

What is a Children Sanctuary?

We have been supported in providing specialist facilities for children and young people. We have a sensory room and a children's garden together with a well equipped play room. We also employ Children and young people's workers who can help children by giving them the opportunity to talk about their feelings. We arrange regular play sessions in the refuge and outings in the holidays and after school. We can contact local schools on your behalf to get the children settled in new schools as soon as possible. A local health visitor visits the refuges weekly.

Are visitors allowed?

Not without prior notice, women can give out the office phone number and P.O. Box address to people they can trust



Who will know you and your family are in the refuge?

Lincoln Women's Aid worker and any referral agency (police, housing, children services). These agencies are committed to strict confidentiality - they won't tell anyone where you are without your permission. Our licence agreement (like a tenancy) that all residents have to sign states that residents mustn't give any information out about other families in the refuge - if they do they will be asked to leave.

All workers will treat anything you tell them as confidential although they may have to share information with other Lincoln Women's aid staff. The only exception is if we are told something that makes us think the safety of children or other women in the refuge is at risk.

Things to remember if you need to come and stay in the refuge

You do need clothes, food, money, special toys your children will miss.

You don't need bed linen, towels, pots, pans, cutlery, cleaning materials and equipment, cots and Baby equipment - but you can bring your own if you want to.

If possible, try to bring a spare set of keys to your house, benefit books or bank statements, identification (i.e. birth certificate, NHS card, National Insurance Card, driving licence, passport). If you haven't got any of these things - don't worry, come anyway rather than put yourself or your children at risk. We'll help you sort things out once you are safe.



What is a Women's Refuge

- a safe place
- a breathing space
- or the start of a new life

Lincoln Women's Aid
Call

01522 510 041

Or

01522 576 761

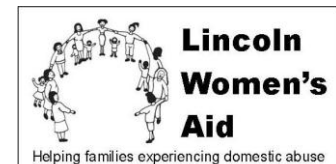
For non urgent advice

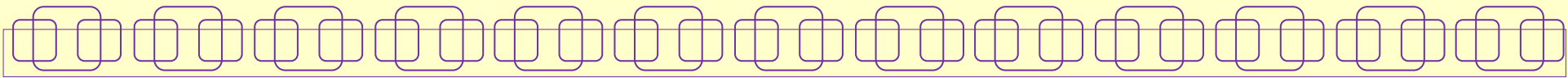
info@lincolnwomensaid.org.uk

Or

refuge@lincolnwomensaid.org.uk

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 999





What is a refuge?

A refuge is a large house for women and children to live in if you are fleeing Domestic abuse from your husband, boyfriend, partner, ex-partner or other relative.

Does the refuge provide support for all women and children?

Lincoln Women's Aid welcomes all women who are 16 years old or over (older women are welcome too)

Lincoln Women's Aid recognises that discrimination and prejudice severely disadvantages women and children from minority groups and we take steps to ensure that all women and children receive equal treatment and services from our organisation.

Lincoln Women's Aid works to ensure that the refuges reflect the cultural needs of residents and are sensitive to the needs of individual women and children.

Does Lincoln Women's Aid admit women with mental health, drug or alcohol problems?

We recognise that pressure such as violence and abuse can leave women very vulnerable to mental health problems and drug or alcohol dependency., We risk assess each case to ensure we can offer appropriate support.

What is Domestic Abuse?

Domestic abuse can be physical - such as slapping, punching, kicking, pushing you around, and pulling your hair. It can be sexual abuse - forcing you to have sex, abuse of your children. It can be emotional abuse - calling you names, putting you down, humiliating you in public, stopping you from going out or seeing your friends and family, turning your children against you, controlling your life.

Lincoln Women's Aid does not define violence or harassment from neighbours as domestic abuse.

What is a Women's Refuge like?

Eve House has 11 self contained flats, 3 of them are for single residents with the rest being able to accommodate families. Two of the units have been designed to accommodate residents with physical disabilities.

What are the units like?

Eve House Units have single beds some have bunk beds, a television, chest of drawers and wardrobes or hanging space. All rooms have en suite bathrooms, some with baths but most with showers and we provide bed linen and towels. Cots and other equipment are available for women with babies. Each Unit has a small kitchen with fridge, kettle, microwave and toaster



What facilities do families have to share?

In Eve House we have communal areas for family cooking and lounge areas. We also have a laundry.

The kitchens have cookers, fridges, freezers, crockery, pans and cutlery for everyone to use. We can provide separate cooking utensils if your religion requires it.

There is also an iron and ironing board, washing machine, tumble dryer and highchairs. The lounges has comfortable sofas and a TV The playroom is equipped with toys, games and arts and crafts materials.

Anything else I need to know?

Families cook for themselves and buy their own food.

Everyone has to clean their own room and share the cleaning of the communal rooms.



We can refer you to counselling services or just be available to listen to your problems when you need to talk. We have workers in refuge 24 hrs a day 7 days a week.