

Streetly mum to lead fight against arranged marriage

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A brave Streetly businesswoman who refused to take part in a forced marriage is helping people who have had similar experiences to her own.

Kelly Kaur is leading the fight against forced marriage through her Handsworth Wood-based charity Throughcare Housing and Support.

Now, the married mum-of-two is organising a gala event at the Second City Suite, in Birmingham, later this month to spotlight the work of her charity which provides support to victims of domestic violence and forced marriages.

Throughcare Housing and Support was established last year in a bid to take a stand against forced marriages and provides accommodation and support to victims.

The charity is now gearing up to hold a gala evening in Birmingham on Friday, September 12, to raise funds to provide much-needed help to victims of forced marriage and to highlight the work it does.

Mrs Kaur, who herself experienced homelessness after her refusal to take part in a forced marriage, told the *Observer* that it is vitally important to raise awareness about the issue.

"I am the founder of Throughcare Housing and Support and set up the charity last year to house and support male and female victims of forced marriage and domestic abuse," she said.

"In this day and age people should be able to marry who they want.

"Forced marriages need to be tackled and this will not happen overnight but our aim is to make a start."

For further information about the gala event and the charity call 0121 554 3920 or log on to www.throughcare.com.