**Hamilton CAB Beacons Project**

**The Project:** We have been successful in securing funding from Corra Foundation to embed an advice service with appropriately skilled and competent full time advice worker and two part time peer support workers within The Beacons. We will take an assertive outreach approach building on our success in the last few years of co-locating advice workers within community facilities working closely with local partners.

This is new work, a new partnership with Liber8 and The Beacons and is additional to the core CAB service.

The **Advice Worker** will provide holistic advice and focussed casework support on housing, welfare rights and other issues including utilities, money, debt, work, health & community care, family & relationships matters utilising CAB and other advice resources. This will include:

* Crisis intervention to stabilise money, housing, utilities etc.
* Action planning to address issues with intensive support at a pace to suit individual
* Case management of complex multi-faceted situation
* Supported pathways to specialist advice, representation on social security, housing and debt matters.

The **Peer Support Workers** will provide:

* Information about how CAB works and how an adviser may be able to help
* Support for people to engage with the adviser
* Practical assistance to gather information e.g. letters from DWP and health practitioners
* Support and encouragement to complete any paperwork in advance of appointments
* Ongoing contact while action plan is live
* Support to engage / re engage with health practitioners/ services
* Support to navigate and connect with appropriate services and community support
* Support to record and monitor action plan and outcomes of advice

**The Beacons**

The vision of The Beacons is to ensure that there is visible treatment and recovery embedded into local communities by adopting an asset-based approach; developing services and care and support systems using a whole systems approach, the values of which should emphasise more compassion in the system, dignity and respect and the provision of healing environments and which are trauma informed.

There continues to be a significant number of individuals whose needs are not being met through current service provision, namely:

* Individuals who do not engage at any level
* Individuals who sporadically engage therefore proving difficult to achieve desired outcomes
* Individuals who partially engage where the focus is purely on medical treatment

One main aim of The Beacons initiative is that for these individuals an increased recovery presence within communities will both maximise engagement as well as assist in achieving desired outcomes.

A key component in the delivery of The Beacons is investing in volunteers/people with lived experience; we aim to recruit and provide ongoing support for peers/volunteers. The Beacons are also committed to up skilling volunteers with lived experience, with the aim of creating a pathway into further training, college or employment opportunities, if appropriate.

<https://thebeacons.org.uk/>

**Liber8**

Liber8 Lanarkshire was established in October 2007 following the successful merger of The Local Council on Alcohol South Lanarkshire (Established 2005) and Street Base (Established 2000). Liber8 is registered as a limited company by guarantee and has charitable status. Liber8 delivers a range of services throughout Lanarkshire. The initial work of Liber8 was to provide a proactive and reactive approach to tackling alcohol and substance misuse problems, this has expanded into providing a diverse range of community based services.

Since 2007 we have made a significant impact supporting vulnerable individuals and families in Lanarkshire. We have unrivalled knowledge and experience of local communities, statutory and voluntary sector provision, adult addiction services, social housing, children and family services. We are embedded in this community and have a proven track record of successfully engaging with some of the most vulnerable individuals and families in Lanarkshire and working with them to secure positive outcomes.

Our mission is to improve the health, wellbeing and the quality of people's lives, with a particular regard to reducing the negative impact of alcohol, substance use and mental health issues on the individual, families and communities

Our vision and continued belief is based on the enduring fundamentals of service provision and the ethos held within Liber8, which are; open access available to everyone; choice for our service users; the improvement of the health and wellbeing for all and quality assurance - to provide the best quality service to those most in need.

Liber8 has been contracted by South Lanarkshire’s Alcohol & Drug Partnership to host four recovery focussed venues. The Beacons will be in each of the 4 localities of South Lanarkshire; Hamilton, Cam/Glen, East Kilbride, Clydesdale. In the first year to 18 months, there will be two local Beacons, increased to four, by establishing a further two within 3 years.

<https://www.liber8.org.uk/>