

Compass

AFTERCARE

*Community*



# Compass Aftercare Community

**Compass Child and Family Services** [Compass CFS] is a Charity offering out of home care arrangements for children in the care of the Irish State. Compass was established in 2012 with its registered office in Killaloe, Co. Clare. Compass CFS are a group of multidisciplinary professionals with extensive experience in working with children, adolescents and adults in various social, educational and health services.

Our philosophy of working with young people and their families has a strong underpinning and is guided by principles of the continental European Model of Social Pedagogy and incorporates those principles on how we engage with young people, families and how our services are delivered. Social Pedagogy, an academic and practical professional discipline looks to enhance individuals' ability to become inclusive members of society and to participate in society to their fullest potential.

Social Pedagogy is based on humanistic values stressing human dignity, mutual respect, trust, unconditional appreciation, and equality. It is underpinned by a fundamental concept of children, young people and adults as equal human beings with rich and extraordinary potential and considers them competent, resourceful and active agents in society.



## *Our Vision is*

That every young person leaving care has a home and the supports to reach their full potential.



## *Our Mission is*

To provide holistic approaches, living environments and supports for young people leaving care to enhance their overall sense of well-being and happiness. To support and empower young people to develop their knowledge, life skills and sense of self efficacy to be full active agents in both their own lives and their community.

## Our Objectives are

- ➔ To provide quality and stable living environments for people leaving care to ensure a continuity of care.
- ➔ To support young people leaving care to develop the necessary practical, emotional and social skills in their journey towards independent living.
- ➔ To create a community where people feel welcome, supported and valued not just as individuals but as an integral part of society.
- ➔ To support young person's connections to the wider community including education, employment and access to a variety of mentors.
- ➔ To view each young person as a whole person [Head, Heart, Hands] with individual needs and to adopt a holistic approach in supporting those needs.
- ➔ Each young person will be championed to find their own path in life and with compassion encouraged to reflect to develop insight, self-knowledge and resilience to face the many adversities they will encounter.
- ➔ To offer the young people ongoing support into the future with continued connection and sense of belonging with the aftercare community.



## *What is Crescent Villas?*

**Crescent Villas** is a semi independent living arrangement for young people leaving care.

All young adults face challenges as they begin independent living but young adults leaving care can be particularly vulnerable as they don't always have the supports to help them navigate these challenges. We understand these challenges and want to create a gradual approach to supporting young adults as they develop their skills and begin independent living.

Crescent Villas offers a stepping stone to young adults as they move from residential or foster care to independent living. We provide independence and privacy with the safety of on site support.

There is capacity for up to four young adults with each of them having their own one bedroom apartment within the larger building. There will also be one supporting adult available at all times within the aftercare building who can offer support and guidance where required.



This community living experience provides many natural opportunities for individual and group experiences to build practical and personal skills. This we feel will offer independence and safety both in terms of relational support and their physical environment. This model will provide regular opportunities for interactions with peers and availability of an adult in which to confide. Interactions are co-experienced by trained staff who role model to the young people how to self manage day to day interactions and conflicts in an effort to build inter-relational skills and resilience. These skills and experiences are a valuable source of learning that help build a plethora of personal skills and self knowledge to meet future challenges or adversities.

## Compass



For young people leaving care and emerging into adulthood the question of identity is central to the building of an independent life. We want to use recognition to help young adults to develop purpose meaning and belonging. Recognition can improve resilience and capability to face adversities that they may face in their lives. Through belonging to a caring community young adults can be recognised as mattering to others, as the bearers of rights and be recognised as contributing with their unique characteristics and abilities. Therefore, through addressing recognition; emotional, legal and social we aim to create a milieu where self-confidence, self-respect and self-esteem cannot just grow but thrive and flourish.



## Who can come to live in Crescent Villas?

Crescent Villas is an Aftercare service for young adults both male and female leaving care at 18.

### Is Crescent Villas right for you?

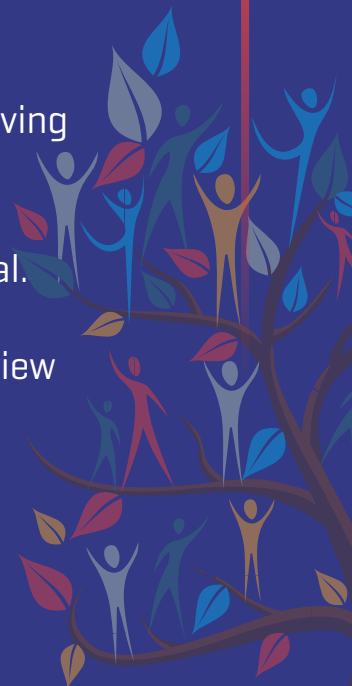
- ✓ I am aged 18-23 years
- ✓ I have the ability to live independently
- ✓ I require additional support on turning 18
- ✓ I have lived in foster or residential care
- ✓ I want to live independently but want and need support as I'm just not ready yet
- ✗ I require fulltime care and support

\*This is not an exhaustive list please contact us for further information and discussion.

