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update

for Birmingham's voluntary sector

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Stories of abuse

Midland Homes Throughcare Housing and Support would like your help to raise awareness of domestic abuse and forced marriages.

The organisation is looking for men, women, young adults and children who are willing to share their experiences to help others going through domestic abuse and forced marriage. They're also interested in working with like-minded organisations.

These experiences are not limited to one group of people, they can happen to anyone. It could be happening to a friend, in your home or in your relationship.

Throughcare intends to use the stories in their campaign to protect men, women and children from different backgrounds – regardless of their religion and beliefs – from domestic abuse and forced marriage. ●

followup ↗

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Residents in some of the most deprived parts of north east Birmingham and north Solihull will be able to tune in to a new community radio station from late 2009.

Switch Radio, based in Castle Vale, has been awarded a 5 year broadcast licence by Ofcom, the UK communications regulator.

The station – formerly Vale fm – emerged out of the regeneration of Castle Vale in the mid-90's. Over the past 13 years the organisation has staged numerous temporary licence FM broadcasts, delivered radio training courses to over 240 unemployed people and developed a range of educational projects with schools and local groups.

The new station will broadcast to a population of over 120,000 people in areas including Castle Vale, Erdington, Stockland Green, Hodge Hill, Shard End, Smith's Wood and Kingshurst. Programmes will be produced by local volunteers with the station providing a range of training and education projects to involve unemployed adults, young people, community groups and schools.

The station will now embark on a 12 month campaign to secure funding for the project. ●

followup ↗

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