Case study four: Maria

Tool 2 - Social Work Capabilities in Working with Disabled Women Survivors

This tool is based on the recommendations drawn from disabled women’s suggestions for improvement in practice in Hague et al’s paper ‘Making the Links’ (2014: 26).

We have mapped the women’s seven suggestions to the domains of the Professional Capabilities Framework, and added our own suggestions on domains 6 and 9.

Domain 1
Take advice from, and consult with, disabled women.

Domain 2
Take disabled women seriously and avoid being patronising.

Domain 3
Develop accessible services.

Domain 4
Do not threaten disabled women with institutionalisation if no refuge space is available. Develop good accessible alternative accommodation, both temporary and permanent, plus support to use it.

Domain 5
Be informed about disabled women’s needs.

Domain 6
Critically reflect on power relationships and intersectionality.

Domain 7
Provide accessible well-publicised domestic violence services (including refuge accommodation) that disabled women know about.

Domain 8
Develop disability equality schemes and reviews with input from disabled women.

Domain 9
Contribute to the learning of others who are working with disabled women survivors.


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