



What is Horizons – Community Mentoring?

We provide support for homeless people in Bristol who are adjusting to the change of living in their own home.

The Horizons project trains volunteers to act as mentors for homeless people who are about to move or have recently moved into long-term accommodation. We welcome people from a wide range of backgrounds, including people who have been homeless themselves.

We match you to a volunteer mentor who can meet with you for up to three hours a week over a six month period. Mentors are available during the day and in the evenings.

Who can I speak to about the Horizons project?

To get more information or make a referral, please contact the Horizons project worker on:

Bristol: (0117) 909 6630

Email: horizons@second-step.co.uk

or you can write to us at:

SecondStep, 9 Brunswick Square, Bristol BS2 8PE.

Tel: (0117) 909 6630

Email: horizons@second-step.co.uk

Web: www.second-step.co.uk

For information about SecondStep's other services, contact us on (0117) 909 6630

**2econd
Step**



Horizons – Community Mentoring

**2econd
Step**

SecondStep provides a range of good quality housing projects and support services in Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset. These services are for people with mental health and other related support needs.

What support will I receive?

If you are matched with one of our mentors, you will receive support based on your own individual needs. You must also be getting professional support from a paid support worker, as volunteer members are not able to help with housing or benefits issues.

A mentor can support you to get more involved

in the local community, try out new activities or join a club, attend meetings and groups and find out about all kinds of training and leisure opportunities. We can help you deal with isolation or loneliness, plan for the future and generally have someone to talk things through with.

We provide mentoring support for six months. We review this with you after the first three months and again a few weeks before the six month mentoring period comes to an end. In some cases we may be able to offer you a second mentor for another six months.

The Horizons project also organises monthly social events so you can meet other people in your situation.

Do I need a referral to use this service?

We take referrals from resettlement workers, hostel support workers, housing providers, advice agencies and other specialist support organisations.

We also accept self-referrals where you would contact SecondStep's Horizons project directly and complete an application form.

Who can use this service?

If you want to be considered for mentor support through SecondStep's Horizons project, you need to:

- require some level of support to live independently;
- be aged between 16 and 65 years old;
- be a single person and have recently moved into housing following homelessness;
- be going through the resettlement process, moving into long-term independent accommodation; **and**
- be receiving ongoing support from a paid support worker.

Please note: Sometimes we are limited in the support we can give to people with problematic drug or alcohol use. However, we will always look at people's individual needs and how we can best provide help.

We are not able to work with:

- couples or single people planning to live with a partner when they have moved into their new home;
- pregnant women planning to live with their children after birth;
- some people with a history of violence;
- Schedule One offenders;
- people with very high support needs.

Will I need to pay anything?

No – this service is completely free. Our funding comes from Bristol City Council and charitable funding.

What happens next?

If you apply or are referred to the Horizons project, you will need to fill in an application form and give us some background information about yourself.

We will then set up a meeting with you to look at your individual support needs to see if we are able to help.

