

POPPY PROJECT OUTREACH SERVICE

A review of work to date: January – September 2007

Alice Sachrajda 2008

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CONTENTS

1	Introduction	4
2	Methodology	5
2.1	Scope of this report	5
2.2	Ethical considerations	5
2.3	Limitations	5
3	Summary and key findings	6
4	Referrals to the POPPY Project: identifying patterns and trends	7
4.1	Recognising the need for an outreach service	7
4.2	POPPY Outreach Service referral criteria	7
4.3	Numbers of women referred to the POPPY Outreach Service	8
4.4	Countries of origin of women supported by the POPPY Outreach Service	8
4.5	Referrals from women in detention and prison	9
4.6	Referrals from other agencies and locations outside London	10
4.7	POPPY Outreach Service and POPPY Accommodation and Support Service working in tandem	10
5	Outreach Service provision: successful and positive outcomes	11
5.1	Filling a gap in service provision	11
5.2	Continuity of care	11
5.3	Advocating for regulation of immigration status	11
5.4	Developing partnerships with other agencies	12
5.5	Building confidence	12
6	Outreach Service provision: problems and obstacles encountered	13
6.1	Inter-agency working	13
6.2	Length of time supporting women on the project	13
6.3	The need for training	14
7	Conclusions and recommendations	15
7.1	Identification of black African women who have been trafficked	15
7.2	Specialist support for South-East Asian women	15
7.3	The urgent need for training	15
7.4	Handling increased numbers of referrals for outreach support	15
7.5	The need for specialist research analysing the work of the POPPY Project	16
Appendices		
Appendix I: The POPPY Project's cumulative statistics from March 2003 to September 2007		17
Appendix II: Agencies referring women to POPPY who were accepted for outreach support		22

1. INTRODUCTION

The POPPY Project is run by Eaves, a London-based charity that was founded in 1977 to provide high quality housing and support to vulnerable women with a range of support needs. In January 2002 Eaves received its first referral from a woman who had been trafficked to the United Kingdom and forced to work as a prostitute. Eaves continued to receive referrals from women who had been trafficked and it became increasingly evident that these women required specialist support and advocacy. In 2003 the POPPY Project was set up as a pilot project, funded by the Home Office, to provide accommodation and specialist support to women who had been trafficked to the United Kingdom for the purposes of sexual exploitation. The POPPY Project is now funded by the Office for Criminal Justice Reform (reporting to the Ministry of Justice) and has 35 bed spaces in houses throughout London.

In 2006, Eaves received increased Government funding to set up an outreach service, which was launched in January 2007. This new, innovative service is the only one of its kind with a remit covering England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The POPPY Outreach Service works to improve the safety and wellbeing of women who have been trafficked and who are in need of short-term support and advocacy. The POPPY Outreach manager and four Outreach workers each work with a caseload of women and have built up close partnerships with law enforcement agencies, immigration officials and sexual health outreach projects in order to locate and ensure identification of women in need of support.

The level of outreach support varies and is determined on a case-by-case basis. However, it predominantly involves short-term crisis intervention, such as locating a solicitor in order to obtain immigration advice, contacting law enforcement agencies, accessing healthcare and social services, carrying out risk assessments, giving advice and support relating to personal safety, finding safe and appropriate accommodation, signposting to other relevant agencies, reintegration and resettlement and onward referrals.

The POPPY Outreach Service also provides training to law enforcement agencies and statutory and voluntary sector organisations coming into contact with women who have been trafficked. This comprises awareness raising, training on the identification of women who have been trafficked and advice on specialist support provision.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Scope of this report

This report analyses the work of the POPPY Outreach Service in the nine months since its inception in January 2007. Both qualitative and quantitative data is drawn from databases, case files and interviews with POPPY Outreach workers.

2.2 Ethical considerations

The women supported by the POPPY Project represent an extremely vulnerable service user group. As such, every effort has been made to ensure that research processes have not had a negative impact upon the women supported by the project. The names of service users have been made anonymous in the case studies to protect the identity of those involved. To avoid re-traumatising service users the information was drawn from case files and through discussions with POPPY Outreach workers.

2.3 Limitations

Providing support for women who have been trafficked is a lengthy process, especially for those who are being supported with immigration or asylum issues, or who are involved with the Criminal Justice System. Ongoing work is taking place on many of the files reported on in this research and so the positive outcomes set out are in many instances those that have been achieved in the relatively short term.

