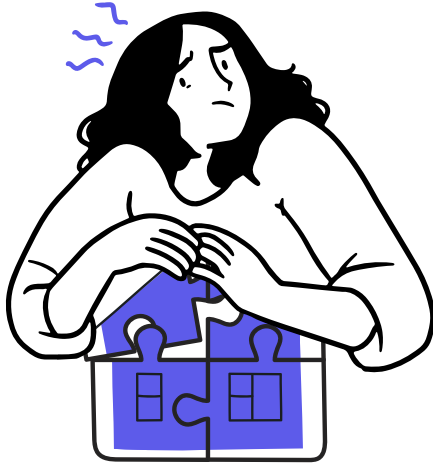




Essex
Safe Start
Fund



NEWS & UPDATES

AUGUST 2024

OVERVIEW

Welcome to our first Essex Safe Start Fund (ESSF) newsletter!

We are thrilled to bring you this newsletter, full of exciting updates, useful information, and positive testimonials from those that have already benefited from the funding.

Enjoy the read!



TESTIMONIALS

Following ESSF funding for a Video Doorbell:

"This new doorbell has given me peace of mind. I am more able to leave the house without worry which has made so much difference to my everyday life."

After being assisted financially with an out of area move:

"I am so grateful to the ESSF team. I appreciate all the support and care I was shown and feel so much safer and happier where I am now."

I send blessings for you to continue the good work you provide, Inshallah."

The ESSF provided a Safety assessment at the client's property:

"This has helped me and my children to feel safe in our home. We're so grateful."

CLIENT SUPPORT

Survivors of domestic abuse from all over Essex have been able to access the flexible funding. Since the pilot scheme began in October 2023, the ESSF has supported over 300 domestic abuse survivors in Essex in maintaining and/or accessing safe accommodation.

The funding has been used for a wide variety of items, including safety assessments, process server costs, travel costs to refuge and replacement clothing amongst many other things.

USING THE FUND



CASE STUDY

The client had experienced sexual, physical and emotional abuse and as a result, their mental health and physical health was deteriorating.

The client was offered a new property, which they desperately wanted to accept but they had no means to pay for the removal costs at such short notice.

The client's IDVA made an application to the ESSF on their behalf and once it was accepted, the client was able to accept the property and move forward.

The client states that the funding allowed them to have a 'new start to life.'

Essex's Flexible Funding is an easily accessible financial resource for professionals aiding domestic abuse victims and survivors. Although this fund is to support those in need, no evidence of abuse or financial hardship is required, therefore minimising barriers for those seeking assistance. The funding aims to enhance the safety of domestic abuse victims and survivors, and to ensure access to safe and secure accommodation.

The ESSF web portal is now live and open to all approved agencies. Non-urgent applications should be made via the [web portal](#). If the funding request is of an urgent nature, please call 07445 992 004.

For funding queries, email apply@essexsafestart.org or call 07445 992 004.



SHOUTOUTS



We would like to express our gratitude to our contributors for the crucial role they have played in securing this funding. Our valued suppliers consist of Essex County Council and Southend City Council.

The ESSF has evolved into a valuable asset, aiding professionals in making prompt and efficient decisions concerning client safety.

Our dedication persists in offering aid and support to individuals and families in Essex who rely on our services.

WHAT'S NEXT

The ESSF will be made available to Adult Social Care and Children's Social Care in Essex very shortly.

It's a positive step to extend the fund to support more Essex families dealing with domestic abuse.



GET IN TOUCH



www.essexsafestart.org



apply@essexsafestart.org



07445 992 004