

## Nicola Adams

This newsletter is dedicated to our colleague Nicola Adams who sadly passed away on 11 March 2021. Nicola joined the Stockton Supported Housing Service in August 2019 and quickly became a highly valued member of the team. Nicola was hard working and cared very much about the welfare of our clients and was everything you would want in a colleague: She was straight talking, funny and kind and she loved her job at Community Campus. She will be very much missed.



## Service Continues During COVID

We have operated as safely as possible following government guidelines at all times whilst providing the best possible service. To this end we have housed and supported a further sixty-seven people who have experienced homelessness since the first lockdown in March 2020. An amazing effort by the Care and Repair Team who have worked on the void properties getting them ready to let under COVID restrictions limiting the number of people who can work in a property together. The Tenancy Support Workers have continued to support tenants on a face-to-face basis where the guidelines allow and have used social media to maintain contact, despite the challenges we have enabled 45 people to move on to their preferred accommodation outcome. Our finance and administration team have worked from home most of the year ensuring the organisation was able to operate and maintain its core functions during this difficult period.



## Support for Those in Education and Training and Struggling with Their Mental Health

Through funding from Land aid and the Durham Community Foundation we have been able to provide broadband in properties in Middlesbrough and have supplied tablets to people to enable them to continue their studies at college or with their training provider and to young people feeling isolated helping them to connect with friends and family. Byron one of the recipients of a tablet said,

*'Since the lockdown I have been unable to complete my college work, as my phone was damaged and I had no access to a computer or any form of device to continue my work. But, thanks to funding from Land Aid, Community Campus has been able to provide me with a new tablet, I am now able to connect with my tutor, family and friends and hopefully am able to complete my course for a better future.'*

## Investors in People Recognition

We are delighted that Investors in People have awarded the organisation We Invest in People Standard Accreditation. The award recognises that the appropriate principles and practices are in place and communicated and that people and leaders know what is expected of them. Paul Devoy the CEO of Investors in People said "We'd like to congratulate Community Campus '87 Ltd. Being accredited with We Invest in People status is a remarkable effort for any organisation and places Community Campus '87 in fine company with a host of organisations that understand the value of people". Carl Ditchburn CEO of Community Campus 87 said "We believe that the continuing success of our organisation begins and ends with our people. In what is a very challenging year, all those connected with the organisation can take massive pride in achieving this accreditation and maintaining services across Tees Valley during the current crisis".



# Newsletter – Summer 2021

Over 30 years of providing housing and support to homeless people across Teesside

## Stockton Service

Welcome to Debbie who has just joined the team transferring over from our Middlesbrough service and has just completed her sixth year anniversary with Community Campus '87.

Debbie has previously worked in a variety of supported housing settings and brings with her a wealth of experience.



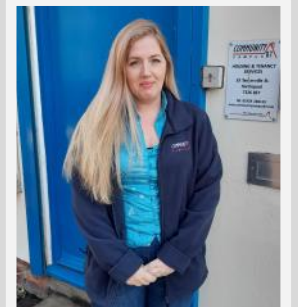
## Middlesbrough Service

Despite losing a tender and funding from Middlesbrough Council we are going to continue to provide supported housing to people who have experienced homelessness as we have since 1989. Providing this service is part of the fabric of the organisation and is much more than a business opportunity, it's what we do, and our Board were keen to make this happen. We will continue to have an office in St Marys Centre and a have team of dedicated tenancy support workers who will now work with single people and families over twenty five years of age as well as young people.

## Hartlepool Service

We are currently recruiting another Tenancy Support Worker to join Louise in our Hartlepool project. We have expanded our supported housing referrals to accept: people recovering from drug use and complex needs; unaccompanied minors and young people.

We see potential and help people to rebuild their lives. Accommodation is much sought after with limited availability. Our office in Hartlepool is located in Tankerville Street close to the town centre.