3. SUMMARY AND KEY FINDINGS

- The POPPY Outreach Service accepted 65 referrals between 1 January 2007 and 30 September 2007. Between two and ten women were accepted for outreach support each month during this time. There is a high demand for this specialist service, particularly as staff will travel to carry out assessments with women.
- A significant number of the women accepted for outreach support are black African (63% in total – 41 of the 65 women referred). The POPPY Project is concerned about the growing trend of black African women who are trafficked, and is working to carry out further research and provide training to agencies around identification of this group of women.
- The POPPY Outreach workers have developed particular expertise in working with Nigerian women. During the scope of this report, 21 Nigerian women were accepted for outreach support; such extensive experience has enabled the Outreach workers to become experts in working with this group of women.
- The POPPY Project is concerned about the need for more research and specialist care provision for South-East Asian women, particularly Chinese and Thai women who appear to have been trafficked, many of whom are unwilling to disclose information about their experiences.
- Six Albanian women have been accepted for outreach support, many of whom have particular support needs relating to cultural matters. The POPPY Outreach workers are well equipped to meet their support needs.
- The POPPY Outreach Service receives referrals from agencies throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The majority of the referrals are from London, but a significant number have been received from Liverpool, Manchester and Leeds.
- 20 women were referred to POPPY while located in detention centres. It is of concern to note that a significant majority – 16 – of these women are black African, while the remaining four women are from South-East Asia (three are Chinese and one is Thai).
- Seven women were referred to POPPY while detained in prison. The majority of these women are black African; five in total. However, two are Albanian.
- Three women supported by the POPPY Outreach Service have been granted Indefinite Leave to Remain in the United Kingdom and one woman has been granted Humanitarian Protection¹.
- The POPPY Outreach Service has successfully advocated for the release of eight women from detention centres and two women from prison, both of whom were on remand at the time. All of these women were identified by the POPPY Project as having been trafficked.

¹ However, in this case the Home Office has applied for permission to appeal against the decision to grant Humanitarian Protection

4. REFERRALS TO THE POPPY PROJECT: IDENTIFYING PATTERNS AND TRENDS

4.1 Recognising the need for an outreach service

It appears that the number of women trafficked to the United Kingdom for sexual exploitation is growing year by year. The POPPY Project receives ever increasing numbers of referrals to support and accommodate women who have been trafficked². Since its inception in 2003, 743³ women have been referred to the POPPY Project.

Before the Outreach Service was established, the POPPY Project's crisis support programme (referred to throughout this report as 'POPPY Accommodation and Support Service') worked on an informal outreach basis with women who were in urgent need of support but either did not meet the criteria⁴ or had been detained, and so were unable to be accommodated by the project. In many instances there was simply no capacity to take on outreach cases.

Ever since the POPPY Outreach Service was set up in January 2007 it has become an indispensable part of the POPPY Project. Due to increased capacity, its remit across England, Wales and Northern Ireland and its more flexible criteria, the Outreach Service has been able to work closely with 65 women who would not otherwise have been eligible or appropriate for acceptance on to the POPPY Accommodation and Support Service.

4.2 POPPY Outreach Service referral criteria

Women who are accepted for outreach support will have been trafficked and sexually exploited. However, the Outreach Service does not specify a time frame after which it is no longer possible to take a referral. Instead, the team accept referrals on a case-by-case basis.

The support provided by the Outreach Service is referred to as 'short-term crisis intervention'. A woman is still accepted for outreach support even if she escaped from the people who trafficked her some time prior to the referral, and even if this was in a country other than the United Kingdom, if her need for support and advocacy is directly related to her experience of having been trafficked. On occasions the Outreach Service has worked with women trafficked for domestic servitude who have been sexually exploited by their employers.

The Government is currently working towards the establishment of a National Referral Mechanism to monitor the identification of victims in line with the Council of Europe Convention⁵. The Outreach Service's expansion of the POPPY Project's remit by supporting other categories of women who have been trafficked demonstrates its ability to act flexibly to meet the needs of a range of women, and therefore shows how well equipped it is to work within the new National Referral Mechanism.

The Outreach Service predominantly takes referrals from women who are aged over 18. However, 11 children have been referred for outreach support after their age has been disputed following an age assessment by Social Services (two stated they were aged 15, four stated they were aged 16, and five stated they were aged 17 at the time of referral). In the majority of these cases they had been given false documentation by the people who had trafficked them to make it appear that they were older. In cases such as these the Outreach Service will continue to provide support and assistance, while working closely with Social Services and other relevant agencies.

2 In March and in August 2007 the POPPY Project received its highest number of referrals per month to date (26 referrals in March and 26 referrals in August). See Appendix I for a detailed breakdown of the POPPY Project's cumulative referral statistics.

3 This figure is correct on 30 September 2007.

4 The POPPY Project can provide accommodation and support to women aged over 18 only. In order to meet the criteria for assistance with the POPPY Project, women must have been trafficked to the UK, forced to work as a prostitute in the UK and sexually exploited in the three months prior to the date of referral.

