



Spirit Arts Youth Place of Hope



Mission – Vision – Values

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About Us



The reasons children go into care can vary from parenting to UAS status. Our aim is to create an environment where no matter the reason why young people need our support they leave functional, skilled and able members of our society with bright futures ahead of them.

“These children are in our care, we, the state are their parents – and what are we setting them up for.... the dole, the streets, an early grave? I tell you this shames our country and we will put it right”.

The Rt. Hon David Cameron MP (former Prime Minister October 2015)

Spirit Arts Youth Place of hope seeks to provide a unique space and service to help young people in social care to prepare for adulthood.

Along with accommodation we also intend to provide counseling, training, and development. To help the children in our care today become grounded adults tomorrow, and to lay a healthy foundation for the future of our society.

Our organisation intends to enhance and complement existing services for young people who leave care by providing a wider range of supported accommodation options.

Spirit Arts Youth Place actively works to reduce the number of young people aged 16-23 involved in tenancy failures, and to increase the number of young people aged 16-23 sustaining employment, community living and further education.

Our Mission

Spirit Arts - Youth Place of Hope aims to be a refuge for young people who are seeking accommodation, support, and skills to carry them through to adult independence.

At Spirit Arts Youth Place of Hope (SAYPH) we work with our youth to ensure they feel secure, appreciated, and welcome.

We recognise the uncertainty that young people in Local Authority Care face and the many challenges they can come across whether they are unaccompanied asylum seeking minors, young people who have been taken from their homes for any reason at any age, or those who have faced exploitation, grooming, sexual exploitation, and trafficking.

It is our mission to provide a safe haven where young people feel encouraged and valued, so they can grow and develop the skills needed for independent living,

While do take a tough stance on any form of substance abuse or criminal activity within our homes we also work to provide a family orientated and safe environment where

young people feel like their ideas and needs matter. By focusing on their life skills, mental health, and emotional well-being we intend to help the young people in our care transform their futures.

Our overall mission is to help young people get on the right track to success. By developing young personal, social, emotional and practical skills. We hope to reduce the vulnerability of young people and increase their ability to face the risks and challenges that are presented in society.

We offer our young people dedicated and experienced key workers who work alongside social workers and the police, to provide the essential guidance and resources our young people may need in order to blossom.

Our key workers also provide one on one sessions and support to create a measurable difference in our young people's lives.



Eligibility

Spirit Arts Youth Place of Hope (SAYPH) works with young people in Local Authority Care from the ages of 16-19, and offers additional support and accommodation services to those transitioning from care between the ages of 19-23 in a separate accommodation setting.

According to the Office of National Statistics a behavioral health questionnaire showed that 39% of CLA children showed behavioral test scores which were a cause for concern.

This is why we have developed a program, which provides young people a safe home-like

environment and offers essential life-skills and counseling to prepare them for independent living. We offer accommodation and support to the following: This includes but is not exclusive to:

- Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Minors (UAS) under Section 20
- Young people in Looked After Care (LAC) - ages 16-19 - under Section 20
- LAC Youth - Ages 16 -19 under Section 31
- Young people between the ages of 19-23 who have left local authority care.

Our Company

Spirit Arts Youth Place of Hope was founded by Jennifer James. A highly experienced foster carer and pillar of the community, She has the ability connect with individuals and stakeholders from all walks of life.

During her career Jennifer has coordinated numerous community projects and managed teams. Her mission and vision throughout her career has been to help young people to achieve their true potential. With over 40 years Youth/NEET experience of running her own consultancy business, she is a specialist in working with NEETs (Not in Education Employment or Training).

She is able to control resources and budgets, and determined to help young people achieve their destiny using unique combination of education, training, coaching and mentoring. Jennifer has trained ex-offenders from The Youth Offending Team; and has worked with multiple clients from Connexions offering Work Readiness, (Freestyle). She worked with Teen Mothers (Buggies to Briefcase) showing teenage mothers opportunities to fulfill their potential and how to become entrepreneurs, training clients of (GLLAB) Greenwich Local Labour and Business (Ready for Work). Offering Job Centre Plus Clients Work Ability Skills, covering CV, IAG and Interview techniques.



