

HALO Project

Introductory Briefing — September 2009



Hello HALO...What's it all about?

Hi, and welcome to this introductory briefing about the Healthy Aspirations and Learning Opportunities (HALO) Project. I am Rhian Davies, HALO Project Co-ordinator based at Impact Housing's Nelson Street Offices in Carlisle.



The idea behind this new and exciting initiative, is to match-up more effectively services which contribute to reducing homelessness and social exclusion. My role as Co-ordinator is to work with all the Carlisle Homeless Improvement Partnership (CHIP) agencies, CHIP

members include, Carlisle City Council, Impact Housing, Salvation Army, NHS, Supporting People and CASS. Over the next three years, we aim to develop strong links between all CHIP partners both strategically and with staff and volunteers working on the ground.

We aim to offer a service that is sustainable, creative and flexible for homeless people and families. Working together we will improve the health and well-being amongst people living in temporary accommodation in Carlisle, leading to more independent living and a better quality of life.

Over the past month, I have been meeting all the CHIP partner agencies and visiting projects. There is a lot of good practice and activities being offered in Carlisle, we will build on these and generate new ideas. These could include more arts activities, sports sessions, health sessions which may offer healthy eating, diet & fitness advice. The sky is the limit!



Service-users from all six CHIP agencies will be key to the development of the service too. Many have skills they wish to build on or share with others e.g., carpentry, football, health & beauty, music or singing. Through the HALO Project we could offer training opportunities and accredited courses.

By the end of the three years, there will be a reduction in homelessness due to improved access and opportunities to training, leisure activities, education and jobs.



Carlisle Homeless Reduction Partnership (CHIP) are Impact Housing Association, Carlisle City Council, Salvation Army, Riverside Carlisle, NHS, Supporting People, CASS.

Supported by CHIP
and Northern Rock

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HALO Development Group

To ensure the HALO Project will be effective and sustainable, there will be a HALO development group.

This group will consist of frontline staff and service users from the CHIP partner agencies. Everyone's ideas and enthusiasm are crucial to the development of the HALO project.

We will have our first meeting, with lunch on 6th October at Watchtree Nature Reserve. Where you can find out more about HALO, meet other staff and service users from the CHIP partner agencies. Together, we will share ideas and start to develop future activities and projects.

We will also have the chance to have a go at riding the bikes from the On Your Bike (OYB) project.

If you are interested in joining the HALO development group, and if you know any service users who are keen to be involved please speak to your line manager or directly to me.



Future Newsletters... what do you think?

Do you think having a regular newsletter will be a good way to share information about the HALO Project? The newsletter could go out to staff & volunteers from the CHIP partner agencies, and other external organisations. Future issues could promote events and activities.

It would be great to get some regular features from each of the CHIP partners to highlight good practice in your organisation.

If you are interested in submitting an article or have an idea about what you think should be in the newsletter please get in touch.

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