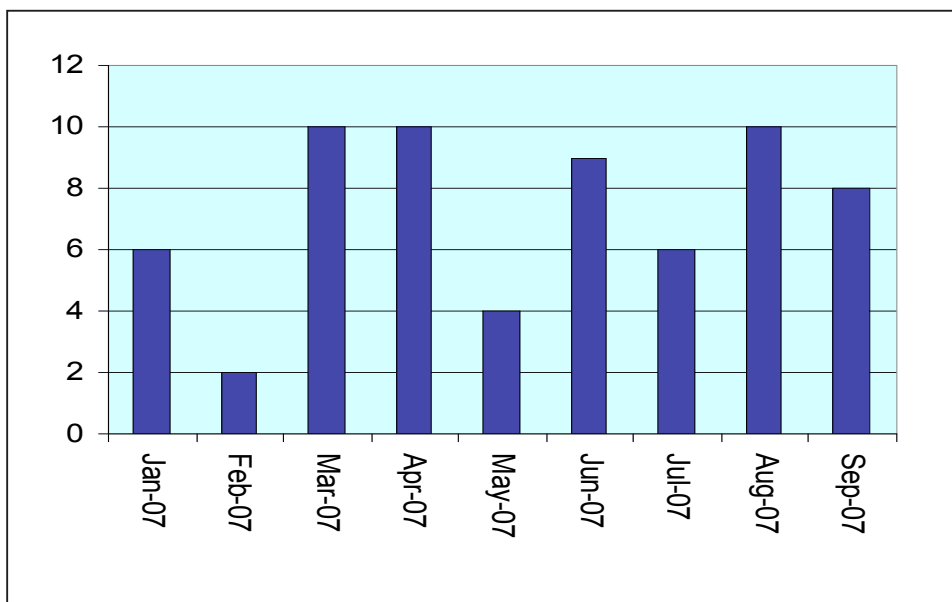
5 The UK Government signed the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings in March 2007.

4.3 Numbers of women referred to the POPPY Outreach Service

Graph 1, below, shows the numbers of women who were referred for outreach support between 1 January and 30 September 2007. It took some time for referral agencies to become aware of the newly established service, which may explain the initial slow take-up in February 2007 (the peak in January is due to some women initially being referred directly from the POPPY Accommodation and Support Service).

By March 2007 the Outreach Service had become better known by external agencies and since then between four and ten women were referred each month. It is important to stress that the Outreach Service is steadily increasing its profile across the country and the numbers of referrals are expected to increase once more agencies become aware of its work.

Graph 1: Numbers of women referred for outreach support



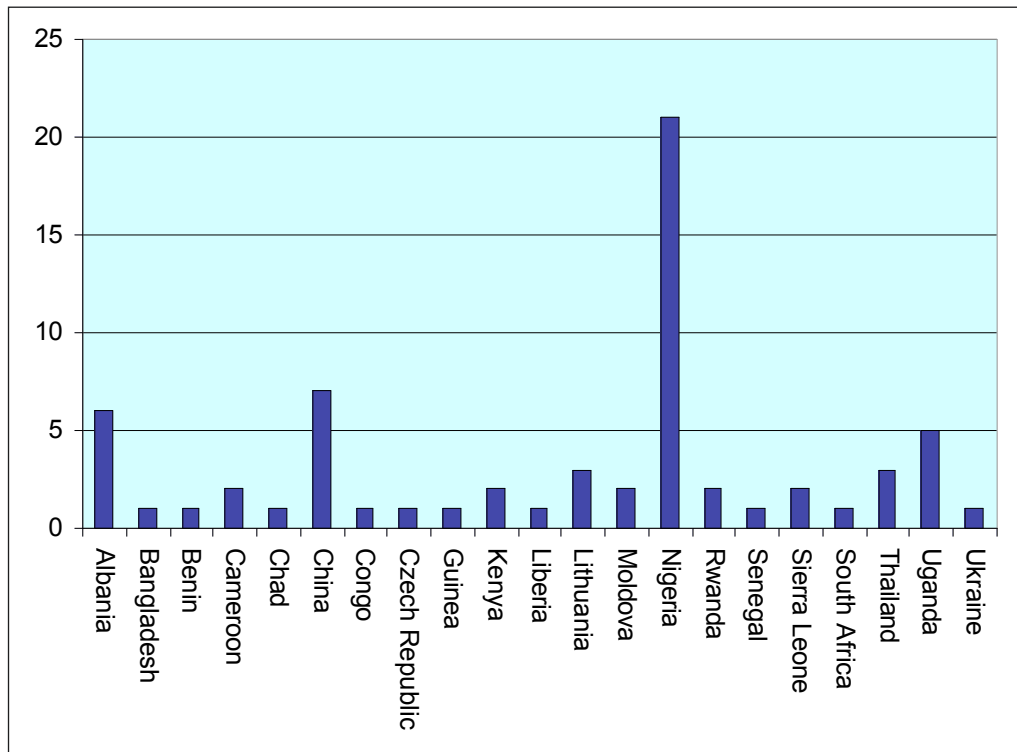
4.4 Countries of origin of women supported by the POPPY Outreach Service

Graph 2, below, demonstrates the wide ranging countries of origin of women accepted for outreach support. A significant number are Nigerian; 21 in total. As a result, the POPPY Outreach workers have developed specialist expertise for working with these women and the particular support needs that they have relating to cultural, religious, medical, legal or other factors.

