

Bedford

Langley House Trust, Bedford is a resettlement project offering ex-offenders care and support in semi-independent accommodation. The project has historically worked with Bedfordshire clients or those having strong geographical links with the area but is now able to consider a wider spectrum of referrals.

Our aim is to provide accommodation for men aged eighteen plus, in three-bedroomed homes and one-bedroomed flats within good residential areas in Bedford. Residents have their own room, prepare all meals themselves and play a full part in domestic tasks within home and garden. The Bedford Project aims to enable and equip former offenders to address life controlling issues in a safe environment, looking to their physical, emotional and spiritual needs within a caring Christian context.

Local Community

Bedford has a wide variety of recreational facilities including a sports stadium, swimming pools, gymnasiums, bowling, a college, a university, theatres, a cinema complex and a country park with marina for sailing and wind surfing. There are regular bus services. The rail and coach stations are in the town centre.

Staff

At the Bedford Project staff and volunteers are committed to helping residents meet their needs and achieve their personal goals within an atmosphere of security and support. We work together with Bedfordshire Probation Service and other Local Services to ensure aims and objectives are being met. We also have a House Chaplain.

Personal Support Plans

Residents come on a four-week assessment, at the start of which a Personal Support Plan will be drawn up in conjunction with the Project Manager, Probation and where necessary a Doctor. Each resident will have a Key Worker. Personal Support Plans are reviewed monthly as we work towards helping residents reach their full potential and enable them to move-on into independent accommodation.

Opportunities

We aim to assist each person to live a fulfilling life, drug and crime-free and to offer new opportunities to meet each individual's need. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of the many opportunities available whilst they are with us.

We encourage residents to seek employment, training or education as they prepare for independent living. Bedford College provides a wide variety of 'Learning for Life' courses, both academic and technical. We encourage residents to explore the possibility of obtaining some qualifications. Training in numeracy and literacy is available and where necessary, help with social and domestic skills. An appointment can be arranged with the Probation Service's Training & Education Officer for Probation Through Care, to assist with future plans.

The Apex Trust will help with employment issues and there are some good opportunities within the Bedford area.

The Project has use of computer training facilities at the local Foyer project.

Conduct

Rules are kept to a minimum, but some are necessary:

- Behaviour should be of a good standard. Self respect and respecting others are key factors in life.
- Alcohol and non-prescribed drugs are not allowed in the premises or on the grounds.

- Guests are not allowed to stay overnight or go into the resident's bedrooms.
- Residents are expected to run the house as a group. This includes keeping the house clean and tidy and respecting each other's needs.

Length of Stay

Not all residents have the same needs. Although the average length of stay is 3 to 4 months, residents can stay up to one year. In all instances our aim is to help individuals towards crime and drug-free independence whilst planning and preparing for independent living within the community.

Conditions of Residency

Before we can assess an application, prospective residents are asked to sign a Data Processing Consent form. To allow the project to run satisfactorily, new residents are required to sign up to the house rules which include a section on responsibilities. All residents will need to sign an Assured Shorthold Tenancy Agreement. Residents will be given a handbook which includes important information about living at a Langley House Trust project.

Referrals

Referrals in the first instance should be made to the Project Manager, Langley House Trust Bedford. The level of risk to the public, staff and residents will be the principle determining selection.

Equal Opportunities and Confidentiality

Langley House Trust Bedford is committed to achieving equal opportunities for all. Religion, race, nationality, disability and sexual orientation will not form part of the selection criteria. We will challenge any discriminatory attitude within the house.

The staff provide each resident with a confidentiality policy by means of which they seek to safeguard and keep secure all confidential information regarding an individual.

For Further Information

We hope you will find the contents of this leaflet helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact the Project Manager at Langley House Trust Bedford if you require further information or wish to make a referral.

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Please note that as from the beginning of October 2008, the Bedford Project has a new postcode MK43 6AD, new phone number: 01234 855515 and new fax: 01234 843137.



Investor in People (Eastern Region)

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