

This Christmas we have partnered with YMCA Bedfordshire to help bring a fresh beginning to the lives of women and children escaping domestic violence.

“Last Christmas is a blur just like the previous two years had been. Every day filled with the dread of what I had done wrong & how I make everything a nightmare for everyone. Christmas just meant more dread & walking on egg shells whilst having to keep up appearances with visits to family. My only wish was that everything would stop but I didn't know what to do to make it stop.”

“In June I left with my children & we started our new lives. Last week I got fairy lights to bring some Christmas in to our home, which my son now calls my real home. We draped them over the only picture we have hanging on the wall & turned off all the lights. We sat watching them in silence until we all started to giggle at the moment. It was then I realised I can be safe, happy & feel again”

Did you know that in one year alone 128 women accessed Central Bedfordshire's Women's Refuge services staying for an average of 12 months. Alongside these women 123 children sought refuge too.

In Central Bedfordshire alone 3,200 domestic abuse incidents were reported to Bedfordshire Police. 50% of these reported children living at the home address. *Stats 15/16*

Through their services YMCA Bedfordshire are able to not just provide a safe haven, a caring and listening ear but also all the solid support and help that women and their children need to move forward into a brighter and safer future.

Many arrive with nothing other than the fear of their lives being taken away and the fear that their children will get hurt emotionally or physically. The worries that they have to overcome are endless.

As a company we want to make Christmas special for all of them because they deserve it.. However we can't do this without your help.

Your company can get involved in one of two ways

- 1) Make a donation to help make Christmas EPIC. Just go to our Just Giving page**
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/wattonrecruitment>
- 2) Buy a gift from our Santa's list for a specific women or child. If your purchase is for a child you will receive their gender and age so you can shop wisely.**

Please consider joining with us and spreading a little seasonal joy.

**Many thanks
Love
Philomena
and the Watton Team**

I am looking forward to Christmas this year, because I have a lot to look forward to, I'm excited about the Christmas party, Disco and Seeing Santa with my new friend Zach, it's good to see mummy happy this year, and she's not sad anymore, I love my new school and I'm going to be prancer in my school performance, I love my new home it's so Christmassy this year, I love Nina and Juliet, they have helped me and mummy a lot. I also want to thank everyone for giving me and my mummy a lovely home.

Love



Watton Recruitment
helping YMCA Bedfordshire make
Christmas 2017 EPIC
at
**Central Bedfordshire
Women's Refuges**

