**Contact Details**

Tender Education & Arts
Registered Charity No. 1100214
www.tender.org.uk
0207 697 4276
Contact person: Doireann Larkin, Development Manager
doireann@tender.org.uk

**1 And 9. About Tender**

Tender Education & Arts is a charity that uses the arts to engage young people in the prevention of domestic and sexual abuse. We work with young men and young women to build skills, knowledge and understanding which helps to stop them from becoming victims or perpetrators of violence.

This project will be managed by our Youth Engagement Manager with support from our Development Manager and Finance Manager. Tender's Board of Trustees has legal, financial and fiduciary duties under company law and charity law, and responsibilities for ensuring that the organisation complies with the conditions placed on grants from public and other funders.

**2. And 10. Our work in Waltham Forest**

Tender has worked closely with a number of schools and youth settings in Waltham Forest including the Children and Young People in Care Team, Burnside PRU, Ashiana Network, Walthamstow Academy, Newport School, Leytonstone School, Chingford Foundation School, amongst others in order to embed our violence prevention practices in the borough. Last year, we successfully completed work with support of the SNB which enabled young residents of the borough to receive OCN accreditations in Mentoring and Facilitation skills. Through a week long course they learned how to identify, avoid or escape from domestic violence and how to support a friend who may be at risk. The young people involved were very vulnerable but through their art work, their new skills as mentors and their increased confidence, they were able to create a powerful domestic abuse prevention film. This was screened at the Tricycle theatre for an audience of at-risk young people. Two participants in Tender's workshop have since applied to be on Waltham Forest's Youth Independent Advisory Group.

Tender will work with our contacts throughout the borough to recruit young people to this project. We will be particularly targeting looked after young people, through our connections with fostering agencies and the young people in care team.

**3. Bank account**

Tender has been a registered charity since 2003. We can provide audited accounts and have a charity bank account.

**4. Our Project – the need and how we address it**

16-25 year olds are still the age group most at risk of experiencing domestic abuse. The severity of the problem is often hidden due to young people's reluctance to seek help from

adults due to lack of confidence, lack of awareness of where to go for help or a normalization of the violence they experience or witness. Tender's work opens up dialogue between services and vulnerable young people, helping those at risk to avoid abuse or seek help. We train young people to be ambassadors of violence prevention. Teenagers are on the front lines when it comes to their peers' unhealthy relationships. By educating them to safely challenge victim blaming, identify warning signs and seek help, we can prevent violence before it escalates. Waltham Forest has the 7th highest rate of recorded domestic violence crimes in London. Between January and July 2013, 197 'high risk' cases were referred to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference and 226 children and young people were recorded residing within those households[1]. The estimated cost of domestic violence (not including the human and emotional costs) for the borough is £26 million[2]. The Waltham Forest Domestic Violence Recommissioning Needs Analysis recommends ensuring capacity to increase reporting of domestic violence reporting as well as ensuring suitable support for young people who may be affected by abuse. Tender's project meets these needs by empowering young people to identify, avoid or escape from abuse. Tender's project supports all the strategic themes of the 'Ending Violence against Women and Girls in Waltham Forest Strategic Plan 2014-2017', particularly theme 2: Prevention and awareness raising – "changing attitudes and preventing violence through awareness raising campaigns, safeguarding and educating children and young people, early identification and training for practitioners and professionals."

This project meets the first three aims of the strategic plan:

- Prevent abuse before it happens through education and awareness work, challenging attitudes and beliefs that underpin and condone VAWG, and building consensus and momentum in the community to address it;
- Intervene earlier on to reduce repeat victimization and the harm it causes and stop it from happening again.
- Make sure victims (and their families) are provided with adequate information, support and care increasing the safety and options of people experiencing any form of VAWG;

Through this project, Tender will engage a core group of young people in an intensive domestic abuse prevention programme. Through this work they will learn what constitutes healthy and unhealthy relationships. The drama based techniques allow them to practice safe solutions to risky situations and encourages them to increase empathy and consider the impact of their actions as they step into someone else's shoes.

Messages of violence prevention are often best disseminated from one young person to another. The core group of young people will work to produce a creative presentation in order to share their learning with others of their own age. The presentation will aim to reduce perpetrator excusing and increase awareness of help-seeking strategies.

