

# Stepping Stone Homes

SSAFA Forces Help - a brief introduction to the assistance we provide and people we help

The Stepping Stone Homes provides the time and space in which a seperated family can reflect before moving on or reconciling a difficult marital situation

## **What are the Stepping Stone Homes?**

SSAFA Forces Help provides Stepping Stone Homes which offer not only temporary supported accommodation to separated Service and ex-Service families, but also support and provide assistance in finding a permanent home. The homes provide families with time and space to assess their situation in a calm, secure environment and to make plans for their future. The Homes are fully equipped, so all the families need to bring are their own essentials, such as clothes and teddy bears. There is no room for their own furniture, but if required the staff can offer help with storage facilities.

Ten per cent of women who reside in Stepping Stone Homes do go back to their marriage after this break.

## **Who Qualifies?**

Any woman, with or without children, who will be homeless, is about to be evicted with nowhere to go, or is in need of emergency accommodation.

## **Where are they?**

There are two Stepping Stone Homes which are situated in Tyne & Wear and North West London. Each home offers slightly different accommodation. Tyne & Wear accommodates 7 families and is a large family house in extensive gardens. and Gildea House in North West London accommodates 20 families.

## **What happens during the stay?**

The homes are run by fully trained professional staff, on hand to offer any support and assistance the families may need. Residents are given help accessing national benfits and applying for permanent housing. Whilst staying with us, we will also ensure that any children can attend local schools.

The staff care  
immensely for  
the standard of  
help and  
support they  
provide to the  
families

### **How long can someone stay?**

Families can stay at the Stepping Stone Homes for as long as it takes to help them get back on their feet and settled with suitable onward accommodation. Our aim is to help you to find a permanent home in the area you wish to live as quickly as possible, or to assist in marriage reconciliation.

### **Life after Stepping Stone**

Residents only leave us once we have helped to plan their future. This gives them the chance to make a fresh start. But, remember, SSAFA Forces Help will always be there, with support and encouragement, for as long as anyone needs it.

Should families find themselves in need of the Stepping Stone Homes' service, they need to contact their Unit Welfare Officer, SSAFA Forces Help Social Worker, or a Welfare Worker. Alternatively they can write to SSAFA Forces Help Housing Department at 19 Queen Elizabeth St, London, SE1 2LP, email [housing@ssafa.org.uk](mailto:housing@ssafa.org.uk) or visit [www.ssafa.org.uk](http://www.ssafa.org.uk).



**The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and  
Families Association - Forces Help**

The national charity helping serving  
and ex-Service men, women and their  
families, in need.

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