

HULL LIGHTHOUSE



February 2016

ABOUT HULL LIGHTHOUSE

Hull Lighthouse was established in 1996 to provide support and friendship to vulnerable women in Hull. Our work specifically focuses on supporting women who are involved, have been involved or are at risk of being involved in street prostitution in Hull.

On average we support 60 women in Hull each year, predominately around the Hessle Road area. These are some of the most vulnerable women in the city and they become involved in street prostitution for a number of reasons. For most, street prostitution and substance misuse go hand in hand, some women have suffered sexual abuse throughout their lives, others have suffered domestic violence, most suffer from some form of mental illness as a result of their involvement in street prostitution.

Street prostitution is not a chosen vocation, it is a means to an end. The majority of women rely on drugs to work and this creates a vicious cycle.

The women supported by Hull Lighthouse are extremely vulnerable and they want change and we support them to move away from street prostitution. The journey for these women is arduous, complicated and everyday brings them new challenges.

The work of Hull Lighthouse is vital in supporting these vulnerable women and making a difference in their lives and the wider city.

LIVING ROOM



Hull Lighthouse is pleased to announce that we have been successful with a funding bid to the Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner's 'Crime Reduction Fund' and to the Neil Hudgell Trust. The grant from Neil Hudgell will enable us to continue operating the weekly Living Room sessions and the PCC has provided a grant to extend the delivery of the Living Room, enabling us to extend support to vulnerable women in Hull, in particular, those who are working in street prostitution.

Starting early 2016, we will be running two 'Living Room' sessions at Selby Street Methodist Church. One session will be for existing users of the service; the second session will be targeted at women who are new to the service and who require much more individualised support.

Over the next 12 months PCC will also enable Hull Lighthouse to deliver weekly healthy eating support at the Living Room.

REDUCING REOFFENDING — When women are released from prison, normally from HMP New Hall, Wakefield, they can quickly start reoffending again. Working with the Police and Crime Commissioner, we will now be spending more time at HMP New Hall, in particular providing direct support to women on their day of release. We will bring them back to Hull, support them to find accommodation and continue to provide the support and friendship they need.

LUNCH AT LAZAATS— Lazaats Restaurant in Cottingham have very kindly provided lunch on a number of occasions for women supported by us. Most of the women suffer from anxiety and find social spaces very difficult, therefore having a meal out in a restaurant is something the women would very rarely do. Our staff are able to support the women and build their confidence and we really appreciate the support Lazaats gives us.

Sir James Reckitt Trust

Hull Lighthouse has worked in partnership with the Sir James Reckitt Foundation, who was one of our first funders since 1996. We have continued to receive amazing financial and moral support from them and recently, the trustees at Sir James Reckitt have provided Hull Lighthouse with a further grant on top of their generous ongoing support. This enables us to make a difference to some of the most vulnerable people in the city.



CAN YOU SUPPORT US?

As a charity any financial or in-kind support is greatly received.

We have a strong belief in our core ethos of supporting vulnerable women involved in street prostitution. As a result, we do not chase funding for the sake of it. Therefore, financial or in-kind support is important.

If you can support us, please contact Carl Duck, Administration and Finance Manager on 07958958110

PRAYER AND PRAISE POINTS

Please pray for the success of the new evening session of Living Room and that through these sessions, we are able to reach those women who are most vulnerable.

We are thankful that we have had a recent increase in women asking for our support and we pray that we can quickly establish a good supporting relationship with them.

We have been blessed with a number of successful funding bids and we pray that this favour continues as we work towards a large funding bid over the next couple of months.

We appreciate all the support from our funders:-

Church Welfare Assoc. / Garfield Weston / Henry Smith Foundation /
Humberside PCC / LanKelly Chase Foundation / Lloyds TSB / Neil Hudgell Trust
/ Sir James Reckitt Foundation / Tudor Trust

What next?

Hull Lighthouse is currently working on a number of projects to further support our work in Hull:

We have submitted a project through Hull CCG and we will be part of a public vote in February 2016. If we are successful, we will have funding to progress outreach work, enabling women to do 'normal' things like go for a coffee or go swimming. The women we work with struggle to do some of the things most people would take for granted.

We are working with Preston Road Women's Centre on a new project and will provide more detail soon.

The Trustees:

Claire Thomas - Chair
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