



ELPIS CENTRE Newsletter

AUTUMN 2020

Since Elpis' Newsletter of Spring 2020 the world has changed significantly and we send best wishes to all our friends and supporters, especially those directly affected by COVID-19. Elpis' main priority is to keep the young women we accommodate safe and well and thanks to everyone for continuing to adhere to social distancing and using PPE when appropriate, and to Elpis staff for working through such challenging times.

Despite these difficulties, life goes on and this newsletter contains news from Elpis over the last six months. A lot has happened! We hope you enjoy reading it, and contact us on info@elpiscentre.org.uk if you've any comments or ideas for contents of future Newsletters.

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FUNDRAISING SUCCESSES!

Since the last Newsletter, Elpis has received funds from the following – thanks to Robertson Trust for £13,000 towards Elpis’ services for one year; Agnes Hunter Trust for £25, 500 to support our new developments for three years; Hugh Fraser Foundation for £5, 000 towards new developments for a year; and to John McBain (private donor) for £10, 000 towards Elpis’ work (this is a regular donation). Plus a shout-out to those many other supporters who regularly donate to Elpis through their churches, workplaces, and as individuals.

Thanks again to everyone for their kindness – it will be put to good use within Elpis Centre.

COPING WITH COVID-19

During lock down Elpis has received regular updates from Scottish Government, NHS, Scottish Social Service Council, Care Inspectorate and Health and Social Care Partnership

We continue to focus on person centred care and what matters to the young women - good conversations; quality of life; and key relationships being at the centre of their support. Monitoring their health and wellbeing and looking at ways to deal with difficult times is critical.

Staff commitment to both Elpis Centre and to each other during this time had been apparent - and is much appreciated. As we move through the pandemic, some new and adapted work practices will remain with us. As a staff team we have valuable and existing skills and knowledge to draw on and to adapt to the changes that may be required during the different phases of COVID 19.

ELPIS BOARD & STAFF NEWS

Elpis Board recently welcomed new member Paul Hannan who has many years experience in social care management especially in the homelessness field. Welcome to Paul!

There have been new additions to our Housing Support Worker team – more information in our next Newsletter. And a fond farewell to Michelle Stewart and Lauren Blair - good luck in your future jobs, studies and activities!

Also joining the team is Shona Kinsella, Elpis' first Wellbeing (Mental Health Support) Worker. Shona's post arose through suggestions from young women living in Elpis accommodation about what would help them achieve their potential. Our recent fundraising has helped make this a reality; thanks again to our funders, and to the young women who told us what they needed!



INTRODUCING MARY CARRICK, ELPIS CENTRE'S MANAGER

Mary has worked in various roles at Elpis and managed the Core Service before appointed Elpis Centre Manager in 2016. She strongly believes that Elpis provides a caring and nurturing environment for the young women in its care, to make a difference in their lives and to help them to achieve their goals. When not working, Mary enjoys baking, reading and walking and discovered gardening during lockdown. Thanks Mary for your amazing work and commitment to Elpis.

ELPIS DEVELOPMENT PLANS

After an excellent year, planning and fundraising to further enhance the support we give to young women, Elpis' Board and staff team is concentrating for the next year on Integration, Fundraising, Communication and Research and Development.

We will soon be recruiting to new posts focusing on transitions to independence, and education and employment to expand our in-house skills and improve outcomes for young women.

To ensure sustainability, we will expand our fundraising reach so watch this space for new developments. We are looking at how we can do more to promote our work and to influence more widely.

Hearing from our supporters and stakeholders is essential and in the next few months we will be asking you to engage in a consultation exercise to help inform our future thinking.



ELPIS CENTRE'S 2020 AGM AND PLANS FOR 2021 INFORMATION AND NETWORKING EVENT

This year's Elpis AGM will be held on November 11th and will be an online Zoom meeting.

Contact

Amanda.Todd@elpiscentre.org.uk for login details.

We are planning a follow-up to this year's Information and Networking Event (reported in the last Newsletter) that was well received. Depending on COVID-19, this will take place in summer 2021 with 'Poverty in Glasgow' as the overall theme. Hope to see you there!