Notably, seven Chinese women and three Thai women have been referred to the Outreach Service for assessments since January. However, it is of current concern that the support the women require is extremely specialist in nature and will often involve complex cultural matters. The Outreach workers have carried out assessments with several Chinese and Thai women who appear to have been trafficked so are referred for support, but who are then unwilling (and in some instances appear too scared) to disclose information about their experiences since arriving in the United Kingdom. In many instances the women wish to be repatriated as soon as possible and appear distrustful of the concept of social support and assistance.

Six Albanian women have been accepted for outreach support. The Outreach workers have therefore developed specialist experience in providing assistance and support to this particular client group.

Graph 2: Countries of origin of women referred for outreach support

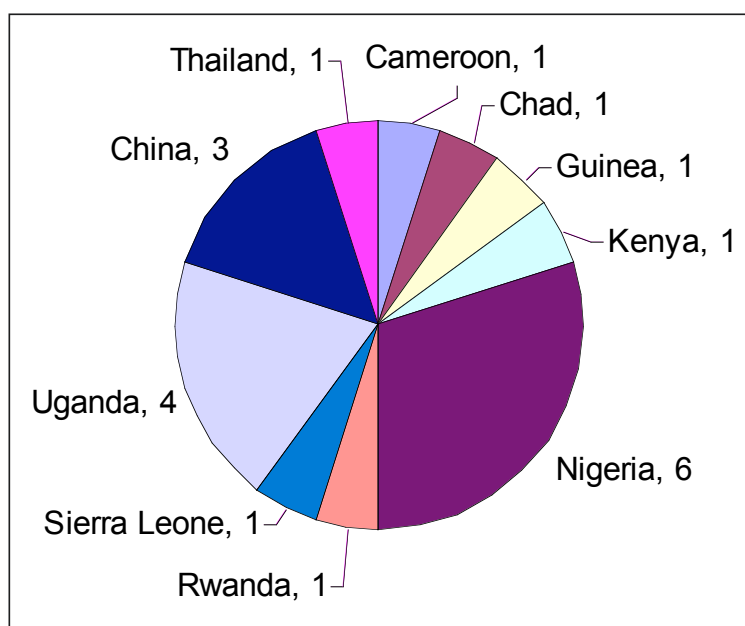


4.5 Referrals from women in detention and prison

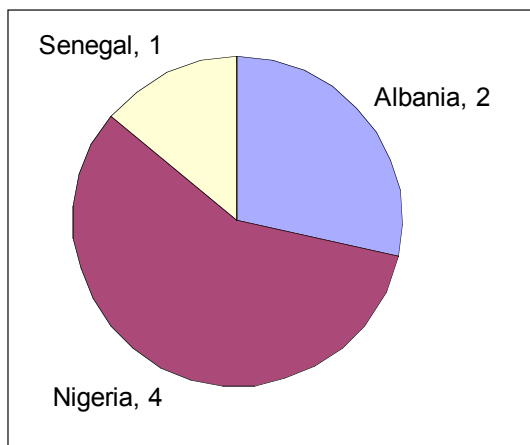
A significant number of women accepted for outreach support are referred while located in immigration detention centres or prisons. Of the 65 referrals accepted for outreach support, 20 women were in detention centres and seven in prisons.

Graphs 3 and 4, below, demonstrate the countries of origin of women referred and accepted for outreach assessment while in detention or in prison. The majority of these women are black African (80% of those in detention centres and 71% of those in prison). Four of the 20 women referred while in detention centres are South-East Asian (three are Chinese and one is Thai).

Graph 3: Countries of origin of women referred from detention



Graph 4: Countries of origin of women referred from prison



In recent years there has been growing awareness among police and immigration services of the problem of trafficking from Eastern Europe to Western Europe. However, there appears to be less awareness that black African and Asian women are also trafficked. The way that traffickers from different parts of the world transport and treat women varies widely; the way that African or Asian women are trafficked is usually very different from that of Eastern European women, for example.

In particular, the POPPY Project has found that black African women are more likely to be trafficked to private establishments where they are less visible to police and sexual health outreach services. This may go some way to explaining why so many black African women are not immediately identified as having been trafficked and are therefore taken to detention centres or prisons rather than being immediately referred to the POPPY Project. Evidently, more research into the experiences of black African and Asian women is crucial in order to raise awareness about the trends in the way that they are trafficked, and the interventions and support they require.

4.6 Referrals from other agencies and locations outside London

The Outreach Service accepts referrals from England, Wales and Northern Ireland and the workers travel across the country to carry out assessments with women who may have been trafficked. In addition, the Outreach Service has built up strong partnerships with counter-trafficking organisations working in Scotland, including the TARA Project and Glasgow City Council. As a result of travelling widely and building up its contacts, the service is starting to become more widely known, as evidenced by the wide range of referral agencies, set out in Appendix II.