## The Placement

At Crescent Villas we offer placement to suitably assessed young people. This placement includes:

- ✓ Personalised Individual Plan to enhance independent living skills
- ✓ Support life skills development both practical and social.
- ✓ An initial 6 month placement but following progress review can be extended.
- ✓ Continued support to young adults who have moved on to live in the community of their choice





## *Young Person Programme*

We see young people as whole human beings filled with boundless possibilities and aim to build personal skills, self belief and self efficacy. We accept young people for who they are, where they are in their life and do not focus to change but rather work with them.

Every young person requires specific individual plan while living in Crescent Villas.

The young persons Individual Plan is co-created between the young person and their Keyworker and includes both practical and personal skills, with formal education/training supported and encouraged.

In this community we focus not on any deficits from the past but look to a more optimistic capability emphasis to enhance self- belief, confidence and efficacy. To work towards not just independence and interdependence but focus on individual strengths to help the young adult find Purpose, Meaning and Belonging.

## *What do we offer the Young Person?*

### A home with **Support, Safety & Security**

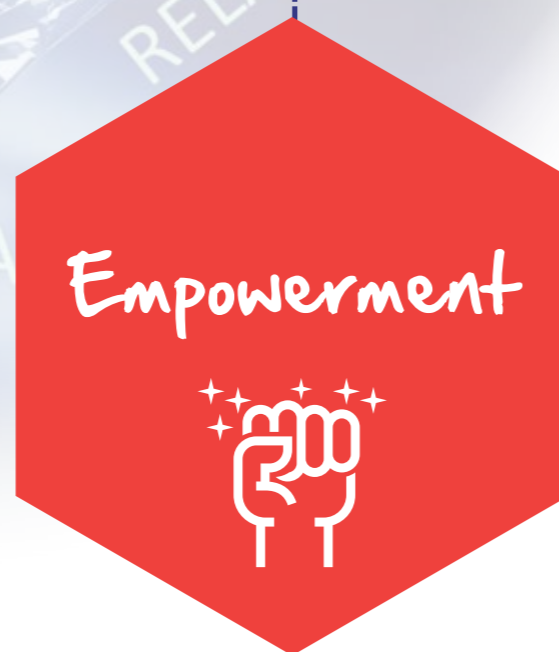
- ➔ A key to your own furnished apartment with your privacy respected.
- ➔ No curfews applied with a fair visitor policy.
- ➔ 24 hour staff support with CCTV
- ➔ Personal Individual Plan to enhance self-esteem, resilience, confidence, and ambition to support you in your life.
- ➔ A gradual and supported approach to independent living.

## Compass Aftercare Community's offer to young people?

### POSITIVE EXPERIENCES



- ➔ We support you to lead a healthy lifestyle within the aftercare community with physical wellbeing activities and social events.
- ➔ We will work alongside each other to promote good wellbeing and healthy lifestyles and be open to new ideas and suggestions.
- ➔ We encourage young people in individual and group activities both within the aftercare community and in the broader community.
- ➔ We create opportunities for positive fun activities including sports, baking, organised cooking sessions and regular meals as a community.
- ➔ We organise regular fun events and outings as a group.



- ➔ We offer a variety of ways to have your say including suggestions/ comments box and House/ Community meetings.
- ➔ We have a fair and responsive Complaints and Feedback procedure.
- ➔ We can offer advocacy support and guidance to access external advocacy support.
- ➔ We encourage and support to access and influence wider services in the community or nationally.
- ➔ We continually offer Encouragement and support to be full active citizens.



- ➔ We offer an allocated Keyworker and small friendly support team.
- ➔ The opportunity to co-create an individual plan tailored for you with support for you to make informed choices about all aspects of your life.
- ➔ We give support in accessing help for concerns or problems that you may have including areas such as emotional wellbeing, relationships, sexual health and substance misuse.
- ➔ We help you access safe places including, clubs and youth projects offering personal and social development opportunities
- ➔ You are welcome to return to the Aftercare Community at any time to catch up or get advice and support.



- ➔ We offer support to improve your independent living skills such as cooking, cleaning, budgeting, laundry and tenancy rights.
- ➔ We help you to identify and develop your skills and abilities to reach your full potential.
- ➔ We will support you to access a range of accredited & nonaccredited training programmes.
- ➔ We explore career options with CV writing, support in searching for courses, jobs or volunteering work, with internet access and use office.
- ➔ We will support you to search and find for suitable available accommodation options.



Compass

*How to Make a Referral:*

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