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Women's Factsheet

Annually on 8 March, thousands of events are held throughout the world to inspire women and celebrate their achievements. So Community Channel is presenting a season of programmes that look at different aspects of women's lives. It's both a reminder of the negatives that women endure and a celebration of the positives.

International Women's Day has been observed since the early 1900s. Since then, it has grown to become a global day of recognition and celebration. It is marked by women's organisations and governments around the world with events to honour women's advancement while keeping continued vigilance to ensure that women's equality is gained and maintained in all aspects of life.

With more women in the boardroom, greater equality in legislative rights, and increased visibility as impressive role models in every aspect of life, one could think that women have gained true equality.

The unfortunate fact is that women are still not paid equally to that of their male counterparts, women still are not present in equal numbers in business or politics, and globally women's education, health and the violence against them is worse than that of men.

Facts and Figures:

While advances have been made, there are some worrying statistics particularly in developing countries. These are a reminder of the work still to be done.

- **Refugees.** More than 80 per cent of the world's 35 million refugees and displaced people are women and children.
- **Death in childbirth.** 1,400 women die every day from pregnancy-related causes. In Sub-Saharan Africa, a woman has a one in three chance of dying in child birth. In industrialized countries, the risk is 1 in 4,085.
- **Sex industry.** Girls between 13 and 18 years of age constitute the largest group in the sex industry. It is estimated that around 500,000 girls below 18 are victims of trafficking each year.
- **Education.** Over 110 million of the world's children, two thirds of them girls, are not in school. Of the world's 875 million illiterate adults, two thirds are women.
- **HIV AIDS.** Nearly a third of all adults living with HIV/AIDS are under the age of 25 and two thirds of them are women.

To find out more or get involved in different women's topics, consult the following organisations.

International Women's Day

International Women's Day (IWD), held annually on 8 March, is a global day celebrating the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future.

You can find events occurring in the UK here:

<http://www.internationalwomensday.com/search.asp?country=221>

Website: www.internationalwomensday.com

Women's Resource Centre

The Women's Resource Centre (WRC) supports women's organisations to be more effective and sustainable, by providing training, information, resources and one-to-one support on a range of organisational development issues. They also lobby decision makers on behalf of the women's not-for-profit sector for improved representation and funding.

Address: Women's Resource Centre, Ground Floor East, 33-41 Dallington St, London EC1V 0BB
Tel: 020 7324 3030
Website: www.wrc.org.uk

The White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood

The White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood is an international coalition of individuals and organizations formed to promote increased public awareness of the need to make pregnancy and childbirth safe for all women and newborns in the developing, as well as, developed countries.

Address: 2nd Floor, 138 Portobello Road, London W11 2DZ, UK
Tel: 0207 965 6060
Email: info-uk@whiteribbonalliance.org
Website: www.whiteribbonalliance.org

Womankind Worldwide

WOMANKIND Worldwide is a UK charity devoted to enabling women in developing countries to understand their legal rights and be a powerful force for change. They fund and support projects in a range of community groups that tackle the specific issues in a particular area, rather than trying to import a 'one size fits all' solution from the UK.

Address: WOMANKIND Worldwide, 2nd Floor, Development House, 56-64 Leonard Street, London, EC2A 4LT
Tel: 020 7549 0360
Email: info@womankind.org.uk
Website: www.womankind.org.uk/

White Ribbon Campaign

The WRC is unique as the first male oriented organisation to oppose violence against women. As an educational organization they encourage reflection and discussion that leads to personal and collective action among men.

Address: Birchcliffe Centre, Birchcliffe Road, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, UK, HX7 8DG
Tel: 01422 844675
Email: info@whiteribboncampaign.co.uk
Website: www.whiteribboncampaign.co.uk/

Rights of Women

Rights of Women is a women's voluntary organisation committed to informing, educating and empowering women concerning their legal rights. They offer free confidential legal advice to women on family law, divorce and relationship breakdown, children and contact issues, domestic violence, sexual violence, discrimination and lesbian parenting.

Helpline: 020 7251 6577
Email: info@row.org.uk
Website: www.rightsofwomen.org.uk/

Women's Aid

Women's Aid is a national domestic violence charity working to end violence against women and children. They support over 500 domestic and sexual violence services across the country. They also run the 24-hour National Domestic Violence Freephone Helpline in partnership with Refuge.

Address: Women's Aid, PO Box Bristol 391, BS99 7WS

Helpline: 0808 2000 247

Tel: 0117 944 44 11

Email: info@womensaid.org.uk

Website: www.womensaid.org.uk/

Refuge

Refuge runs a network of safe houses that provide emergency accommodation for women and children when they are most in need. They also run the 24-hour National Domestic Violence Freephone Helpline in partnership with Women's Aid.

Address: 4th Floor, International House, 1 St Katharine's Way, London E1W 1UN

Helpline: 0808 2000 247

Tel: 020 7395 7700

Email: info@refuge.org.uk

Website: refuge.org.uk/

WISH - A voice for women's mental health

Wish is a national charity whose mission is to provide long-term, gender-sensitive support and services to women with mental health needs in their journey through the criminal justice and mental health systems and into the community, and to support women to have their voices heard at a policy level.

Address: 77 East Road, London, N1 6AH

Tel: 020 7017 2828

Email: info@womenatwish.org.uk

Website: www.womenatwish.com

Camfed

Camfed is a charity dedicated to fighting poverty and AIDS in Africa through the education of girls and the empowerment of young women. They support individual girls, selected by their communities as being the most in need, by providing them books and school fees as well as taking a holistic approach to their development.

Address: Camfed, 22 Millers Yard, Mill Lane, Cambridge, CB2 1RQ, UK

Tel: 01223 362648

Email: info@camfed.org

Website: uk.camfed.org

National Alliance of Women's Organisations

The National Alliance of Women's Organisations is an umbrella organisation whose members are concerned to ensure women gain access to their human rights, and to make equality between women and men a reality. Its diverse membership includes: single issue to specialist organisations, faith groups, health centres, arts-based organisations and others offering services and campaigning across a broad range of women's concerns.

Address: Suite 405, Davina House, 137-149 Goswell Road, London, EC1V 7ET

Tel: 02074904100

Email: info@nawo.org.uk

Website: www.nawo.org.uk/

UNIFEM - UK

UNIFEM is the women's fund at the United Nations. It supports projects that promote women's economic security, human rights and status. The UK National Committee for UNIFEM works to raise awareness of women's issues across the world, raise money to fund UNIFEM projects and lobby the UK Government in support of UNIFEM.

Address: UNIFEM UK, BM BOX 6658, London, WC1N 3XX

Tel: 020 7490 3487

Website: www.unifemuk.org/

Mumsnet

Mumsnet is a community website set up by mothers to give advice on parenting and family issues, through forums and product reviews. They are also well known for their involvement in several national campaigns in the UK.

Email: contactus@mumsnet.com

Website: www.mumsnet.com/

Rosa

Rosa is a charity whose mission is to raise and distribute money to women's projects. They offer grants to projects that help achieve equality and justice for women and girls in the UK, with a focus on Economic Justice, Health & Wellbeing, Leadership and Safety.

Address: Rosa c/o WRC, Ground Floor East, 33-41 Dallington Street, London EC1V 0BB

Tel: 020 7324 3044

Email: info@rosauk.org

Website: www.rosauk.org

Community Channel

Address: Community Channel, 2nd Floor, Riverwalk House, 157-161 Millbank, London, SW1P 4RR

Email: feedback@communitychannel.org

Website: www.communitychannel.org

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