



Step by Step

empowering homeless people and those facing adversity

**Help us
to help
local homeless
young people**

Most homeless young people

only leave home as a last resort, when family circumstances have become unbearable through conflict, instability or breakdown.

Alone, insecure and confused, they search for someone - anyone - to take them in.

On the streets

they may encounter alcohol, drugs and petty crime, and drop out of normal society. They are entering a downward spiral which can lead to antisocial and disruptive behaviour to the detriment of the whole community.

At Step by Step

we strive to intervene by breaking this spiral and restoring confidence and independence. Based in Aldershot, we have been working to support homeless young people in the local area for over fifteen years.

Our support programme

provides much more than shelter. We give our young people the skills and motivation to look after themselves properly, help them to get fit and healthy, and then support them in finding education or employment. Each one receives one-to-one support and they are challenged to take responsibility for themselves and to become independent and productive members of society.

Each time we succeed, the whole local community benefits as well as the young person concerned.

**Much of our work relies on income from grants and donations -
and we need your help...**

What you can do...

- Pledge a regular donation via Gift Aid...**
Regular, reliable income gives us financial stability and allows us to plan ahead with confidence.
- Make a gift as part of your will...**
Or share a legacy you receive yourself. After providing for your own family and loved ones, you will be giving a chance to less fortunate young people who have not had the same support from their families.
- Give us your time – get involved!**

A few hours of your time and the benefit of your experience and expertise can make a big difference.

We warmly welcome volunteers as part of our team, to support us in a wide range of roles (*see our web site for specific opportunities*). We can be flexible to fit in with your other commitments.

Working with us can be enjoyable and rewarding, and it enables you to gain the satisfaction of putting something directly back into your community.

If you feel, like us, that our work is an essential contribution to dealing with one of today's most important social problems please contact us for an informal, no-obligation chat to see how you can help.

**Just call us on 01252 3(*%\$\$
or email us at info@stepbystep.org.uk**

Step by Step

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Case study - Sarah

Sarah (not her real name) left home aged 14. Her mother had remarried and her stepfather had forced her out. She moved in with her real Dad, whom she'd only met the previous year.

Unfortunately, he had a new family with three young children and their mother couldn't cope with Sarah as well. She was asked to leave and without any guidance - parental or otherwise - soon got into bad company and drifted into drugs, alcohol and petty crime.

She came to live with Step by Step and we arranged for her to go on a course to boost her personal confidence. She returned with renewed enthusiasm and we are now helping her to find a suitable job.

Sarah is ashamed that she has been in trouble and is determined to put this behind her. She wants to find work and start making a useful contribution to the community. Step by Step will be there to support her.

Every year Step by Step...

- ☆ provides beds in its own accommodation or supportive lodgings for about 150 young people aged 16-25 who would otherwise be 'sofa surfing' or sleeping rough.
- ☆ assists another 100 young people to stay in their own homes by helping them resolve landlord disputes, bad debts or problems caused by drink or drugs.
- ☆ offers training in practical life skills and support in finding employment to all disadvantaged local young people as well as its own residents.
- ☆ takes teams of homeless young people into local schools who, based on their own experiences, warn over 2,500 children about the realities of drugs, alcohol and homelessness.

Step by Step is based in Aldershot; most of the young people we help come from within 25 miles, which includes Farnborough, Fleet, Camberley, Bracknell, Woking, Farnham, Basingstoke and Guildford.