

About the Project

First Steps Forward is a VANL project. We work with delivery partners including:

- Mind
- Westcliff Community Works
- Crosby Community Association

We help community groups and organisations to support families. We will grow the confidence, skills and aspirations, for all. Creating a culture of acceptance and inclusion.

Our Team has experience of running similar support services throughout Scunthorpe. We have a wealth of knowledge and experience within the team to support the needs of our local community.

We provide a service that aims to bridge the gap between services and families, where a family may not meet the criteria for continued support. We can provide a person-centered support programme to help children and families exceed expectations.

Registered in England and Wales as a Private Company Limited by Guarantee No.3346067 and a Registered Charity No.1063019

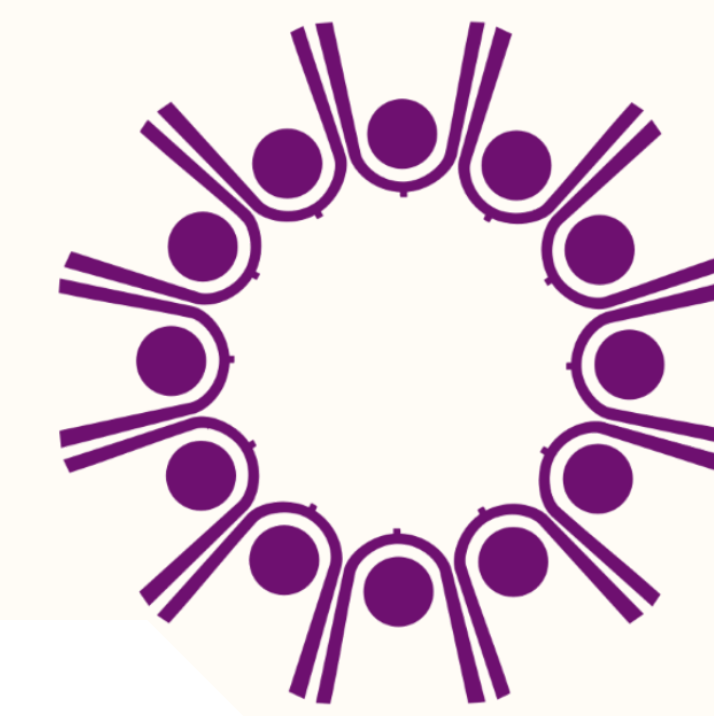
Who can be referred to First Steps Forward?

Any family living in the Scunthorpe area with a child under 5, or expectant mum, in which the family are facing many barriers and disadvantages. E.g. trauma as adults or children, domestic abuse, substance or alcohol use, poor mental and or physical health, subject to:

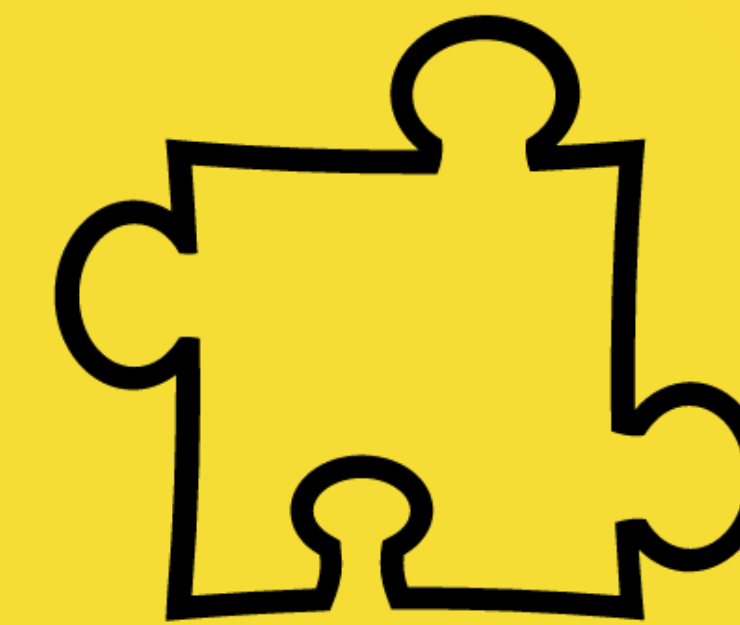
- Parents agreeing to the support
- Parents/carers being committed to change and to improving their own and their children's circumstances
- A willingness to commit to the support being provided by the First Steps Forward volunteers, including attending appointments, or cancelling them in a timely manner, where circumstances would prevent attendance.

Who can refer?

- Substance key worker
- Self referral
- Doctor or other medical/health professional ie health visitor, midwife
- Social or family support worker
- Parents or relatives
- Other relevant professionals ie teacher, probation, CAMHS.



Voluntary Action
North Lincolnshire



FIRST STEPS FORWARD

(Information for Referrers)

Westcliff
Community
Works



Mind
North
Lincolnshire

COMMUNITY
FUND

Supporting families:

The First Steps Forward support programme is designed around an individual families needs. It will be delivered in a flexible way, to ensure that we are not creating extra barriers, by providing the same support, in the same way, across the project. Each piece of support will vary over families and over time as it reflects on-going changes. The delivery actions are varied to account for this dynamic. However, there are broad areas of activity which will be constant within the support process which are as follows:

On referral the family will be contacted by a Coordinator and a first meeting arranged. The first meeting will be focused on 'getting to know' and starting to build trust. The coordinator will describe the support and that it is choice based and focused on the needs of the whole family for the benefit of children. An initial outcomes plan may be started, but more commonly this will be completed in later meeting/s.

The family will sign an agreement that sets out what the project will support them with, how it will work and their responsibility to work with the project on their defined plan.

Families will be clear that we will not pass on their information unless a child or vulnerable adult is at risk and then we would on most occasions do this with their full knowledge (unless by doing so this would put the child at further risk).

The family will be offered a trained and checked volunteer to offer a listening ear, practical solutions to issues of concern around parenting, behaviours etc and someone to walk alongside them on their journey. Support and the Outcomes plan will be reviewed after the first month, and then bi-monthly (or more if needed) and progress celebrated and any barriers or issues identified and actions to overcome such barriers agreed

The support provided is not time limited, however the support will be focused on resolving issues, building resilience and working towards independence, and therefore will have an end point, but at the family's pace.

Contact Us:

Email: firststepsforward@vanl.org.uk

Phone: 01724 845 155 (option 7)

Website: vanl.org.uk

Address: 4-6 Robert Street,
Scunthorpe DN15 6NG

Practical Support

- Practical and individual parenting support
- Coaching, mentoring and working towards personal goals and aspirations
- Supporting healthy relationships with family, friends and community
- Navigation and support to understand and improve relationships with other agencies, ie schools, health, and social workers etc
- Supporting families to access resources through various channels including FSF funded resources
- Providing support for families with no support network relocating into the community.
- Practical help to ensure the safety of adults and children
- Mental Health, counselling and support offered by Mind

Outcomes for families:

- Parents positive about their roles and their families future
- Children and young peoples feeling safe and confident about their future
- Improved emotional, physical and mental health wellbeing
- Parents and children who are independent and flourishing