



Doncaster Mind

Supported Housing Project

Referral Pack

Mission Statement, Values and Aims

Mission and values

We are Doncaster Mind, a local mental health charity. We support people who are experiencing mental health difficulties by promoting awareness and aiding personal wellbeing and recovery.

All of our services and activities are informed by people with lived experience of mental health difficulties and it is their stories that inspire and drive us.

We believe that no one should have to face a mental health difficulty alone. Whether you are stressed, anxious, depressed or in a crisis we'll listen and offer support.

We won't give up until everyone experiencing a mental health difficulty gets both the support and respect they need and deserve.

Service Aims

- Doncaster Mind Supported Housing Project (DMSHP) provides a supported housing service for people who have or have experienced a mental illness.
- The service comprises of eight self-contained bed sits. It is situated close to the town centre, enjoying proximity to shops, post office, college and leisure facilities.
- The service provides flexible support between the hours of 9.00am - 4.30pm, Monday to Friday (support is available at weekends on an individual needs led basis and through the Day Centre on Saturdays)
- Service users receive a welcome pack at the commencement of their tenancy. This provides useful information, for example about the local area, the services they can expect to receive, and how to make a complaint.
- The project offers tenancy support under the following criteria:-
 - 1) Support in setting up a home.
 - 2) Support to maintain a home.
 - 3) Making links to community groups and organisations.
 - 4) Help in managing finance and benefit claims.
 - 5) Developing social skills.
 - 6) Emotional support and advice.
 - 7) Supporting people to maintain their health and well being.

8) Culturally specific tasks.

(Please note we cannot administer medication)

- The aim of the service is to work in partnership with the service user to gain optimal independent living and enable our tenants to live inclusively in the community. This is done through assessment, a needs led support package providing tailor-made practical and emotional support for tenants to move on to independent living.
- This ensures that when individuals leave DMSHP, they are well placed to sustain their future tenancy.
- Minds approach to working with tenants is based on their full involvement in support planning. Each service user has a designated housing support worker who acts as their key worker to assess their needs and draw up a detailed support plan with them. The key worker will work with the client on the issues identified through their assessment and support plan. Support plans are reviewed every three months. Through regular key-worker sessions we monitor progress along a number of themes, addressing the right issue at the right time and right pace.
 - 1) Housing:- Meeting current needs and ensuring service users have the skills and financial means to sustain a tenancy in the future.
 - 2) Social Networks:- Supporting tenants to build and sustain appropriate peer relationships, address isolation and manage difficult family relationships.
 - 3) Mental Wellbeing:- Helping clients engage with the mental health services they need to alleviate their symptoms.
 - 4) Substance Misuse:- Minimising harm and motivating clients to enter and sustain treatment.
 - 5) Living Skills:- Using group work, one-to-one key-work or formal learning to help clients develop the skills they need to sustain independence.
 - 6) Physical Health:- Promoting healthy eating and exercise, supporting clients to manage health conditions and access the services they need.
 - 7) Quality Of Life:- Supporting clients to take part in activities tailored to their skills and interests, facilitating access to training and employment.
- Tenants are encouraged to develop a support network for out of office hours.
- Maximum length of stay at the project is two years
Our services are funded by Supporting People.

Specifically the service aims to:

1. Provide a high quality accommodation that is well managed and maintained. Some essential basic furniture and fittings are supplied, but tenants are welcome to have their own possessions in their flat.
2. Develop a recovery orientated support service based on individual need, which takes into full account the views aspirations and identified goals.
Recovery is understood as unique to the individual and is central to the regaining of a meaningful life as perceived by the individual.
3. Work effectively with other services to ensure individual support packages are as comprehensive as possible delivered within a multi-disciplinary framework.
4. To prepare people for independent living by enabling them to develop practical, life and social skills thus enhancing their self esteem and confidence.
5. To liaise with other housing providers to enable move on.

Service User Involvement

1. DMSHP is committed to promote and develop the meaningful involvement of service users in the provision of its service
2. Facilitating the involvement and participation of tenants in their individual support plan, service review and evaluation.
Opportunity to represent DMSHP on Mind's Executive Committee.
3. We also conduct an Annual Tenant Survey to gather feedback on the service. This information is utilised to inform the review and development of services so that services are responsive to local needs.

Access to the Service

- Applications are considered from people experiencing mental health issues, regardless of their race, religion, culture, gender or sexuality.
- Referrals are taken from a range of sources - self-referral, CMHT, Assertive Outreach, GP, hospitals and other housing agencies.
- Applications are kept on file and individuals are contacted when a vacancy occurs.

Criteria for Accessing the Service

- Individuals who are currently under CPA.
- Individuals who are agreeing to receive support from DMSHP alongside other relevant agencies outlined in the Care Plan.
- Individuals who want and are able to live independently with an agreed support package in place.
- Individuals who do not present a serious risk to themselves or others. e.g.: violence to others, serious self neglect or fire risk.
- Individuals who are not actively using substances or alcohol in a problematic way.
- Tenancies are offered on a single person basis only.
- The project offers short hold assured tenancies. Maximum stay two years.

Application and Referral Process

Applications must include:

- A completed DMSHP application form signed by the applicant
- The name of two referees
- Letter of support from the care coordinator
- Full Care Programme Approach Information
(To include a copy of current CPA care plan)

Applications which do not include all the above elements will not be processed until all the relevant information has been received.

When a vacancy occurs all applicants are invited to visit the Housing Project to meet the staff. A preparation / assessment form will be completed and support package discussed.

The selection is undertaken by the Housing Sub Committee.

The Housing Sub Committee panel, consisting of at least three people i.e. Mind's Director, Housing Manager and another e.g. Rep. From S. Services / CMHT or Doncaster Mind Executive Committee, will be convened to consider all appropriate applications.

DMSHP will notify all applicants of the panel's decision within ten working days of the Housing Sub Committee meeting.

There is a right of appeal against the decision and applicants are offered the opportunity to receive feedback

Successful applicants will commence their tenancy subject to a convening meeting with their care coordinator.

Where referrals are not appropriate to our service we will signpost to another agency where possible.

Contact details

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