## 5 And 6. SNB Outcomes and Priorities

[1] "Safeguarding our Future" Ending Violence against Women and Girls in Waltham Forest Strategic Plan 2014-2017

[2] Ibid 1

This project will focus on 'preventing crime'. Domestic violence accounts for 18% of all violent crime. The attitudes which tolerate or condone abuse begin at a young age and most be addressed with young people. The impact of the crime of domestic abuse includes mental and physical health problems, substance misuse, unwanted pregnancy, financial hardship and social isolation which in turn can lead to further risk taking or criminal activity. By speaking to young people and giving them crucial tools to build healthy relationships, we can have a major impact on a range of social issues. Tender's work has been externally evaluated through the Child and Woman Abuse Studies Unit, DMSS Research, Project Oracle and in the largest research report of its kind, through Middlesex University. Our innovative techniques reduce young people's vulnerability to perpetrating or experiencing domestic abuse and create safer environments in schools and youth settings. This project also meets SNB priorities by working with young people, focusing on community engagement and targeting domestic violence.

"If a girl says no I now know not to try to persuade them - no means no."
17-year old young ex-offender who worked with Tender - This young man had a history of assault and intimidation towards girlfriends and ex-girlfriends. The staff member said this was a significant change in attitude that they had not seen before.

**7. Outputs**

Tender has developed robust monitoring and evaluation processes through our work with our external evaluators. Young participants and youth workers fill in questionnaires which gather qualitative and quantitative data about how many people benefitted from the project and in what way. Workshop Leaders produce monitoring forms to capture the impact of the project and our project staff carry out observations to ensure quality control and to gather a deeper insight into how the project engages young people.

**8. Outcomes**

This project aims to provide young people with tools to prevent or avoid domestic abuse throughout their lives. We focus on areas which lead to young people's vulnerability such as low ability to recognize abuse, victim blaming or perpetrator excusing attitudes, lack of confidence in asking for help, school or community environments that tolerate abuse and sexual bullying. By working to decrease each of these vulnerability factors, we raise a young person's resistance to becoming a victim or perpetrator. These are measured through questionnaires, interviews and observations that are designed to measure attitude, opinion and knowledge. Through this project:

- Young people will be better equipped to recognize the warning signs of abuse
- Young people will be able to safely challenge victim blaming or perpetrator excusing attitudes in themselves or their peers
- Young people will have the knowledge of where to go for help and the confidence to use those safety pathways if they or their friends are at risk

Young people develop a deeper understanding of the fact that violence is a choice and that everyone has a responsibility to choose different ways to navigate relationships.

**11. Safeguarding**
Tender's trained facilitators are expert in working with vulnerable young people and engaging them in discussions about sensitive topics. They work collaboratively with teachers and youth workers at each setting to build skills and capacity amongst professionals and ensure that young people's learning on relationships continues beyond the life of the project. We have a robust child protection policy with clear guidance about how to respond to disclosures of abuse or concerns for a young person's wellbeing. All of our staff hold enhanced DBS checks which are renewed regularly in line with our policy.

**13. Statutory Provision**
There is currently no statutory provision for sex and relationship education that tackles the issues of domestic abuse for young people. A recent study by the Sex Education Forum revealed that: 50% of young people had not discussed real-life scenarios about sexual consent and 34% had been taught nothing at all about sexual consent at school. (Heads or Tails, January 2016). Many young people fall through the cracks as a result and are never offered the opportunity to discuss their concerns, views and experiences when it comes to relationships. The result of this is that teenagers often receive their education on sex and relationships from friends, the media or pornography which can lead to dangerous perceptions of what is acceptable within a relationship.

**16. Similar work being funded**
Tender has been funded to deliver our basic healthy relationship project in 3 schools in Waltham Forest over the next year. Our new proposed project will complement the work already taking place and provide a new, more intensive level of intervention. This will be achieved through working with more vulnerable young people through a 5-day workshop programme, through training professionals and carers to apply Tender's learning throughout their work and home life and a relationship advisor school programme, which trains young people to mentor and advise their peers safely.