Founder/Director of Spirit Arts Youth offering E2E and Life Skills funded by The Learning & Skills Council with a budget of £400,000 per year. She spearheaded *Removing the Mask* a project looking at issues that individuals hide behind Jennifer has also helped school children with behavioural problems. Jennifer has won awards for her work with young people. EFBWBO sponsored by the Learning & Skills Council 2005, The Lace Award finalist 2005 and The Wise Woman Awards finalist 2011.

She is dedicated to enthusiastic and dynamic training as a means of creating lifelong progress in young people. Have worked with over 3,000 young people with the community and Faith organisations (Churches).

SEMI-INDEPENDENT SUPPORT



- Support for further education
- Support
- Key work sessions
- Training
- Counselling
- Personal Development
- Safeguarding
- Life Skills
- Employment
- Interview Skills
- Job Applications
- Support to apply for apprenticeships
- Budgeting and money management
- Saving and investing
- Group and community activities
- Social skill development

Training & Development



Young people leaving care are often expected to reach independence at a young age, but many times they have insufficient information and practical and emotional support, this increases their risk of criminalisation.

Spirit Arts Youth Ltd will support those who are not engaged in Education, Employment or Training, as previous Training Providers (funded by The Learning & Skills Council 2001-2007) we feel very strongly that training is very important. Our training provision is holistic in its delivery, we develop life and vocational skills necessary for future training and employment.

Our training and development initiatives help young people get on the right track to success. They are particularly effective during the Covid 19 pandemic as the training is provided in-house by Staff and remotely by peer mentors.

Our Core Areas of focus are:

- Seeking and maintaining employment
- Apprenticeships, job applications & Interview Skills
- Business entrepreneurship, freelance working, and self-employment
- Overcoming Obstacles and Language Learning
- Computer literacy and staying safe online

Life Skills



Household & Personal Management Skills	Financial Management Skills	Personal Development
Meal prep, cooking, and food management	Budgeting	Planning progressively for the future
Maintaining personal space	Money management	Mapping and achieving goals
Hygiene and Self care	Financial planning and goal setting	Communication and development
Sexual Health and Awareness	Savings and investments	Peer mentoring - provided to all young people in our care

Safeguarding

Safety is at the heart of everything we do. It is difficult for any young person transitioning into adulthood, but this difficulty is greatly increased for LAC children and the challenges they face,



No two young people are the same. They face different circumstances and challenges. SAYPH recognizes that in order to protect our young people effectively we need to have clear insight and provide our staff with the necessary training and procedures to protect our services users.

Key aspects our training include a clear understanding of the follow:

- Grooming
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Abuse within or external to the home
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
- Childhood trauma
- Former victims of neglect or abandonment
- Honour related crimes and familial pressure (such as child marriage).

Not only do we ensure that everyone that encounters our young people is DBS checked, we train them to minimum level 2 in safeguarding

We ensure all of our young people each have their own designated key worker, and that their different emotional and medical needs are taken into consideration when creating their care plans.

Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation



When a child experiences something as damaging as sexual exploitation it can not only damage their physical and mental wellbeing but it can also challenge their view of themselves and the world around them.

SAYPH works to breakdown the challenges faced by young people who have been victims of Child Sexual Exploitation. We recognise they face an uphill battle to recover their self

esteem and sense of direction . SAYPH proactively supports victims of CSE who are in social care, and need additional support to overcome past trauma.

We provide support, counseling, and give the one to one time and patience needed to safeguard them emotionally and give them the necessary tools to overcome their past .

