Safeguarding within YANA

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Virginia Edgecombe, Trustee
Contact via admin@yanahelp.org

YANA makes a positive contribution to a strong and safe community and recognises the right of every individual to stay safe.

YANA comes into contact with vulnerable adults through the following activities:
- Helpline Callers
- Mental Health First Aid courses
- Attending events

Definition of a vulnerable adult:
a person aged 18 years or over who may be unable to take care of themselves or protect themselves from harm or from being exploited.

Abuse is;
a selfish act of oppression and injustice, exploitation and manipulation of power by those in a position of authority. This can be caused by those inflicting harm or those who fail to act to prevent harm. Abuse is not restricted to any socio-economic group, gender or culture.
It can take a number of forms, including the following:

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Psychological or Emotional abuse
- Neglect or Omission to act
- Financial or material abuse

- Institutional Abuse
- Discriminatory Abuse
- Harassment
- Radicalisation

- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Modern Slavery
- Self Neglect
- Domestic Abuse

The Care Act 2014 sets out that adult safeguarding duties apply to any adult who:

- has care and support needs, and
- is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse and neglect, and
- is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect, because of those needs

YANA adheres to following the 6 key principles that underpin safeguarding work:

Empowerment

Prevention

Proportionality

Protection

Partnership

Accountability

All volunteers are expected to promote good practice by being an excellent role model, contribute to discussions about safeguarding and to positively involve people in developing safe practices.

What does YANA expect of its volunteers?

YANA has embedded into the organisation: Safe recruitment practices
DBS checks for relevant roles, renewed every 3 years

Professional boundaries are what define the limits of a relationship between a volunteer and a client. They are a set of standards we agree to uphold that allows this necessary and sometimes close relationship to exist while ensuring the correct detachment is kept in place.

YANA expects volunteers to protect the professional integrity of themselves and the organisation.

The following professional boundaries must be adhered to:

YANA does not allow paid or unpaid staff to give gifts to or receive gifts from clients. However gifts may be provided by YANA as part of a planned activity.

The following are not permitted or tolerated by YANA:

- Accepting responsibility for any valuables on behalf of a client
- Accepting money as a gift/Borrowing money from or lending money to service users
- Personal relationships with a third party related to or known to service users
- Accepting gifts/rewards or hospitality from an organisation as an inducement for either doing/not doing something in their official capacity
- Cautious or avoidance of personal contact with clients
- Use of abusive language
- Response to inappropriate behaviour/language
- Use of punishment or chastisement
- Passing on service users' personal contact details
- Providing personal contact details to service users

Steps to take if you are concerned about someone from a safeguarding perspective

Step 1
Any volunteer from YANA is required to report any concerns in the first instance to their line manager or Safeguarding Officer.

Step 2
Act on advice from the Safeguarding Officer or Line Manager.

A written record of the concern will be completed by the line manager/safeguarding manager.

All volunteers have a responsibility to support staff with their professional duty to share information with other agencies in order to safeguard vulnerable children and adults where they have raised a concern.

All volunteers must be aware that they cannot promise service users or their families/carers that they will keep secrets.

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