

**Do you feel
threatened
or at risk of
violence?**

**We can
support you.**

**the
Gaia
centre**

Run by Refuge

**Working in Lambeth
to end gender-based violence**



What is the Gaia Centre?

The Gaia Centre provides confidential, non-judgemental and independent support services for those living in the London borough of Lambeth who are experiencing gender-based violence.

Our services support women and girls aged 13 and over, and men aged 16 or over - including those who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or are unsure of their sexuality. The Gaia Centre also supports transgender clients who identify as male, female, as another gender, or are questioning their gender identity.

What is gender-based violence?

Gender-based violence occurs when an individual or group of individuals exerts power and control over someone else.

Types of gender-based violence include:

- Domestic violence (physical, sexual, financial, emotional or psychological abuse)
- Rape and sexual assault
- Stalking
- Prostitution
- Modern slavery/human trafficking
- Female genital mutilation (FGM)
- Forced marriage
- So-called 'honour'-based violence



Who can access support from the Gaia Centre?

Anyone living in Lambeth who has experienced or is at risk of gender-based violence and is one of the following:

- Women and girls aged over 13
- Men aged 16 or older
- Young people of all genders from the age of 11 who have witnessed or experienced domestic violence
- Transgender and identifies as male, female, as another gender, or is questioning their gender identity

Our services are available to the above clients and their children. We provide support tailored to your individual needs.

What support is available from the Gaia Centre?

Everyone's needs are unique and we will work with you to create a support plan that helps keep you safe. For example you may need to:

- Talk to someone who understands what you are going through
- Receive support with contacting the police
- Move away from the area
- Access a refuge
- Stay at home but want to find out how you can keep safe
- Receive support if you are considering going to court
- Access legal advice
- Manage your financial situation
- Find out about support networks in your community
- Get specialist support for your children
- Early intervention service for 11-17 year olds who have witnessed and experienced domestic violence

What services are available from the Gaia Centre?

- One-to-one confidential, non-judgmental, independent support
- A specialist independent gender-based violence advocacy (IGVA) team to support you if you are at risk of serious harm
- A specialist service for 13-17 year-old girls
- A sanctuary scheme to help you remain in your home safely
- Group support
- A peer support scheme to help break your isolation; to help build social networks and to support you while you regain control of your life
- Volunteering opportunities

How can I access the Gaia Centre?

Telephone: **020 7733 8724**

Email: **lambethvawg@refuge.org.uk**

Website: **www.refuge.org.uk**

What is Refuge?

Refuge is the country's largest provider of specialist support for women and children experiencing domestic violence and gender-based violence. Our services change lives and save lives.

We opened the world's first safe house for abused women and children in West London, in 1971. Our national network of services now supports 6,500 women and children on any given day.

If you are being abused, Refuge's expert staff can provide confidential, non-judgmental support. We can help you rebuild your life free from fear.

Our website **www.refuge.org.uk** contains more information for anyone who has or is experiencing gender-based violence, concerned friends and family members, and professional organisations.

0808 2000 247

Freephone 24 Hour National Domestic Violence Helpline
run in partnership between **Refuge** and **Women's Aid**.

Or in an emergency, dial 999.

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