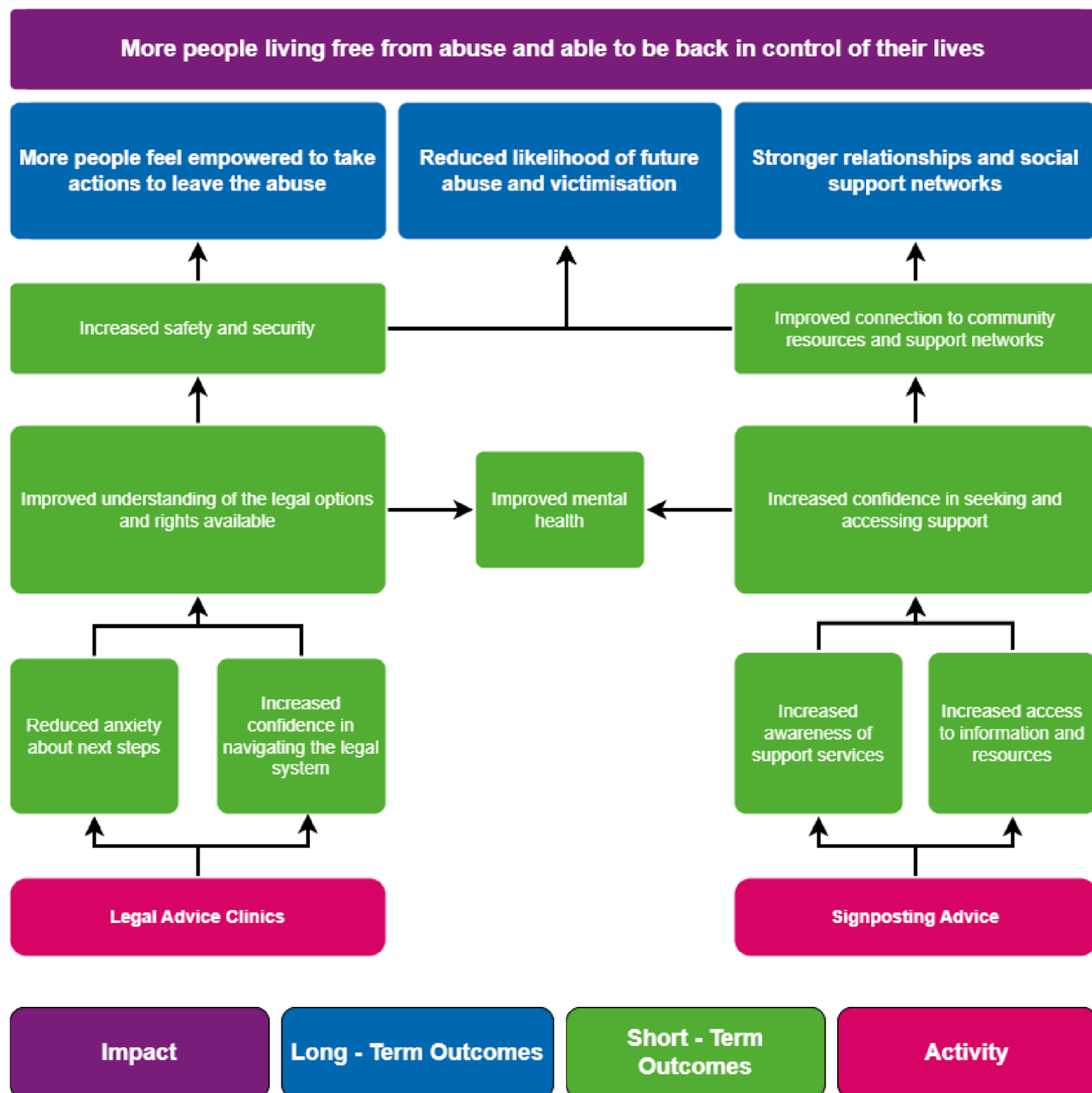
"I spoke to the solicitor who was so helpful and patient with me. She really did help and was so kind and considerate to my situation."

"The consultant was great. She had a lot of experience in dv cases like mine and gave me excellent advice. I feel less worried now that I know the way forward for me. I really appreciated her point of view. Many thanks FlagDV!"



The support you have provided has given me some strength to trust myself, Feel stronger in making the child arrangements order

FLAG DV Theory of Change



Our Funding

Our work is made possible by the generous funding we receive from our grant funders, donors, and supporters. We are grateful for their contributions, which have allowed us to expand our services and ensure the sustainable growth of our charity.

Thanks to the funds raised in 2022, we were able to increase our impact and reach more people in need. We appreciate the trust and support of our funders and look forward to continuing our important work together.

Funders and Partners

THE
ACCESS
TO JUSTICE
FOUNDATION

Greenham
Trust



Basingstoke
and Deane



BERKSHIRE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

COMMUNITY
CHAMPIONS

Persimmon
Together, we make a home.

AP&C

COMMUNITY
FUND

Arnold Clark
COMMUNITY
FUND



Ministry
of Justice



ENGLEFIELD
CHARITABLE TRUST

Volunteering with US

The work we do would not be possible without our dedicated volunteers. Would you consider partnering with us to make a difference to the lives of those experiencing domestic abuse? Get in touch at hello@flagdv.org.uk



Our solicitors provide free legal advice to domestic abuse victims, offering a lifeline and contributing to improving outcomes for those experiencing domestic abuse.

They volunteer up to 30/45 minutes once a week at our clinics.

Our charity's volunteer trustees bring diverse expertise in finance, law, marketing, and strategic planning, providing crucial guidance. Their strong governance helps us thrive and make a difference for people experiencing domestic abuse.



People can get involved in supporting the lives of those experiencing domestic abuse by supporting our charity with fundraising. Whether it is doing a sponsored run, a coffee morning or bake sale, you can make an impact.

Contact Information

If you want to get in touch with us about our organisation you can find our contact details below.



Free legal advice appointments are received by going to our website and clicking "make a referral"



- www.flagdv.org.uk
- hello@flagdv.org.uk
- 01635 015854



Appointments are provided to people experiencing domestic abuse over the age of 18, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race or religion.