In particular, the service is becoming better known in Liverpool and Manchester. After one referral was made from a service in Liverpool, the Outreach worker who took the case attended multi-disciplinary meetings of other professionals working in the area. There have since been subsequent referrals from other professionals in the same locality.

4.7 POPPY Outreach Service and POPPY Accommodation and Support Service working in tandem

In addition to raising the profile of its own work over the past nine months, the Outreach Service has helped to raise more awareness about trafficking and the work of the POPPY Project in general. This is likely to be due to the Outreach Service accepting referrals and providing training to agencies throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Six women supported by the POPPY Outreach Service have been referred on to the POPPY Accommodation and Support Service after initial outreach assessments found that the criteria were met. Some women cannot be immediately accepted onto the POPPY Accommodation and Support Service due to insufficient information or lack of disclosure, or if they are in detention and need intensive advocacy for their release. In turn, one woman from the POPPY Accommodation and Support Service was transferred for outreach support. In this case it was because the woman required short-term advocacy, rather than long-term intensive support.

5. OUTREACH SERVICE PROVISION: SUCCESSFUL AND POSITIVE OUTCOMES

5.1 Filling a gap in service provision

Since January 2007 the POPPY Outreach Service has been filling a much needed gap by providing short-term crisis intervention to women who have been trafficked and who for whatever reason are not able to be supported by the POPPY Accommodation and Support Service. One Outreach worker described how: “The Outreach Service caters for the fears women have”.

Being accepted for outreach support does not preclude a woman from continuing to stay with family or friends or from staying where she is if she is living outside London. In addition, women in detention centres or in prisons can receive support and advocacy from Outreach workers despite not being housed by the POPPY Project.

Some women so greatly fear the authorities that they are reluctant to speak to anyone about their experience immediately after they are released or escape from their traffickers. On occasions this means that when a woman is eventually referred to the POPPY Project she falls outside the three-month period after which the POPPY Accommodation and Support Service cannot support a woman. The flexibility of the POPPY Outreach Service provides a safety net for such women.

“Two weeks ago ‘S’ told us that she didn’t trust her male solicitor or the police. We told her that she could change to an experienced female solicitor, which she has since done, and now she feels much happier. She was trafficked two years ago but she was too frightened to approach the authorities. Now she calls us when she has a problem.”

Outreach worker for ‘S’, Moldovan

5.2 Continuity of care

While in some cases the POPPY Outreach Service works completely independently of the POPPY Accommodation and Support Service, in other instances the teams work closely together. This means that consistent and appropriately tailored care can be provided throughout the time that a woman is supported by the POPPY Project. For women who have been trafficked, and who have undergone extremely volatile and chaotic experiences, continuity of care is paramount.

“I really feel that I gained ‘O’'s trust. I first assessed her while she was in prison and then the Outreach Service managed to get her out on bail. Up until then ‘O’ hadn’t felt able to talk to anyone about what had happened to her. She fit the criteria for POPPY Accommodation and Support and I gave a comprehensive handover about her case to her new support worker. She has received continuous support from POPPY for several months now.”

Outreach worker for ‘O’, Nigerian

5.3 Advocating for regulation of immigration status

Three women supported by the POPPY Outreach Service have been granted Indefinite Leave to Remain in the United Kingdom and one has been granted Humanitarian Protection. However, the Home Office has applied for permission to appeal against the decision to grant Humanitarian Protection. If the permission to appeal is allowed, this woman will require ongoing support and assistance from her Outreach worker.

The POPPY Outreach Service has successfully advocated for the release of eight women from detention centres and two women from prison, both of whom were on remand at the time for having false documentation given to them by their traffickers.

5.4 Developing partnerships with other agencies

The POPPY Outreach Service has developed strong partnerships with other agencies. The Outreach workers have built up strong links with health care providers, Social Services, mental health teams, accommodation providers, New Asylum Model case owners, solicitors, barristers, police, immigration services and other NGOs.

It is essential that women who have been trafficked receive good legal representation from experienced solicitors and barristers. The POPPY Outreach Service has built up strong working relationships with lawyers who have specialist experience in this field.

“E’ said that in Nigeria the good solicitors were the ones that charged a lot of money and she was sceptical of someone who would represent her without charging a fee. I explained to ‘E’ how the system worked in England and that she was eligible for legal aid. She then decided to instruct a new solicitor. After the appointment she walked out, started crying and kept thanking me. She said she trusted me and the solicitor.”

Outreach worker for ‘E’, Nigerian

5.5 Building confidence

Working on a case-by-case basis, the Outreach workers help every woman to attain targets and make new goals for the future. The goals vary widely but the support provided by the Outreach Service helps all the women on the project to gain confidence and independence.

