# BRIGHT CHOICES

Bright Choices project is a partnership between SACRO, Edinburgh and Lothians Regional Equality Council and Multi-Cultural Family Base. The project will support families in Edinburgh to overcome problems arising from honour based violence and abuse. The project is funded by the Big Lottery fund for four years and will also include direct work with communities to increase understanding of issues of honour abuse and raise awareness of the project.

## What is Honour Based Violence

Honour abuse or Honour-Based Violence (HBV) is any kind of abusive or violent behaviour against an individual by a member of their family or their community. This type of violence can take place when the individual is perceived to have ‘transgressed’ the family’s and/or the community’s acceptable codes of behaviour. Such behaviour is deemed to be ‘dishonourable’ and people can be subjected to violence or abuse to prevent them from behaving in this way in the future, or to punish them for their transgression and to restore their ‘honour’.

## Bright Choices Outreach and Community Engagement

Bright Choices will provide a flexible range of on-going support, using restorative and mediation approaches to families and children affected by honour abuse. Interventions will include therapeutic play, group work, and practical and emotional support services. The service will be delivered in a range of venues including home and community settings, depending on the intervention and needs of individuals and families.

Bright Choices’ outreach strategy will consist of a variety of educational and practical strategies and trainings, working with organisations, professionals, community groups and youth. The aim is to raise awareness about the impact of HBV and explore the best methodologies for intervention and prevention.

### Introductory Training

Bright Choices can offer a three-hour introductory training to increase the capacity of professionals in responding to cases and issues of honour based violence within their particular field. Participants will explore the issues of recognising the risks of HBV and how to effectively respond to these. Training will be educational and interactive, and will broadly cover the following objectives:

1. Participants will develop and expand their knowledge on HBV, in its specific cultural, social and psychological context as experienced by individuals, families and communities; as well as understanding the signs, symptoms and risks, through case studies and stories.
2. Participants will build confidence and resilience to effectively address and respond to cases and issues of HBV.
3. Participants will gain an insight into referral pathways and where to access more advice and guidance.

# BRIGHT CHOICES AWARENESS TRAINING - Outlines

* **Who are we?**
	+ Information on each organisation
	+ Who we will be working with
	+ What approaches we will be using
* **What is Honour Based Violence and Abuse**
	+ Definitions
	+ Forms of honour based violence and oppression
* **Definition of Forced Marriage**
	+ Risk factors, recognition, assessment and response
	+ Guidance on identifying and flagging up cases
	+ Warning signs from victims of Forced Marriage
* **What is ‘FGM’**
	+ History, demography, the procedure and different types
	+ Guidance on identifying and flagging up cases
	+ Recognising, assessing and responding to risk of FGM
	+ Warning signs from victims of FGM
	+ Implications of GIRFEC and Child Protection legislation
* The One Chance Rule
* When, how and to whom to ask for advice, support and information
* Q&A time