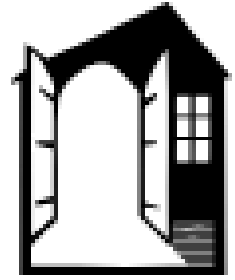




Project 2: The Gatehouse



Background

The Gatehouse is an award-winning community drop-in centre with 35 years' worth of experience of reaching out to, and supporting, adults who are homeless, vulnerably housed, on low income, and/or looking for company & community. The Gatehouse is open access as our Guests can face many barriers that lead to marginalisation and social isolation. As the years have gone by, we have found ever more ways of supporting Guests in overcoming challenges. We do this by consulting, listening, and embedding co-production. We also involve Guests in decision making and developing our services to meet their needs.

We offer practical support in reducing inequalities, isolation and disadvantage. We are also dedicated to supporting individuals to gain and retain housing and to reducing and addressing inequalities and barriers in health, education, employment and well-being. The Gatehouse champions the amplification of lived experience voices, opportunity and progression. In this way, it seeks to impact and influence service change both internally and externally.

It offers a place where companionship, dignity and refreshment can be found in a warm, safe and therapeutic environment. This remains the Gatehouse's core purpose and the café is often the first step for Guests accessing further support.

Since its foundation, the Gatehouse has developed many practical ways of supporting Guests. At the open sessions at our community centre, held six evenings a week, we offer the current range of services:

- practical and therapeutic workshops,
- a café
- a shower project
- a communications project
- practical support with clothing
- emotional support
- referrals to internal and external services, and
- a sense of community to reduce isolation

The Gatehouse also delivers:

- one-to-one longer term casework support,
- a counselling service,
- a Women's Hub and
- The Gatehouse also facilitates the Lived Experience Advisory Forum in partnership with other local service providers.



Task

1. How do we find corporates and approach them for funding in the local area?
2. How do we improve our social media reach?
3. The pool of funders gets smaller each year and the charities asking for help gets larger- how do we make our fundraising applications stand out?
4. How do we build resilience with less funding?