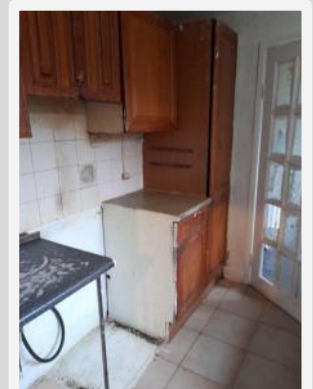
## Our New Vehicle

Our Care and Repair team we will be able to undertake more work in the community. Joiners, decorators, plasterers are available for all types of work within the home or outside.

If you or your organisation requires any work for your office or home, please contact 07725671541.

## New Project

As part of our on-going commitment to bring empty properties back into use alongside providing training opportunities we have purchased a two bedroomed property in Middlesbrough. This funding has been provided by Homeless Link Social Finance Grant. The property needs a total refurbishment and will provide an excellent learning environment for our apprentices and volunteers.



## Coatham

Community Campus are continuing to provide management and development services to Coatham House, a local charity working to accommodate and support young homeless people in the Redcar area. Accommodation has been improved, tenancy support workers are all licensed to use the Outcomes Star, and new people with specialist skill sets have joined the Board making the organisation more robust. The project is now offering floating support via funding from Redcar and Cleveland Council to people who are homeless or in temporary accommodation which has proved very successful in preventing further homeless episodes.



## New Charity Partner

We would like to express our thanks to Harrison Packaging who have chosen Community Campus '87 as one of their charity partners for 2021. There is a great synergy between the two organisations with many shared values. It is really refreshing to see a local, independent and successful business show a real interest in homelessness and care about their local community. We are excited that the partnership can make a real difference to the lives of people in the Tees Valley.

## Empty Homes

Carl Ditchburn, our CEO, recently presented to a University of Fukui Department of Architecture and City Planning seminar with a long term friend of the organisation Professor Yoshinobu Kikuchi. Yoshi is heading up a project in Japan looking at measures dealing with growing numbers of empty properties in the country. We are seen as a case study of good practice and the seminar was keen to learn from those working in the field of empty homes. Yoshi has visited the organisation twice over the last five years to study our work and is keen to maintain links with Community Campus '87 Ltd as we develop more empty homes activity.



## New Instagram Account

We are getting into the 21st century with Community Campus '87 Instagram account: @cc87Ltd.

Please follow our account for our latest photos/news/events.

## Funding

Thank you to the Barristers of the North Eastern Circuit; Homeless Link; the Cloth Workers Foundation; Land Aid; County Durham Community Foundation; Ballinger Charitable Trust, National Lottery Covid Response and the Virgin Money Resilience Fund for their generous donations which have enabled Community Campus '87 to sustain the service successfully during the last twelve months.

## Apprentice Qualifications

Congratulations to Joel (Joinery), Jordan (Painter/Decorator) and James (Multi-Skilled) who have successfully completed their apprenticeships and have now received their respective qualifications. They have worked extremely hard to gain these qualifications and for James it is a considerable achievement after leaving school with no qualifications.

We aim to continue to provide apprenticeships for young people over the coming years as part of our response to the economic fallout of the pandemic which has hit young people especially hard.



## Social Enterprise Mark

Community Campus was once again re-awarded its Social Enterprise Mark for 2020/2021 after an independent assessment verified by an external verification panel. The award shows that the organisation is making a real difference ensuring our business model remains ethical, credible and commercial proving that we trade for people and the planet. We all take pride in working for an organisation that is committed to the principle of social enterprise.

For more information on the mark please see [www.socialenterprise.org.uk](http://www.socialenterprise.org.uk).

## Homes for Cathy

Community Campus '87 is a member of Homes for Cathy, a national alliance of housing associations and homelessness charities dedicated to raising awareness of the needs of homeless people. Community Campus '87 is working to meet 9 commitments for Homes for Cathy, which are helping to shape and develop our policies and practices on ending homelessness. The Homes for Cathy group works with the National Housing Federation, Shelter, Crisis and other groups campaigning for homeless people.

For more information you can visit their website at [www.homesforcathy.org.uk](http://www.homesforcathy.org.uk).



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