

## TAKE IT TO THE TOP!

We were welcomed into City Hall by Marvin Rees (Bristol's mayor) in March with Cllr Helen Godwin (Cabinet Member for Women, Children and Young People).



It was a time of sharing. Two service users, Clio from Pause Bristol and Karena from One25, bravely shared their personal experiences.

Clio raised housing as an issue that had particularly affected her. She also explained how the Pause programme had helped her and was proud to announce she'd got a job and was making a life full of possibilities.

Karena spoke passionately about how the prescribing nurse in drop-in had made a life-and-death difference to her after her relapse. Since the recent recommissioning of drugs services, One25 has, for the time being, lost this service. Karena stressed the possible impact to One25 women—that many would not be able to get help from other similar services because of the threat of violence. She says:

*To feel like I have a voice meant a lot. Also to be able to give something back to One25 who helped me so much when I relapsed.*

*Without them I wouldn't be here today.*

The Mayor has promised to come and visit us in the autumn and we can't wait to show him round!

## CELEBRATE SUCCESS

The people who support us bring delight and make an actual difference. This spring the **Sleepout** and **Give it up** campaigns raised enough to keep the vital outreach van on the streets for another **four months**. Thank you!!!



# One25

step away from the streets

## SUMMER 2018

Frontline update

I've found a voice

A mother's story

Take it to the top!



Dear supporters,

What a summer so far!

Over the next three years, we have ambitious plans to offer more support to women to move towards independence and freedom. Our three main aims are to continue offering the core support we know is needed, to see Pause become embedded alongside the other services we offer, and to create a safe way onwards, out of street sex work.

They live in hidden worlds away from emergency services, health support, circles of supportive friends, safe housing and employment. Society often denies them a voice. However, they are vocal in their opinions and we want to hear their views on what we offer and the other services we signpost them to.

I know that the excellent staff and volunteer teams, and support from donors, will help make women's hopes and dreams become reality. But as part of this we plan to improve chances for service users to feedback, to support them to become part of the decision making.

We want to ensure One25's services are meeting their needs as best they can.

*Anna.*

Anna Smith, CEO





## FRONTLINE UPDATE

One night recently 15 women accessed the van. That's the highest we've seen for years. We're seeing new women on the streets too.

But by building trust and relationships, more and more are coming through drop-in and getting support from our caseworker specialists.

Jane (recovery) has taken on a load of extra work to continue the in-house scripting service (substitute medication for drugs). Dr Lucy's two days a week in drop-in have made it possible for women to access health services without feeling judged, in a women-only environment.

When the women who we meet feel loved, they begin to believe change is possible.

## I'VE FOUND A VOICE

"I stormed home because I knew how it was going to go. The next day they told me 'We've spoken to HR. There's going to be a problem with you working with girls in Bristol because of your conviction'.

"I couldn't understand how that could stop me from working. And I knew I would be really good at this job. I could relate to those young women!"

Read Sam's fiery journey **online** as she steps from the streets to Parliament!



## A MOTHER'S STORY

**Tracy Connolly got the 'Unsung Hero' volunteer award at our annual celebration in November! She tells us about her daughter Natasha...**

**I'm passionate for One25.** I have been for many, many years. It's a service that's very much needed and I'd shout it from the rooftops.



*"It's really lonely, the street corner. One25's a service that's very needed for those ladies out there."*

**I love driving the van!** It's making a difference and it feels positive to be able to help somebody, to talk albeit for a minute or just to give them a sandwich or a hello, to be someone safe that they can rely upon. For some, the van might be the only way they trust to reach help. Or the only space where there's no judgement.

**Twice when I've been on the van I've seen one of Natasha's friends.** It can be sad when you see ladies get on who've started coming back out again. That's the power of addiction and it's the state of this country with benefit cuts. Certainly with Natasha, she tried a couple of times.

**Natasha started street sex-working when she was 17.** She died when she was 31. All those years she was on and off class A drugs. She died in someone's flat; she'd come off drugs too quickly

because she wanted to come home again. We found out she'd been abused as a girl and we never knew til too late.

**Every woman is somebody's daughter, mother or sister.** I don't believe they street sex work because they want to - they do it because they have to. It's survival. And for a

lot, they've gone so far they don't know how to get out, or they're too scared, or they know nothing any different.

**I met someone who didn't realise that there was prostitution in Bristol.** Many of the public don't know what life is like for the women. When people do understand - that's when they're willing to help.

> Read more about Tracy and Natasha online

## HER TRUTH CAN SET HER FREE

**Karena deserves to be heard.**

Every year we work with around 240 women dealing with trauma like hers.

Your gifts help each one of them be listened to and give them the chance to transform their lives.

Give today to help women transform their lives and escape the streets.

[one25.org.uk/donate](https://one25.org.uk/donate)



OUTREACH VAN



DROP-IN



CASEWORK



FREEDOM

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

18 September

**Volunteer information evening**

25 October

**Annual celebration: SAVE THE DATE!**

Find out more at [One25.org.uk](https://One25.org.uk)



## "WE FEEL HEARD" SAYS DANA

Women tell us what they need and we base what we can offer on this. We've improved the way we do 'service user forums' with help from local group Independent Futures. There were good and open talks with women about the limitations on drop-in's opening hours. Thanks to all the volunteers who make it keep happening!