**Venture Trust – Next Steps**

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| **Specialist Support for: Jobless women in Dundee with multiple barriers** |
| **What are we doing and how are we doing it?** | Outreach workers complete detailed needs assessments to ensure eligibility for the programme and engage clients on the programme. Stage 1 programme includes 1:to:1, group work sessions, phone and text to build a trusting relationship. Sessions focus on: • Initial goal-setting – through 1-to-1 sessions plus referrer information, forms basis of personalised Action Plan• Initial barrier removal – coaching to begin changing negative behaviours, plus inter-agency work/sign-posting where required (e.g. liaison with housing providers/teams to stabilise accommodation situation; with lawyers re. court dates/charges; with substance abuse services to stabilise or reduce drug/alcohol consumption).• flexible 1-to-1 personal development sessions to develop aspiration, goal setting, & support initial barrier removal.The objective is to prepare & progress clients towards Stage 2 services, either with Venture Trust or other providers, and/or to link clients into relevant services where longer-term barrier removal is required first. There is a flexible timeframe (4-12 weeks) reviewed regularly with each client, with intensity of support varied according to individual need, circumstances & pace of progression towards Stage 2.With additional community-based 1-to-1 support & group work sessions by outreach teams, clients are prepared for a 5 day wilderness based personal development & core skills training course. Each client leaves with a revised personal Action Plan for use at home, plus a personalised progress report shared with referral partners. Upon return home, aftercare support (in the form of 1-to-1 mentoring, advice, pastoral support & encouragement from their designated outreach worker) is guided by a client’s original goals & Action Plan. Additional sign-posting & brokered access to a wide range of services, agencies & groups is undertaken according to individual need. Clients may also access our series of ‘Speak Up’ employability sessions, focusing upon verbal presentation in group settings, interview skills, & ‘speaking up’ in writing via covering letters, CVs or applications.  |
| **Who’s Eligible?** | This programme is for women who are 16+ unemployed or economically inactive and involved in offending or at high risk of becoming involved because of complex life circumstances. |
| **Target Audience:** | The programme is designed to support women 16 who are involved in offending or at high risk of becoming involved. Many have experienced difficult backgrounds - often involving abuse, domestic violence, substance misuse, unemployment and broken relationships. |
| **When can we apply?** | Office hours |
| **Where will it be held?** | Outreach workers based in Dundee |
| **How do we refer?** | Referrals can be made by contacting either:

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| Clare Dyer | Catrina Gourlay |
| clare@venturetrust.org.uk | catrina@venturetrust.org.uk |
| 07785619605 | 07791011614 |

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| **Contact Details** |  Name: Gordon Thomson, Outreach Manager (Forth, Tay and North Hub)Tel: 07557281803, Argyle House, Lady Lawson St, Edinburgh EH3 9DR , 0131 2287700, [www.venturetrust.org.uk](http://www.venturetrust.org.uk) |
| **Stages Covered** | 1, 2, 3 |
| Additional InformationThe ‘Next Steps’ programme uses a combination of wilderness settings, outdoor and personal development activities, and long-term regular community-based support to enable women’s progression on their personal development journeys. Venture Trust takes them away from the influences, behaviours, and stresses of their usual environment and helps them identify what they need to change. The activities they take part in inspire, encourage and support them to re-evaluate their lives, develop new skills, and return home with increased motivation, confidence, and the core skills needed to make their ambitions reality. Long-term community-based support helps participants apply their new skills to make tangible, sustainable changes in their lives.  |