

SAVERA UK

Savera UK is a leading charity working to end 'honour'-based abuse (HBA) and harmful practices.

Almost 3,000 HBA-related offences are recorded by police in England and Wales each year*. At Savera UK, referrals continue to increase year-on-year.

HBA and harmful practices happen here - you can help us end them.

Who we work with

We work with any individuals experiencing or at risk of HBA and any harmful practices, regardless of gender, age, sexuality, or ethnicity, as well as the professionals working with them.

Referral Criteria

To meet our referral criteria, a person must be at risk or a survivor of at least one of the following:

- HBA or harmful practices (including, but not limited to, forced marriage, female genital mutilation, conversion 'therapy', virginity testing or breast ironing)
- Not being accepted by family/community due to not sharing the same beliefs
- Any other harmful practices or culturally specific harm/abuse
- Domestic abuse related to HBA or harmful practices
- Trafficking related to HBA or harmful practices

All referrals MUST meet our referral criteria to be accepted.

To make a referral you can call our helpline or use our online referral forms. (see "How We Can Help" section).

In an emergency, please call 999.

*Source: Home Office

HOW WE CAN HELP

To speak to our Direct Intervention team for help and advice, call our helpline:

Helpline: 0800 107 0726

10am - 4pm, weekdays excluding bank holidays

To make a professional referral to Savera UK, complete one of our online referral forms: saverauk.co.uk/get-help/referrals-for-professionals/

For further/bespoke training on HBA and harmful practices for your organisation visit: saverauk.co.uk/what-we-do/commission-training/

For further information, advice and resources visit the Savera UK Learning Hub: saverauklearninghub.co.uk

For news and updates, sign up to our monthly newsletter "The Citizen": saverauk.co.uk/newsletter-sign-up/

General Enquiries: 0330 159 2004

9am - 5pm, weekdays excluding bank holidays

info@saverauk.co.uk



In an emergency, please call 999.

SAVERA UK

We will end 'honour'-based abuse and harmful practices

HBA AND HARMFUL PRACTICES HAPPEN HERE

**A toolkit for responding
as a frontline professional**

SAVERA UK

We will end 'honour'-based abuse and harmful practices

WHAT WE DO

‘Savera’ means ‘new beginning’ in Hindi, which is symbolic of what we provide for survivors and those at risk of HBA and harmful practices.

Our services include:

- 1-1 direct intervention
- Safeguarding and advocacy
- Specialist advisory services for professionals
- Specialist consultancy services to professionals across the UK
- Empowerment and wellbeing programmes

THE ONE CHANCE RULE

The ‘One Chance Rule’ is the belief that there may only be one chance to save the life of a person who is at risk or under threat of ‘honour’-based abuse (HBA) and harmful practices, including but not limited to forced marriage, female genital mutilation, breast ironing, virginity testing and conversion ‘therapy’.

They may only have one chance to make a disclosure, meaning you only have one chance to save and protect a life. This means that we all need to be aware of our responsibilities and obligations.

If a person at risk is not listened to or taken seriously and walks out of the door without immediate intervention and safeguarding protection being offered, that one chance might be lost, and a life lost too.

WHAT TO ASK

If you believe that someone you are working with may be at risk/under threat of HBA and harmful practices, you must ask these important questions, focusing on the individual’s immediate safety.

- What harm are you at risk of?
- Who is a threat to you?
- What are the immediate risks to you?
- What are the consequences if your family believes you are bringing shame on the family/community?
- What is the worst case scenario?
- Have there been previous forced marriages within the family?
- Have there been divorces, and is it considered unacceptable if this happens?
- What things would be considered to be against the family/community’s beliefs/values?
- How are they dealt with by the family/community?
- Who are the main decision makers in the family/community?
- Do you think the family/community is aware of any behaviours or activities that they may consider shameful, dishonourable or unacceptable, and has there been a family meeting/council?

WHEN HELPING SOMEONE AT RISK OF HBA AND HARMFUL PRACTICES:

DO

- Take the disclosure seriously and act on it immediately
- Refer to Adult or Children’s Social Care and the Police promptly
- Always follow your organisational policy and other relevant local/national policies and procedures
- Follow the ONE CHANCE RULE at all times
- Hold an emergency strategy/professional meeting with relevant agencies within 24 hours
- Exercise caution about how information is shared, recorded, and safeguarded within your organisation
- Information should only be shared on a need-to-know basis

DO NOT

- Let the family, community or social network know about the disclosure
- Speak to the person at risk in front of family members or within the family home
- Approach the family or community leaders or attempt mediation
- Use members of the community to interpret
- Accidentally give out information which might jeopardise the person’s safety