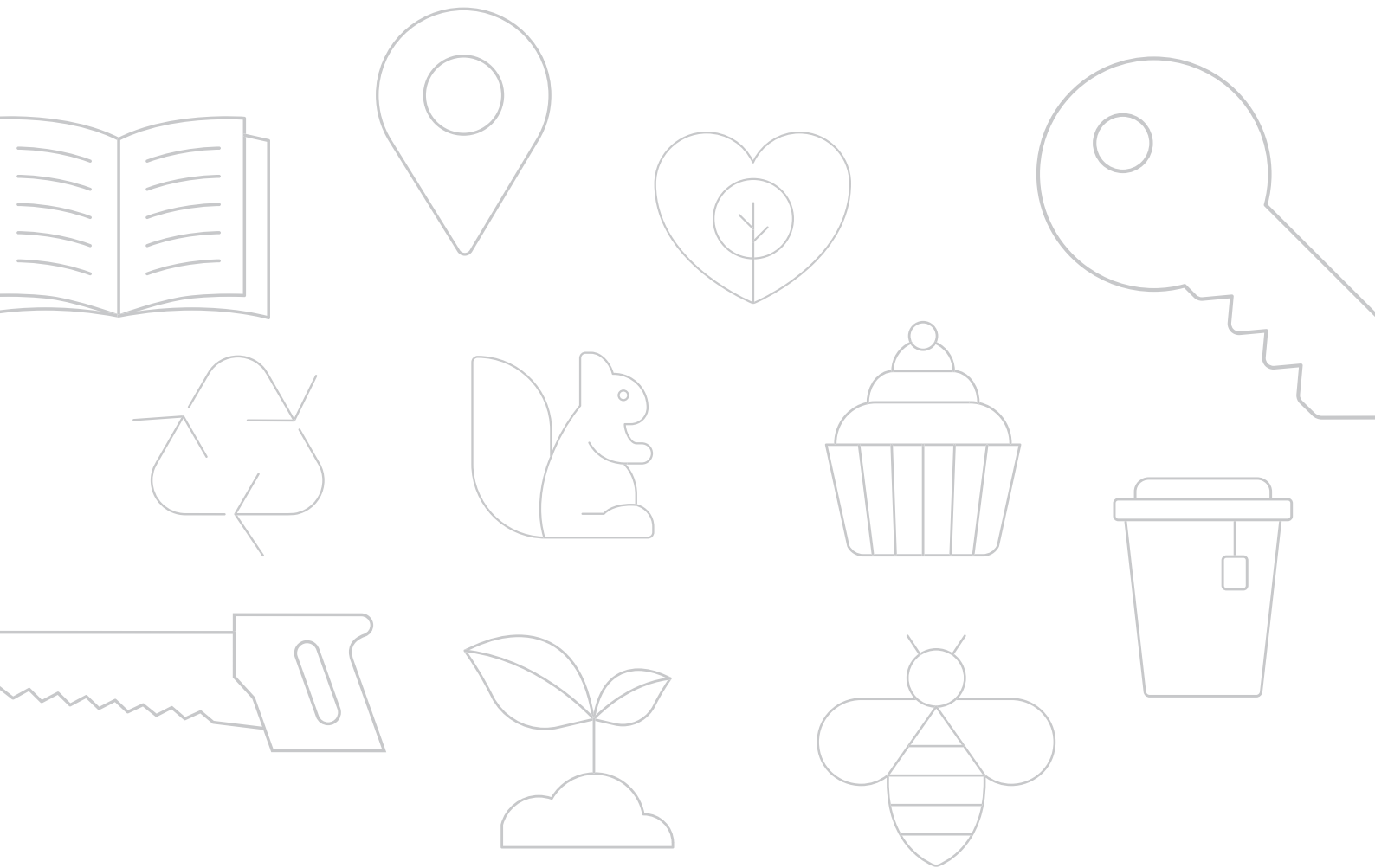




Alternatives
Community-based Recovery

Overview



The 3-pillar model – “Therapeutic Landscape of Recovery”

Alternatives has developed in three stages since our inception in 1995 as a traditional community-based project.

We developed an intensive, 3-phase groupwork programme (2008); then our residential provision (2014); followed by our safe, therapeutic work placement opportunities (from 2018).

These 3 elements of the organisation now represent what we consider to be an excellent operating model, with three interdependent and complimentary pillars, as illustrated in the diagram on page 4.

Why are we so effective?

Our approach is based on:

- Ensuring recovery clients feel safe and valued;
- Using the Recovery Outcome Web (ROW) component of the Drug and Alcohol Information System (DAISy) approach to assessing (with them) their progress against 10 key criteria relating to their physical and mental health and how they are coping with relevant aspects of their personal world;
- Normalising a life without dependency, which is sustainable, so they are returned to life as a valued member of society;
- Improving their life skills and employability, to enhance their life chances;
- Recognising that this is likely to take up to four attempts, and up to seven years, per individual, and that we must not give up on them until this has been achieved; and
- This approach in turn therefore must begin with the service user’s starting position and with what he/she is seeking to achieve, for instance respite from crisis; stabilisation of medically assisted treatment; and low-level return to drug-taking all the way to complete abstinence.