“A’ was found homeless and begging on the street with a baby. Now she has accommodation and attends English language classes. She looks completely different now. Before she never made eye contact and she was completely isolated. Now she smiles and says hello to the whole team. She called the other day to say that she had enrolled on a computer course by herself.”

Outreach worker for ‘A’, Nigerian

“When ‘R’ was first referred to the POPPY Project she was living in a B&B and supported through the Crisis Mental Health Team. She fit the criteria for the POPPY Accommodation and Support Service but her support needs were so high that we could not cater for her appropriately, so instead she was housed by Social Services and received support from the POPPY Outreach Service.

“R’ was very withdrawn, deeply depressed and did not make eye contact. She frequently hyperventilated and was unable to walk outside without the assistance of an interpreter and a support worker. She slowly started to build confidence and receive help from professionals and learned, with the help of Social Services, the Community Mental Health Team, the Helen Bamber Foundation and the POPPY Project, to trust others and become more independent. ‘R’ now lives in supported housing, goes to college, and goes out on her own.”

Outreach worker for ‘R’, Albanian

6. OUTREACH SERVICE PROVISION: PROBLEMS AND OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED

6.1 Inter-agency working

The POPPY Outreach Service has developed good working relationships with housing and support providers, as well as statutory agencies and Government departments. However, lack of knowledge and experience of trafficking issues has often meant that the Outreach workers have had to spend time educating workers in other agencies before they can even discuss the details of a particular case.

“It took five months of writing letters to NASS⁶ and the housing provider to solve problems with ‘A’s subsistence allowance and problems with her accommodation. In the beginning her ARC⁷ card was faulty and she could not receive payments. It took NASS five months to replace it during which I had to apply on her behalf for emergency money every 20 days. On various occasions the POPPY Project had to lend her money because she couldn’t buy food for her baby. Then the accommodation provider decided to evict her, but it turned out this was due to a fault in their computer system. Without the support of the Outreach team she would have been destitute and homeless again as she did not have the language skills or understanding of the system to negotiate with all the services.”

Outreach worker for ‘A’, Nigerian

6.2 Length of time supporting women on the project

One of the main challenges for the Outreach workers is the need to reconcile the often high level of support required, and the short time in which it is possible to provide such assistance. Of the 65 women identified in this sample, 40 of the cases have been closed as the women have now moved on from the project, but 25 cases are still open and the women are receiving ongoing support and assistance from the Outreach Service.

It is important to stress that the nature of the Outreach Service’s involvement in a case means that the level of support does not have to be consistently intense, but is tailored to a woman’s individual circumstances and needs. In some cases this might involve a relatively short amount of work, such as an initial assessment and a report; in others it might require ongoing monitoring, advocacy and support over a longer period of time.

The New Asylum Model, which was implemented in January 2007, allows six weeks for an asylum application to be decided upon. However, in reality, many of the trafficking cases are complex and go on to an appeal which makes the process much lengthier. It is crucial for a woman to have consistent advice and support throughout her asylum claim. Women supported by the Outreach Service, who are making a claim for asylum or Humanitarian Protection, are likely to need continued support over a long period of time if the immigration case is complex and ongoing.

Building trust with women who have been physically, mentally and sexually abused takes time and patience. For this reason alone, it is not always possible for the Outreach workers to support and assist a woman within a short time frame. Of the six women referred to the Outreach Service at its inception in January, three cases have been closed and three women are still receiving ongoing support. Of these, one requires ongoing support and assistance with an immigration matter; one is receiving support due to a criminal investigation into the people that trafficked her, as well as ongoing support related to locating accommodation for her and her children; the third is receiving ongoing support in accessing accommodation, benefits and employment. Of these, it is significant to note that two of the women have support needs relating to their children which results in the women requiring continued specialist assistance from the Outreach Service.

6 National Asylum Support Service

7 Application Registration Card

6.3 The need for training

It is of concern to note that very few women accepted for outreach support were referred by police and immigration services. Drawn from this sample of 65 women, seven per cent were referred by police services and ten per cent were referred from immigration services⁸. Evidently, more needs to be done to inform both the statutory and voluntary sector of the work of the POPPY Project to ensure correct identification and recognition of issues relating to trafficking, and to ensure women are referred for appropriate support.

In addition, training for agencies working with women who have been trafficked is essential in order that women receive the specialist care they require, even if they are not supported by the POPPY Project. Since January the POPPY Outreach Service has carried out training for the following organisations:

- Birmingham Prostitution Forum
- London Sexual Health Advisors (Regional meeting)
- Wilson & Co solicitors (London)
- Citylight (Brighton)
- NHS National Conference for Nurses & Health Visitors Working With Asylum Seekers & Refugees
- TARA Project (Glasgow)
- Hibiscus (a London-based organisation with a pan-UK remit supporting foreign national women in prison)
- Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission (Belfast)
- Victim Support (national conference)
- Immigration Advisory Service
- Crown Prosecution Service (national conference)
- Royal Society of Medicine (national conference)
- Lifeline – Sexual Health Outreach Service (Manchester)
- Marta Women's Centre (Latvia)
- Immigration Advisory Service (Regional supervisors' meeting)
- Complex Case Team (Croydon)
- Immigrant Council of Ireland

Much of this work has centred on identification of women who have been trafficked, highlighting in particular that the situation of African and Asian women who have been trafficked tends to differ from that of Eastern European women. However, training also covers the specialist needs of women who have been trafficked, including areas such as: immediate care; physical, psychological and sexual health needs; communication; confidentiality; minimising trauma; personal safety and gaining trust.

