

**Maureen Storey Awarded MBE in King's Birthday Honours
for Decades of Domestic Abuse Activism**

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Vida is delighted to announce retired Vida Director, Maureen Storey, has been awarded an MBE in the King's Birthday Honours. This prestigious recognition celebrates over 30 years of tireless activism in the domestic abuse sector, acknowledging her impact on the lives of countless survivors.

Marilyn Gregory, Chair of Vida, welcomed the news, stating, "I am so proud to have worked beside Maureen, and this is a well-deserved opportunity for her significant contributions to be acknowledged. Maureen's dedicated voluntary role with Sheffield Women's Aid, who celebrated their 50th anniversary last year, laid crucial groundwork. Although she has retired from her paid role with Vida, she remains steadfast in her activism on issues of violence against women and girls, and championing specialist services for survivors of abuse."

This award is especially poignant as Vida Sheffield celebrates its 30th Anniversary this year, with a special event scheduled for June 20th. Maureen played a pivotal role in establishing the organisation, formerly known as Sheffield Domestic Abuse Forum. She led strategic initiatives to foster collaboration among key agencies, to recognise and tackle domestic abuse in the region.

Adding to the celebrations, Vida has successfully secured sufficient funding to continue its vital women's therapy services until at least March 2026, providing crucial long-term support for survivors.

Vida extends its heartfelt gratitude to all its supporters and funders, including Louise Haigh MP. Her unwavering advocacy was instrumental in helping Vida avoid a funding crisis and in raising awareness of women's issues within her constituency. Her efforts continue to highlight the critical need for core government funding to support women survivors in their long-term mental health recovery from abuse.

Maureen commented on her award: "I'm proud to accept this award, as recognition of the many women working tirelessly in our sector. It is also an opportunity to celebrate the incredible courage of the survivors I've had the privilege to meet over the years. So much has improved in the response to domestic abuse in my time, but we are still just as busy tackling the scourge of violence against women and girls."

Louise Haigh MP for Sheffield Heeley said: "It is absolutely right and proper that Maureen be honoured in this way after years of dedicated service and activism in domestic abuse, supporting thousands of women."

Vida is a life-changing and life-saving organisation that supports women recover from the most difficult moments in their lives. I am honoured to work alongside them and delighted they have secured funding to continue to provide services.”

About Vida

Vida is a **specialist trauma-focused charity** based in Sheffield, dedicated to empowering women who have experienced abuse. Through **TFCBP, EMDR, counselling, emotional and practical support**, Vida offers a **safe haven for recovery**, ensuring that survivors receive the care they need to heal and reclaim their lives.

To learn more about Vida and its transformative impact, visit www.vidasheffield.org.uk.

For the Editor

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