Bridging the Gap



We recognise that children and young people in local authority care may not have reached full emotional maturity by the age of 18. As it is often the case that they have faced some form of lack in their lives. Whether that is lack of parental guidance, socialisation, language skills, work experiences, or education.

In these rare cases we have alternative accommodation when young people are above the age of 18 but under the age of 23 where

they can gain essential support and life skills to ensure their transition to independent living flows successfully.

The intention behind this is also to reduce the rates of recidivism and re-offending. Our peer mentoring program helps young people to avoid grooming and make better life choices that will lead to tangible outcomes and help them build their work experience or find an adequate career path.

Supported Accommodation

It is our aim to provide a friendly and hospitable environment for the young in our care. Not only do we intend to instil the structure and values needed for a successful transition to adulthood but we intend to make our young people feel valued and considered. This ideology extends to the nature of all the accommodation we provide.

The rooms are individually kitted out with the study space and living space young people need to educate themselves and grow.

They will be monitored with CCTV for their safety and the safety of the Staff, but their privacy and living needs will be taken into consideration also people in our care.

We will provide facilities for 5-7 young people in each property .



These unit/house will provide staff cover with considerable security in place to ensure the young people's safety.

There will be a Training Provision attached to this facility. Plus 24 CCTV monitoring and qualified Staff available 24/7.

Risk Assessments

SAYPH works closely with the police, education bodies, and community specialists to ensure we choose the best possible locations for our homes. Considering the following factors:

We considered the crime rate of the area, any presence of predators in the area and the cultural sensitivity to ensure that our young people will feel comfortable in the homes we provide, and in the local area too.

Our aim is to keep maintain our young peoples emotional and physical wellbeing and consider from the onset anything would could negatively impact them. Including:

- Location - we aim to choose homes which are close to local stores and amenities
- Crime rates and the number of sexual predators with the geographic areas
- Risk of substance misuse in the area
- Risk of Sexual assault within the area



Fighting Homelessness and Exclusion



SAYPH recognises the uncertainty that young people face and the many challenges they can come across.

Our overall mission is to help young people get on the right track to success. By working to reduce the emotional damage caused by social and financial exclusion along with the rates of crime and homelessness among care leavers.

SAYPH aims to provide our young people with a place that feels like home. Particularly in the case of youth offenders.

It is our intention to actively help the young people and young adults within our care to choose an alternate path and give them the necessary tools to leave the criminal lifestyle behind while reducing rates of recidivism.

