One25 step away from the streets

SUMMER NEWS 17

Ugly Mugs

Drop-in

Sleep Out success!

Keeping looking forward

Celebrating supporter awesomeness





Dear supporters,

Since I mentioned my old commute in the last issue, I've been thinking a lot about journeys. A formerly homeless person said to me:

'Even if it doesn't feel like you're doing any good, you are. It's all about trusting and journeying on until a person's ready.'

They also challenged our ideas about success. At One25 we might be thinking 'get women off drugs, out of domestic abuse, step away from street sex-working...' but success there and then might be giving a meal, a chat and a bit of love that day.

We heard recently about the sad death in prison of a service user. As I wrote online at the time, the system needs radical reshaping to better assist women on their journeys. We walk with them in this.

And as we launch Pause Bristol, we're excited about this new way for brave women to make bold steps forward. Thank you for being with them on their journey; your support is invaluable.

Anna.

Anna Smith
Chief Executive Officer



GETTING TOUGH ON ASSAULT

Each year, there are around 150 reports of attacks on street sex workers in Bristol – about one for every woman. Reporting violence helps reduce this danger.

The Ugly Mugs scheme encourages reporting of assaults and helps women share details about perpetrators. To make a bigger impact, we're going to pilot specially trained **Ugly Mug Champions** to raise awareness of the scheme.

Training for an initial group of volunteers will run in June. Van team leaders have been briefed and ideas have been worked up with valuable input from the drop-in service user forum.



Street workers are used to being robbed and raped. I never thought I would have been brave enough to stand up to it. That was a few years ago and I have achieved so much since. One25 made me feel worthy again.

Dora

PAUSE BRISTOL

We're getting excited about launching Pause Bristol this June! We've recruited all five staff and secured offices nearby at St Agnes Church. Pause Bristol will work with women who have had children removed from their care and help them to take control over their lives.



DROP-IN

Rachel Mac Dermot is One25's drop-in coordinator:

Drop-in is a wonderful space where resilient women can take time to breathe, vent, chat and challenge themselves. My role as drop-in coordinator is fun, celebratory, demanding, intimate and terribly raw.

And volunteering at drop-in is no easy task: you are questioned, thanked, sworn at and hugged, as well as taking the rubbish out or cleaning the showers.

Some of the city's most marginalised come through our doors and it's possibly the only safe place they know. There's genuine dignity, friendship and - come on there's free stuff!

"Drop-in was a safe place for me to start to trust again. I am so lucky to still be alive. I just want to thank One25 for your support throughout." Amy

In the last few months, after we asked on Facebook and Twitter, we've had loads of DVDs donated and the outside space has begun its transformation with herbs and climbers. Your generosity is phenomenal – I've never known it in any organisation.

Thank you.

To keep you in the loop with the good times and bad, we're planning a twoline social media update on Thursdays from June: follow it using #one25drop-in

Clockwise from top: donated DVDs; the new drop-in garden; women decorated biscuits for a major funder's visit



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

1 - 7 June: Volunteers' Week 2017:

You make the difference

19 June: I ♥ Small Charities Day

competition - get involved!

18 July: **Vision for the Vulnerable**

8 October: Volunteer Info Evening

Find out more at one25.org.uk





SAVE THE DATE - ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Come along for this fun evening open to the public where you supporters are particularly welcome. More exciting details to follow!

SLEEP OUT



KEEPING LOOKING FORWARD

Verity is One25's Criminal Justice caseworker. This is her journey with Elsie so far:

Elsie's last sentence was only three months. She'd been self-harming quite badly so I'd visited her weekly. On her release, I met her at the gate with some toiletries and clothes so she could start off feeling fresh.



There's a full day of meetings and assessments for housing, prescriptions, benefits and probation. Without support, many prisoners don't get through it all.

Women like Elsie live with a lack of self-esteem and a sense of disappointing the people around them. The value of One25 is unquantifiable; most of the women haven't ever had someone who cares unconditionally.

Elsie told me: "I am so supported. One25 makes me feel like a better person, like I'm able to be strong."

It's taken a lot of work but Elsie's changed how she feels about the criminal justice system. She's been out for five months and not breached her terms of probation - probably the best she's done in five years.

Read the full story online

CELEBRATING SUPPORTER AWESOMENESS



From jumping out of a plane to ceilidh dancing, people have done all sorts of weird and wonderful things to support One25. We've written online about a few of the shiniest stars in the fundraising sky - to celebrate their achievements and inspire you to make fundraising your own this summer! Do something different, make a difference.

We want to end street sex work for good.

This summer start a monthly gift.

Whatever you can afford, are you someone who will stick with these women, month after month, faithfully fighting for change?

If so, please complete the standing order form and return to us, or donate online at **one25.org.uk**