



Press release

For immediate release

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Arlington and Pact to share best practice with homeless schemes in America

Staff from Arlington, a high quality accommodation and support service for homeless people in London, and the Prison Advice and Care Trust (Pact) will visit schemes in America from 15 – 22 July 2012 to share best practice within the sector.

Funded by the London Housing Foundation, the trip, consisting of two managers from Arlington and two managers from Pact, will help both organisations learn new ways of working and further develop existing customer support programmes and social enterprise.

The week long itinerary will include a visit to the Times Square scheme, run by Common Ground in New York – the model which inspired Arlington.

Head of Arlington Jason Pryce-Kennedy said: “This trip is a great opportunity for staff at Arlington to see how similar projects operate in other countries. It’s a chance to share best practice with our colleagues and learn new and innovative ways to address homelessness in the UK.”

Pact’s Director of Family Support, Angus Mulready-Jones, commented: “We hope to use this opportunity to improve the service we offer people affected by imprisonment. Despite the key role accommodation plays in the rehabilitation process, too many men and women find themselves released from custody with nowhere to go. The



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impact is also felt for children, with only 5% able to stay in their family home following their mother's imprisonment."

Staff also plan to visit 'The Domenech' and 'The Hegeman' schemes in New York, as well as several projects in Boston and Philadelphia.

Don Wood, Chairman of the London Housing Foundation added: "We are delighted that young managers from One Housing Group and Pact are the latest people to make use of the London Housing Foundation personal development grant scheme. The aim is to give them the opportunity to broaden their outlook and understand how others are addressing similar issues."

Arlington, owned and managed by One Housing Group, takes a holistic approach in tackling the challenging issues of homelessness in the UK. As well as accommodation, Arlington provides high quality on-site care and support, along with bespoke education, training and job opportunities to help customers progress to independent living and employment. Since being re-launched in June 2010, Arlington has successfully supported 67 customers into independent living, and has helped 115 residents into work placements and apprenticeships, and a further 13 residents into employment.

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Notes to editors

Arlington is located on Arlington Road in Camden and is owned and managed by One Housing Group, a leading provider of affordable housing, care and support across London and the South East.

Arlington takes a revolutionary approach to tackling homelessness in the United Kingdom. Arlington is a stimulating mixed community of high quality accommodation



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for homeless people, social enterprises, low rent accommodation for young professionals and low-income workers; together with a state of the art Conference Centre based in Camden. It provides 130 accommodation units, of which 95 are for homeless people who are on the various stages of their journey from homelessness back to independent living. As well as accommodation, Arlington provides high quality on-site care and support, along with bespoke education, training and job opportunities to help customers progress to independent living and employment.

For further information about Arlington please contact Isha Richards on telephone: 020 8821 5228 or email: irichards@onehousinggroup.co.uk

For case studies or interviews please contact Isha Richards on the details above.

Visit Arlington.org.uk for more information.

Pact is a national charity which currently works inside 20 prisons, has staff placed with several local authorities, and volunteers working to support families and prisoners on release. Pact works with offenders, ex-offenders, and their children and families, focusing on relationships, mentoring and befriending support, and safeguarding and supporting children and vulnerable adults. Pact is working with the London Housing Foundation and the Prison Service to mitigate the impact imprisonment has on children and families of offenders in London.

In May 2011, Pact incorporated the Kids VIP charity, which set up the very first prison play services inside prison visits halls, and which today runs a prison-based parenting programme (Time to Connect), and provides training and support to prison staff to promote the needs of prisoners' children. In July, Pact launched 'JustPeople', the criminal justice volunteering bureau.

Contact Alex Carter alex.carter@prisonadvice.org.uk or visit www.prisonadvice.org.uk for more information.



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London Housing Foundation (LHF) is a trust which supports homelessness charities and agencies in London through grant funding and initiatives. Visit <http://www.lhf.org.uk/> for more information.