Communal Spaces & Activities



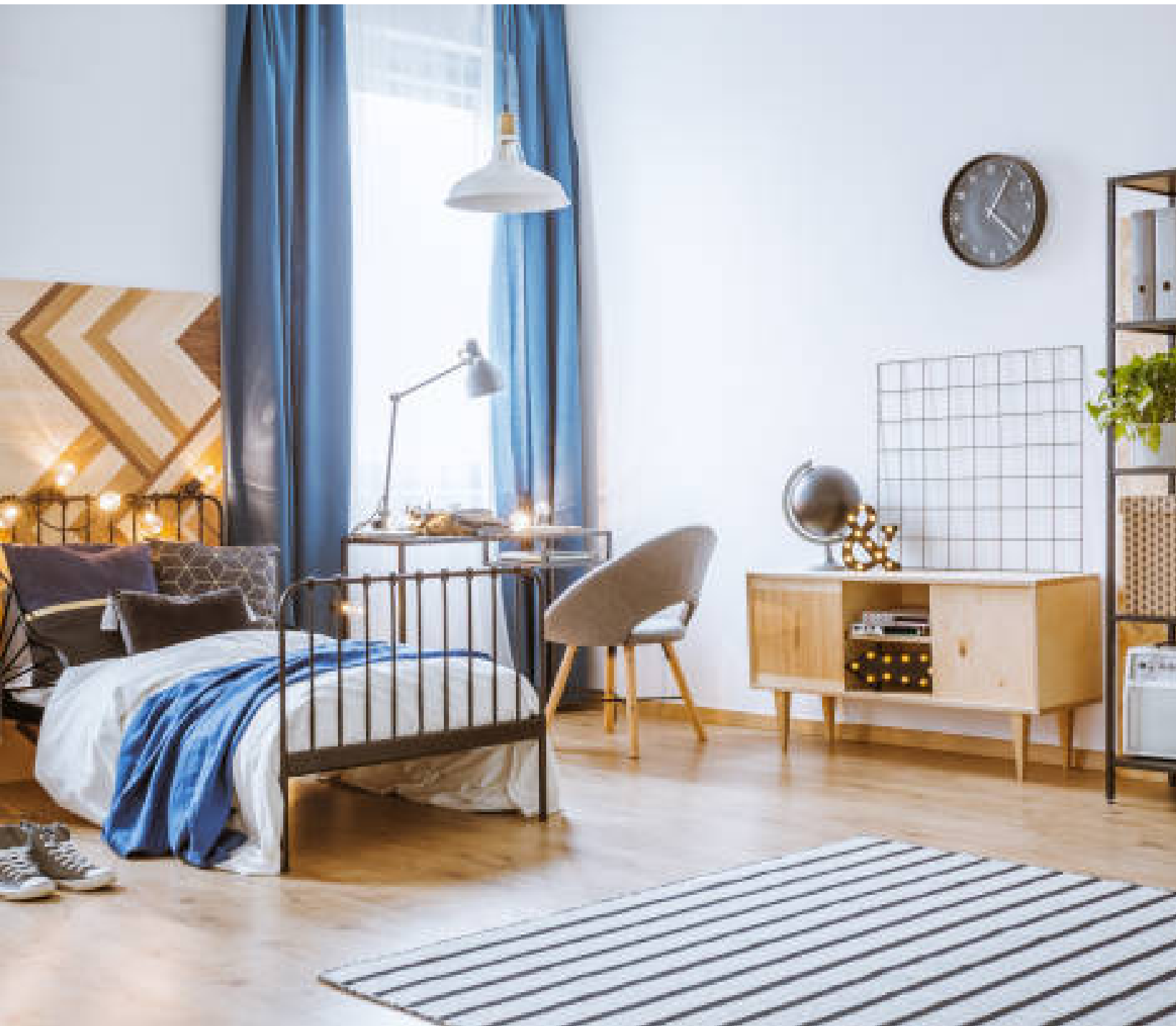
As an organisation we intend to provide a living environment where our young people are happy and satisfied.

The common spaces are for all to share and will include TV's, computer access, group activities and encourage bonding.

A workspace will also be provided within the common areas to assist with their homework and work searches (with safety provisions imposed on internet access).

In addition to this Spirit Arts Youth Place of Hope will have community building initiatives in place such as movie night, and international evening for young people of different ethnicity to share their culture and cuisine.

Youth Facilities



Our homes are built to enhance creativity and development. With light and open spaces and common areas to encourage young people's engagement and develop their social skills.

The rooms are well-equipped with all the furniture and facilities, needed to study and plan for the future including storage, desks, tables, and soft furnishings.

Counseling & Guidance



SAYPH understands that when young people enter the care system they bring with them their own unique set of circumstances,, which can impact their emotional well-being and overall mental health.

Our counseling service aims to provide a listening ear and identify emotional/psychological issues which may be causing long and short term behavioural problems.

The counseling exists as a means of support for our care users to better understand themselves and the world around them.

We work not just to address Supported Housing but the young person's Health, Social and Educational needs, their links to Gangs, alcohol and substance misuse, in order to create comprehensive plans tailored to each individual in our care.

Every Child Matters

Spirit Arts Youth Place of Hope is committed to working towards key principles outlined in the every child matters framework.

- Be healthy**
- Stay Safe**
- Enjoy and achieve through learning**
- Achieve economic well-being**
- Make a positive contribution to society**

