

At New Pathways there is someone you can talk to if you have been affected by Rape or Sexual Abuse – no matter when, or how, - we are here to listen.

Contact Details

Willow House
11 Church Street
Merthyr Tydfil
CF47 OBS

Tel/minicom: (01685) 379310
Fax: (01685) 384640
www.newpathways.co.uk
E-mail: enquiries@newpathways.co.uk

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer counsellor at New Pathways please contact us at the above address.

*New Pathways is a Registered Charity (No 1029186).
Patrons: Glenys Kinnock M.E.P. and Huw Lewis A.M.*

New Pathways is an organisational member of the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy and works within their ethical framework for good practice.

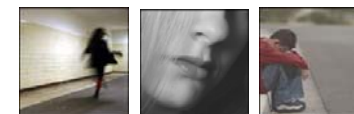


New Pathways

*Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Service
Family Friendly Therapeutic Centre of Excellence*



Information Leaflet



History of New Pathways

New Pathways was established in 1993 as a women's only help line covering Merthyr Tydfil. At that time the agency was known as R.A.S.A.S.S. (Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Service).

In 1997 the name was changed to New Pathways and a management committee and board of trustees were set up. We also received funding from Local Councils and the National Lottery. Today we cover a huge area that expands beyond South Wales and we continue to grow day by day, not only regarding the demand for our services, but also regarding our professionalism, high standards and motivation.

About New Pathways



We provide one to one counselling, by specially trained counsellors, for men, women and children who have been affected by rape and/or sexual abuse. We can help and support individuals who wish to report incidents to the police, and inform them about court and medical procedures. In accordance with our equal opportunities policy we do not turn anyone away. Regardless of how long ago it was, or who it was, we are here to listen.

Our Service is Free and Confidential



New Pathways Training

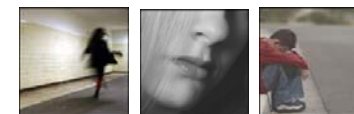


New Pathways deliver a wide range of training courses that have been specially designed by our Psychologists, Counsellors and Human Resource Professionals. In addition to our specialised courses concerning issues surrounding Rape and Sexual Abuse, we also offer various key skills training courses such as, stress management and project management.

New Pathways will tailor training courses to meet your organisations specific needs. We can also provide a venue for training, or alternatively we can come to you. New Pathways gratefully accept any donations for training services and are pleased to make training an affordable and worthwhile investment for any organisation.

Please contact us for a training brochure to see what training we may be able to offer you.

New Pathways is proud to offer for hire its training room/conference suite, consisting of a large training room for around 25 people, a kitchen, disabled toilets and a reception area. New Pathways also offer counselling rooms of various sizes for hire, all of which are therapeutically decorated and soundproofed.





New Pathways are the first organisation within Wales to have developed a Sexual Assault Referral Centre or SARC. The SARC, at Willow House, is a safe and comfortable place to which a victim of Rape can come to receive support from New Pathways, the Police, medical professionals and also ongoing counselling from New Pathways if they wish. There is also a family room available where family or friends of the victim can wait.

Whether or not a victim of Rape reports the incident to the police is a matter of personal choice. If a Rape is reported the victim will be escorted to Willow House and not have to be interviewed at a Police station. When at New Pathways, the victim will be supported by a trained support worker who will be available purely for the victim at all stages. The interview lounge has been therapeutically decorated promoting a comfortable and safe atmosphere. New Pathways are working in partnership with the Police and Health Authorities in order to make the procedure for the victim as comfortable as possible.



Within the SARC we have an examination room which has been therapeutically decorated. For victims of rape the gathering of forensic evidence can be upsetting. Research has demonstrated further trauma can be felt at this time. We aim to demonstrate a non threatening, non judgmental approach at all times, which helps to empower the victim to take control.



*New Pathways
Sexual Assault
Referral Centre (SARC).
The 1st in Wales*

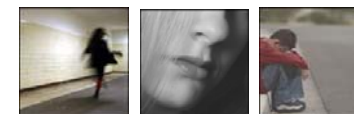


Over the last eleven years New Pathways has listened to many victims tell their traumatic stories. We have recorded their needs and requests for help, and from this Willow House has been birthed. Listening is important but, more important is putting into action what we have heard, after compiling all this information we have been privileged to hear. We aim to deliver best practice at all times to our community and service user. Our SARC is one example.



New Pathways has designed the SARC, so that the individual is able to have a private shower after the medical examination. The shower room has been designed to promote privacy, comfort and dignity for the victim. Each client will be given a bath towel, towelling robe, slippers and cosmetics (i.e. shampoo etc).

Adjacent to the interview lounge we have a Police monitoring room. This can be used any time a victim of assault or abuse reports these crimes. Domestic abuse, rape or other threatening behaviour can be extremely frightening and traumatising for the victim. New Pathways offers a service to men and women. We have worked extremely hard to achieve this facility. New Pathways aims to offer their expertise and support to further developments of SARC's in Wales, of which we hope to achieve by working closely with the Police and health boards.



Additional Projects

HM Prison Cardiff

New Pathways outreach project within Cardiff Prison offers support and counselling to inmates who have suffered trauma due to rape and/or sexual abuse. Many may have developed negative coping mechanisms such as drug and alcohol abuse. New Pathways also offer ex-prisoners support groups, so that individuals can have continuing support when released from prison.

Outreach Posts

In addition to our service within the Merthyr Tydfil area, New Pathways has also developed outreach posts in Cardiff, Newport, Clydach Hospital Swansea, and in Swansea Central Clinic. New Pathways also take referrals from many different areas, and is constantly aiming to expand outreach posts further due to increasing demand.

Education, Research and Training

New Pathways is constantly conducting research into the nature and consequence of Rape and Sexual Abuse. New Pathways use this research in order to improve our service, and to educate and train other agencies and organisations.

HM Prison Usk

New Pathways has projects running in Usk prison. These projects support staff at the prison who work with sex offenders on a day to day basis.

New Pathways Family Friendly Therapeutic Centre of Excellence

In addition to counselling men, women and children, we 'house' the first SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre) in Wales. We offer support when able, to family members who also feel the rippling effects from the victims' trauma. We have specially designed 'family' rooms where support can be offered providing a Family Friendly Therapeutic Centre of Excellence.

New Pathways Children's Project



New Pathways Children's Project at Willow House consists of two specially designed therapeutic counselling rooms, one for children aged 3-13 and another for children aged 13-18. New Pathways Children's Therapist will work with children and their families for a range of issues such as bullying, social difficulties and bereavement as well as for issues surrounding Rape and Sexual Abuse.

The children's therapist will use a variety of therapeutic interventions when working with the children and the project also houses a lending library where children can borrow toys, books and games. Parents and carers may also need help and support to deal with the trauma.

