



Project 3: Oxfordshire Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis Centre (OSARCC)



Background

Oxfordshire Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis Centre (OSARCC) is a charity providing specialist support services to survivors of sexual violence in Oxfordshire.

Our amazing staff and volunteers work with all ages and genders, supporting people to recover from the trauma of sexual violence in a way that works best for them. Our support services are survivor-led and trauma informed. We are the only organisation delivering this work in Oxfordshire and all our services are free to those that need them.

In 2022, recorded sexual offences reached an all-time high (up 22% from 2020), whilst only 6% of these reports resulted in the perpetrator being charged. Official reports of sexual violence are just the tip of the iceberg, as reporting is not an option for all survivors, particularly those from marginalised communities or with insecure immigration status.

1 in 4 women will experience sexual violence at some point in their adult life, 1 in 6 children have been sexually abused and 1 in 18 men have been raped or sexually assaulted as an adult. Based on the population in Oxfordshire, we estimate that around 100,000 residents (of all ages and genders) are likely to be survivors of sexual violence in our county.

In the financial year 21-22, 579 individuals were referred, or self-referred, to OSARCC - an increase of 45% on the previous year. 23% of our service users are survivors of child sexual abuse, a further 45% have experienced rape as an adult, 6% experienced sexual exploitation and many have complex needs.

Support from OSARCC is life-changing and enables survivors to heal and move on with their lives. Our work helps prevent inter-generational trauma and empowers those that have experienced sexual violence, equipping them with healthy coping mechanisms and knowledge around normal trauma responses to support them in their recovery.



Task

Questions we would love your help with!

We are currently planning a complete rebrand of our amazing charity. We would like our new name to be inclusive, empowering and appealing to as many people as possible. Can you think of some ideas for a new name and logo?

A key priority for OSARCC next year will be to expand the work we do with children and young people. Could you think of ways we could fundraise for this, with a particular focus on speaking to High Net Worth Individuals and Corporates?

We know that people find it difficult to think and talk about the work we do. Can you think of any ways in which we could approach this, with a particular focus on how we might make OSARCC a more appealing charity for people to donate to?

We have an excellent relationship with the University of Oxford. We already have a specialist ISVA that works with students and we are hoping to be able to provide a specialist counsellor to work alongside our ISVA post. How can we further strengthen our relationship with the university and what else could be useful for students and staff?