

Thousands raised for forced marriage victims

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An event organised by a Darlaston businesswoman who herself refused to take part in a forced marriage has raised thousands of pounds to help people with similar experiences as her own.

Kelly Kaur, who set up a charity in Handsworth Wood called Throughcare Housing and Support, held a dinner dance to raise funds towards helping the work of the charity which supports people who are facing being made to marry against their will.

The gala event, held at the Second City Suite in Birmingham, attracted around 300 visitors. Money raised through the evening is still being calculated but it is believed to be in excess of £8,000.

Mrs Kaur, who refused to take part in a forced marriage 20 years ago when she was just 16, said the event was a tremendous success and proved a touching experience.

"The event went really, really well," said Mrs Kaur, who is now a happily married mum-of-two.

"People came up to me and hugged me and told me they had been through similar experiences.

"People are beginning to talk about forced marriage now. In the past many people used to suffer in silence.

"Since the event the phones have not stopped ringing.





"We are now hoping to hold a similar event in the near future," she added.

More information on the help available from Throughcare Housing and Support can be obtained from the group's website at www.throughcare.com



Kelly Kaur, who has set up a charity to help women forced into marriage. JS0846-0001GO

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