Cost-effectiveness in its widest sense – “Social Capital”

A 2012 study demonstrated that the cumulative saving to the Courts system and Criminal Justice, the Police, the NHS and Social Work of getting a recovery client back from chaos to a normalised lifestyle without dependency was then in the region of £48k per client per year; this will now, 9 years on, be nearer to £60k.

How are we currently funded?

Community work:

SLA with West
Dunbartonshire Council

Residential provision:

Housing Benefit, with
no addiction funding

Safe, therapeutic work placements:

Grant aid, with
match funding from
a windfall reserve

How many people have we helped?

Since 2006 we have been collating three particular outcomes:
Abstinence from drugs; Education/training; Employment

During this period we have supported:

788

people to become
and maintain an
abstinent lifestyle

735

people to
access education
and training

187

people into
employment

Since last year

Community work:

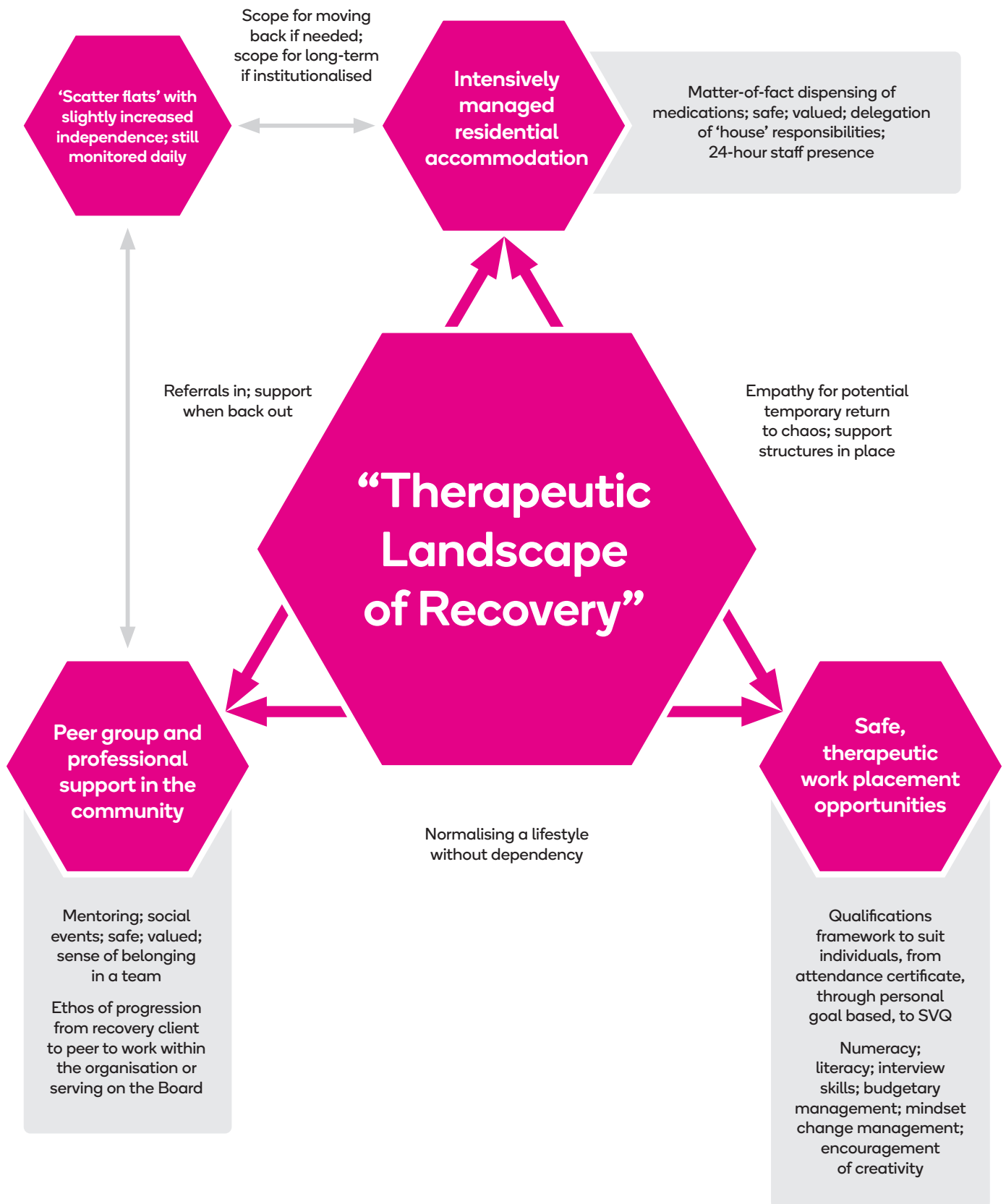
Approximately 100
individuals at any
one time

Residential provision:

16 beds in safe house; 11
x 2-bedded ‘scatter flats’

Safe, therapeutic work placements:

Scope for up to 40
at any time



**We continue to make
a difference. Thank you.**

For more information please contact:

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