**12. and 14. Detailed project descriptions with cost breakdown (three options)**

Option one:
**Accredited workshops for at-risk young people**
5-day intensive Tender workshop with a group of vulnerable young people during school holidays. These sessions will look at early warning signs, victim blaming or perpetrator excusing, barriers to leaving, seeking support and peer mentoring. They will receive an Open College Network accreditation in Peer Mentoring Skills empowering them to become active in their communities.

**Adult training**
A training course will be provided for professionals working with vulnerable young people and carers of looked after young people. This will look at early warning signs that a young person is being abused, support in talking to young people about relationships and information on how to seek support.

**Relationship Advisor school programme**

One school in Waltham Forest will receive our 'relationship advisor' programme. A group of students will be recruited to become 'relationship advisers'. These students will take responsibility for educating and supporting fellow students to engage in healthy relationships, to identify and reject violence and abuse, and to consider relationships in a mature and safety conscious way. Advisers will take part in a programme of development and learning, enabling them to understand the dynamics of relationships, including positive and negative behaviours, and the impact these can have. They will develop sources of support and advice, and will create and deliver a presentation on the issues to other students at the school. After Tender's intervention, relationship advisers are encouraged to develop future campaigns and support for their peers such as poster campaigns, information flyers, deliver workshops or even drop in sessions

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| workshop facilitator costs (2 facilitators x 5 days @ £300) | £ | 3,000 |
| workshop facilitator travel | £ | 65 |
| venue | £ | 1,500 |
| refreshments (£35 x 5 days) | £ | 175 |
| coordination 5 weeks @ £466/week | £ | 2,330 |
| accreditation | £ | 1,950 |
| Development meeting and training 2 facilitators x 2 days | £ | 700 |
| meetings travel | £ | 26 |
| adult training facilitator cost | £ | 130 |
| training travel | £ | 13 |
| relationship advisor facilitator (5 sessions) | £ | 1,000 |
| travel | £ | 33 |
| session resources | £ | 25 |
| teacher resource packs | £ | 60 |
| Overheads | £ | 1,101 |
| **TOTAL** | **£** | **12,107** |

Option two:

**Accredited workshops for at-risk young people**

5-day intensive Tender workshop with a group of vulnerable young people during school holidays. These sessions will look at early warning signs, victim blaming or perpetrator excusing, barriers to leaving, seeking support and peer mentoring. They will receive an Open College Network accreditation in Peer Mentoring Skills empowering them to become active in their communities.

**Adult training**

A training course will be provided for professionals working with vulnerable young people and carers of looked after young people. This will look at early warning signs that a young person is being abused, support in talking to young people about relationships and information on how to seek support.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| workshop facilitator costs (2 facilitators x 5 days @ £300) | £ | 3,000 |
| workshop facilitator travel | £ | 65 |
| venue | £ | 1,500 |
| refreshments (£35 x 5 days) | £ | 175 |
| coordination 5 weeks @ £466/week | £ | 2,330 |
| accreditation | £ | 1,950 |
| Development meeting and training 2 facilitators x 2 days | £ | 700 |
| meetings travel | £ | 26 |
| adult training facilitator cost | £ | 130 |
| training travel | £ | 13 |
| Overheads | £ | 989 |
| **TOTAL** | **£** | **10,878** |

Option three:

**Workshops for at-risk young people (without accreditation)**
5-day intensive Tender workshop with a group of vulnerable young people during school holidays. These sessions will look at early warning signs, victim blaming or perpetrator excusing, barriers to leaving, seeking support and peer mentoring.

**Adult training**
A training course will be provided for professionals working with vulnerable young people and carers of looked after young people. This will look at early warning signs that a young person is being abused, support in talking to young people about relationships and information on how to seek support.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| workshop facilitator costs (2 facilitators x 5 days @ £300) | £ | 3,000 |
| workshop facilitator travel | £ | 65 |
| venue | £ | 1,500 |
| refreshments (£35 x 5 days) | £ | 175 |
| coordination 5 weeks @ £466/week | £ | 2,330 |
| Development meeting and training 2 facilitators x 2 days | £ | 700 |
| meetings travel | £ | 26 |
| adult training facilitator cost | £ | 130 |
| training travel | £ | 13 |
| Overheads | £ | 794 |
| **TOTAL** | **£** | **8,733** |

**17. Timeline**
This project would take place over the course of 12 months from the date funding was received.