



about us

Opportunity and Change is an employment-related support project for people facing severe and multiple disadvantage. It is delivered by a partnership of community-based organisations across D2N2 (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire). The project is led by Framework.

The project is part of the Building Better Opportunities (BBO) Programme, which is funded by the European Social Fund (ESF) and The National Lottery Community Fund.

what we do

Our project supports unemployed or economically inactive individuals, referred to as participants, experiencing at least two of the following:

- Being homeless or vulnerably housed
- Problematic substance or alcohol misuse
- At risk of offending or reoffending
- Mental ill-health
- Domestic Abuse

By engaging with individually-tailored and holistic packages of support, training and therapeutic interventions, our participants are supported to:

- Develop social networks
- Increase self-confidence and motivation
- Improve health and wellbeing
- Learn new skills
- Increase employability





engagement

Commitment with Opportunity and Change is entirely voluntary. However, in line with the project's aims, participants must be motivated to engage with support to address their complex needs, alongside support to move closer towards employment, education, training or job searching.

outcomes

Opportunity and Change offers employability to those furthest away from the labour market alongside support to address their complex needs. Opportunity and Change records results for:

- Securing employment
- Enrolling in education or training
- Moving from economically inactive into job searching

participant journey

Opportunity and Change participants can expect to receive regular, one-to-one support from their personal Navigator, for up to eighteen months. Navigators work with small caseloads so they can invest time getting to know participants and develop great working relationships built on trust, open communication and a good rapport.



navigator support includes:

- Regular Support Needs Assessments and Change Plan Reviews; to help participants get the most from their time with Opportunity and Change
- Confidential and impartial information, advice and guidance
- Support to access education and training, volunteering opportunities, employment and job searching
- Signposting to a range of specialist agencies, including: counselling, drug and alcohol treatment services, domestic abuse support, specialist housing and financial advice
- Great local knowledge and accessibility – Navigators located within the community
- Advocacy – helping participants to understand their rights, get their voice heard and ensure they are treated fairly

additional provision:

- Specialist counselling services
- Skills Plus for Change (SP4C): small group-based learning in bite-sized, 2-hour sessions
- The Loudspeaker Programme: a ten week programme for female participants, run by Nottingham Contemporary art gallery
- Equine Assisted Therapy: a ten week therapeutic programme that teaches principles of self-care through equine assisted learning and group-based reflection exercises
- The Care Act Team: a dedicated team of social workers who engage with participants to ensure they have fair access to an eligibility assessment for provision under the Care Act (2015)

Participant costs met by the project:

- Childcare
- Interpretation and translation services
- Travel expenses
- One-off items to help the participant to move closer towards their end goals



"The support and help I received has helped me find myself again, believe in myself to move forward in a career."

"My Navigator introduced me to a variety of services I wasn't previously aware of including courses and mental health support."



To find out more information about Opportunity and Change visit our website or give us a call.



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