⁸ Appendix II sets out a table of referral agencies

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1. Identification of black African women who have been trafficked

An alarming trend noted in this report is the number of black African women who are referred to the POPPY Project. On the one hand, it may be the case that the experiences of black African women who are trafficked are not widely understood, and therefore these women are not being identified by the statutory agencies carrying out initial consultations. On the other hand, given the very high numbers of black African women in detention or in prison, the POPPY Project has a very real concern that the trend appears to be exclusive to black African women and that in some instances discrimination towards these women is taking place.

Recommendation 1

That clear, accessible guidelines are presented to both private and public sector agencies coming into contact with black African women who may have been trafficked in order to raise awareness of the experiences and needs of these women. The POPPY Project has the necessary experience to contribute to, or produce, such documentation.

7.2. Specialist support for South-East Asian women

It is of great concern to the POPPY Project that many Chinese and Thai women who appear to have been trafficked are unwilling to disclose information about their experiences after being referred for support. A Thai-speaking worker has recently been recruited to the Outreach Service in order to provide more specialist support to Thai women.

All women who have been trafficked require culturally specific care and impartial advice from highly experienced support providers. This will require that the support provision be tailored to the needs of the service user in order to be able to gain trust and ensure that cultural understanding is reached.

Recommendation 2

That the POPPY Outreach Service seeks funding to allow the appointment, using the exemption of the Genuine Occupation Qualification, of a Chinese-speaking outreach worker and an advocacy worker to act on behalf of South-East Asian women.

7.3 The urgent need for training

The POPPY Project has all the necessary experience to provide training around identification and specialist support. The Outreach workers regularly travel across the country in order to carry out assessments and as part of their remit will continue to give training to organisations and agencies throughout the United Kingdom.

Recommendation 3

That all agencies coming into contact with women who may have been trafficked, in particular police and immigration services, receive specialist, targeted training around identification. The POPPY Project is extremely well placed to provide such training.

7.4 Handling increased numbers of referrals for outreach support

Referrals to the POPPY Project continue to increase and the Outreach Service is already reaching capacity for the number of cases it can take on. In many instances the difficulty faced by the Outreach workers is the length of time needed to resolve cases and to enable women to move on. While short-term crisis intervention is sufficient in a proportion of the cases referred, in many instances longer-term support and advocacy is required.

Recommendation 4

That the POPPY Outreach Service seeks increased funding to appoint more Outreach workers, both in order to meet the increased demand for its support services, and the ongoing need to provide training to other agencies.

Recommendation 5

That an investigation into the feasibility of office space for the POPPY Project in a central location within the United Kingdom is conducted. The Outreach Service is paving the way for such a service to be established due to travelling frequently and building up strong contacts with other agencies throughout the country.

7.5 The need for specialist research analysing the work of the POPPY Project

The POPPY Project is unique in providing specialist accommodation and support alongside carrying out in-depth research into trafficking. The Research and Development Team is able to carry out data collection and statistical analysis; conduct interviews with support and outreach workers and service users; analyse case files and so on. The work of the team is essential in order to contribute informed research to the policy debates in this area and to identify areas of research which require further attention.

More research is essential to demonstrate the wide-ranging, and often changing, experiences of women who have been trafficked from different parts of the world. This is necessary in order to expose the activities of the traffickers themselves, but also, crucially, to be able to make recommendations for specialist, culturally specific support provision for women recovering from their ordeal.

Recommendation 6

That continued funding is sought to fund the crucial work of the POPPY Research and Development Team.

Summary

Total referrals	743
Total accepted for Accommodation and Support Service	159
Total accepted for Outreach	95 ⁽⁹⁾
Total from Outreach to Accommodation and Support	6
Total from Accommodation and Support to Outreach	1

9 This figure is higher than the one quoted in this report. This is due to the fact that prior to the POPPY Outreach Service being established in January 2007, 30 women were supported by the POPPY Accommodation and Support Service on an informal outreach basis.

