



**BOTH PARENTS MATTER** and **AEGIS** are services delivered by FNF Both Parents Matter Cymru – a registered charity no. 1134723

### **WHO WE ARE** - Trustees

- Amin Kiddy ACA – Chair, Finance Trustee & Company Secretary
- Professor John Williams – Professor of Law, Aberystwyth University
- Mark Isherwood AM – Welsh Assembly Member for North Wales
- Anne O’Regan – Deputy Chair, grandmother and former Trade Union official
- Lynne Blore – grandmother and retired DWP official

The day to day management of the charity is undertaken by the National Manager, Paul Apreda, who covers the whole of Wales from the charity’s offices in Cardiff. Paul can be contacted directly on 07947135864 / [paul@fnf-bpm.org.uk](mailto:paul@fnf-bpm.org.uk)

The charity depends upon its network of volunteers across Wales who provide information, support and advice to parents and grandparents facing child contact problems.

### **WHAT WE DO**

- **Website** The charity maintains a website that provides information about the key issues faced by our service users eg Family Court disputes etc. [www.fnf-bpm.org.uk](http://www.fnf-bpm.org.uk)
- **Face to Face support meetings** providing face to face information support and advice to parents and grandparents FREE of charge through a network of 10 monthly support meetings across Wales  
[https://www.fnf-bpm.org.uk/article/support\\_branches\\_in\\_wales-227/index.html](https://www.fnf-bpm.org.uk/article/support_branches_in_wales-227/index.html)  
The charity has professional indemnity insurance to cover the provision of advice by its volunteers when this is undertaken without charge.
- **Emotional support** – guided peer support through the ‘Buddy Scheme’ where trained volunteers help service users cope with the emotional trauma of child contact denial.
- **Helpline** - available Monday to Friday 10am to 7pm 08456004446 / 07530 382809
- **Legal Clinics** We partner with the Law Society’s charity Law Works Cymru to provide **FREE** Legal Clinics in all locations across Wales with support from local solicitors.
- **AEGIS DV support service for men experiencing child contact problems** – including assessment using the SafeLives Risk Indicator Checklist and safety planning using Motivational Interviewing techniques.
- **Legal Aid Support Unit** – helping men to acquire the evidence necessary to qualify for Legal Aid for Family Law proceedings.

- **Research** We undertake research on the issues around father's engagement in Wales, as well as collating the experience of our service users who contact us in a variety of ways. Details of our research to map male participation in family support services can be found here: [https://www.fnf-bpm.org.uk/article/reports\\_and\\_responses\\_signpost-190/index.html](https://www.fnf-bpm.org.uk/article/reports_and_responses_signpost-190/index.html)

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

- Both parents share common responsibilities for the upbringing of children
- Services for male victims of DV should be safely separated from services for women and delivered by organisations grounded in the experience of men.
- Children have the right to maintain direct contact and a meaningful relationship with both parents following divorce or separation unless this would harm the child.
- Fathers and male carers need targeted support to help them fulfil their responsibilities to their children, as they are currently not being reached by existing services.
- Children should be protected from parents who abuse them in any way including physically, emotionally and psychologically. The charity campaigns for recognition of 'Parental Alienation' as a form of emotional abuse of the child.

**Campaigning and lobbying** We campaign to help children have both parents in their life in a positive way. We use the principles of the UNCRC especially Articles 9.3 and 18.1 The UNCRC is part of domestic law in Wales. Our priorities include:

- Recognition of Parental Alienation by Welsh Government services
- Support for male victims of Domestic Violence and Abuse grounded in their experience
- Adopting a non-adversarial framework for resolution of child contact disputes
- A rebuttable presumption in law that children are cared for on a roughly equal basis following divorce or separation – unless that is not safe or practicable.
- Implementation of compulsory joint birth registration under Welfare Reform Act 2009 to enable men to automatically acquire Parental Responsibility
- Campaign for fairness for Paying Parents of Child Maintenance so that no-one who is earning less than the Income Tax threshold should be compelled to pay money by Government action.

