



Empowering Communities against Addiction

PRESS RELEASE

WOMEN AGAINST DRUGS

Celebrating the International Women's Day 7th March 2006

For the third consecutive year, DAAP is organising **Women Against Drugs**, an annual event for all women to come together to take a united stand against addiction. **Women Against Drugs** brings women together to take positive action to overcome their own or the addiction of others.

"Women are affected the most by drug and alcohol addiction of others as often they are their primary carers. Many women are now also struggling against their own addiction. This event raises awareness about addiction issues and about the importance of women working together to offer and to receive support. Women are also commended for tackling either their own or someone else's addiction by receiving the 'DAAP Woman of the Year Award'" **says Perminder Dhillon, CEO, DAAP**

This year, **our key note speaker is Gaille McCann, Mothers against Drugs, Scotland** which was formed after the death of Allan Harper, a 13 year old boy, from a Heroin overdose. 'That drug death, that waste of a very young life began for me what has become a personal journey and hopefully I can offer tangible solutions to a comprehensive problem' says Gaille.

Participants will also hear from the **Somali Women's Network** about the effects of Khat use on the community. **Jenny Gaze, author of the book will talk about how book, The Ultimate High.**

"I experienced the effects of drugs and alcohol in my own life, and saw the chaos and destruction it brings first-hand. I turned to God in desperation and prayer. I could not do it myself through my own willpower. I believe that this applies to most people. I do believe that some kind of spiritual process is vital, as addiction is a spiritual as well as physical/emotional disease. This is the message of the book."

Jenny Gaze

Perminder Dhillon, DAAP's CEO, will talk about the help that is available to women and how women can contribute to building better communities free from addiction. The Southall Regeneration Programme has also committed to working collaboratively with DAAP to help support women back into employment and business.

All contributions will be translated in Punjabi and Somali as required.

The DAAP Woman of the Year Award 2006 will also be presented.

Dr. Raj Rajarayan OBE, DAAP Chair, said, 'the cost of addiction is phenomenal and affects all our communities. We are proud to present this third annual event focussing on empowering women. It is a great opportunity for building community cohesion and I wish all the women coming to the event a very happy international women's day'

By popular demand, Cynthia Tabone is back to enchant the audience with her belly dancing and Kausher Habib will sing in her melodious voice. The Honey Dance Academy will entertain with their Bollywood dancing.

A three course meal is included in the price of the ticket for the event.

The event will take place at Monsoon Banqueting Suite in Southall from 7.0pm to midnight on 7th March 2006.

This is an opportunity that no woman should miss.

The DAAP Woman of the Year Award 2006 has been sponsored by Devinder Kaur in the memory of her mother Kartar Kaur, Norwood Mortgages, Third Vision Consultancy and the Southall Regeneration Programme who will work in partnership with DAAP to offer opportunities to women through their skills, entrepreneurship and enterprise programmes.

The event is also supported by The Monsoon Banqueting Suite and Desi Radio.

**The Women against Drugs takes place on
Tuesday 7th March 2006 at 7.00pm at the
Monsoon Banqueting Suite.**

**For more information see www.daap.org.uk or
please contact DAAP on Tel: 0208 843 0945**