Breakdown of Statistics

MC = Met all criteria

DNMC = Did not meet criteria

MC	Accommodation and support	131
DNMC	Accommodation and support	28
MC	Outreach	15
DNMC	Outreach	77
MC	Project at Capacity	68
DNMC	Referral Refused	316
MC	Returned – Voluntary	11
DNMC	Returned – Voluntary	4
MC	Returned – Removed	7
DNMC	Returned – Removed	8
MC	No further contact	28
DNMC	No further contact	27
MC	Declined to take up service	17
	No information available at referral	9

Referral by Agency

Police	231
NGO	170
Solicitor	99
Immigration Services	63
Social Services	43
Individual	42
Self referral	32
Other	28
Health Services	21
Punter	14

TOTAL: 743

Breakdown of age of POPPY referrals

Age at referral	Number	Age at referral	Number
14	2	30	23
15	8	31	13
16	19	32	8
17	40	33	11
18	52	34	6
19	47	35	5
20	43	36	2
21	41	37	7
22	46	38	7
23	36	39	5
24	36	40	7
25	30	42	3
26	19	43	2
27	19	44	1
28	23	50	1
29	12	Unknown	168

TOTAL: 743

Breakdown of Country of Origin

Country of Origin	Number	Country of Origin	Number	Country of Origin	Number	Country of Origin	Number	Country of Origin	Number
Lithuania	116	Cameroon	9	Rwanda	3	Guinea	1		
Nigeria	78	Vietnam	8	Turkey	3	Hong Kong	1		
Albania	72	Pakistan	7	Côte d'Ivoire	2	Iran	1		
Thailand	48	Sri Lanka	7	Ethiopia	2	Israel	1		
China	37	Kosovo	7	Mauritius	2	Kazakhstan	1		
Romania	34	Jamaica	7	Mongolia	2	Mauritania	1		
Moldova	28	Liberia	7	Colombia	2	Morocco	1		
Unknown	27	Sierra Leone	7	Singapore	2	Portugal	1		
Russia	24	Kenya	6	Eritrea	2	South Africa	1		
Uganda	24	Belarus	5	Brazil	1	Sudan	1		
Ukraine	23	Ghana	4	Burma	1	Switzerland	1		
United Kingdom	20	Bangladesh	4	Egypt	1	Togo	1		
Poland	16	Philippines	4	Ecuador	1	Uzbekistan	1		
Latvia	16	Congo, DRC	4	Benin	1	Zambia	1		
Czech Republic	13	Hungary	3	Estonia	1	Zimbabwe	1		
Slovakia	12	India	3	Gambia	1	Indonesia	1		
Malaysia	11	Bulgaria	3	Germany	1	Other	5		

POPPY Referrals by month and year

Month of referral	Number	Month of referral	Number	Month of referral	Number	Month of referral	Number	Month of referral	Number	Month of referral	Number
		January 2004	16	January 2005	16	January 2006	10	January 2007	10		
		February 2004	11	February 2005	10	February 2006	16	February 2007	7		
March 2003	5	March 2004	8	March 2005	16	March 2006	21	March 2007	26		
April 2003	7	April 2004	10	April 2005	20	April 2006	16	April 2007	22		
May 2003	12	May 2004	10	May 2005	13	May 2006	22	May 2007	14		
June 2003	10	June 2004	18	June 2005	17	June 2006	12	June 2007	19		
July 2003	8	July 2004	9	July 2005	7	July 2006	12	July 2007	25		
August 2003	3	August 2004	8	August 2005	7	August 2006	19	August 2007	26		
September 2003	15	September 2004	21	September 2005	21	September 2006	11	September 2007	21		
October 2003	12	October 2004	24	October 2005	20	October 2006	11				
November 2003	6	November 2004	13	November 2005	7	November 2006	10				
December 2003	9	December 2004	5	December 2005	10	December 2006	9				
2003 Total	87	2004 Total	153	2005 Total	164	2006 Total	169	2007 Total	170		

APPENDIX II: AGENCIES REFERRING WOMEN TO POPPY WHO WERE ACCEPTED FOR OUTREACH SUPPORT

Location	Referrer	Numbers referred
Bedford	Refugee Legal Centre/Immigration Advisory Service	4
Bristol	Refugee Action	1
Cardiff	Social Services Asylum Team	1
Chorley (Cheshire)	Police	1
Derby	Voice (organisation working with young women in prison)	1
Leeds	Asylum Support Team	2
Leeds	Refugee Council	1
Leicester	Red Cross	1
Liverpool	Merseyside Refugee Asylum Seekers Pre- and Post- Natal Support Group	1
Liverpool	Refugee Action	1
Liverpool	Social Services	1
London	Legal Services (Law firm/barrister/Law centre/Refugee Legal Centre)	12
London	Immigration Services (Communications House/New Asylum Model Case Owner)	7
London	Police Services (Metropolitan Police)	3

Location	Referrer	Numbers referred
London	Prison	2
London	Hibiscus (a London-based organisation with a pan-UK remit supporting foreign national women in prison)	5
London	Medaille Trust (Catholic charity supporting women who have been trafficked)	1
London	Job Centre	1
London	Social Services	1

TOTAL: 65

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putting women first

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