

Press Release

For immediate release

Date 29 January 2010

Headline More help for Middlesbrough's Homeless

UNITE mediation have won a tender to provide homelessness prevention mediation to young people and their families in Middlesbrough. The new project is being funded by Middlesbrough Council and run in partnership with Erimus Housing. UNITE mediators will be helping young people and their families resolve conflict within the family.

Young people, aged 16 – 25, are one of the largest constituencies of homeless people in the North East. (Homeless Link, 2009: <http://www.homeless.org.uk/region-northeast>)

'The aim is to prevent young people becoming homeless due to problems at home, or to help young people who are already homeless rebuild their relationship with their family to enable them to return home' said UNITE Development Officer Jayne Gray.

'UNITE are very excited at winning this tender. We've a lot of experience helping to prevent young people becoming homeless by providing intra-family mediation and we are looking forward to providing this service in Middlesbrough.'

Middlesbrough's Deputy Mayor Councillor Dave Budd said: "A great deal of work has been done in Middlesbrough to reduce the problem of homelessness, and real successes have been achieved.

"This valuable project will add to that work, ensuring that young people at risk of homelessness are identified at the earliest possible opportunity and given a chance to turn things round.





UNITE
Southlands Centre
Ormesby Road
Middlesbrough
TS3 0HB

Tel: (01642) 311633 (01642) 327583
Fax: (01642) 324606
Enquiries: enquiries@unite-mediation.org
Website: www.unite-mediation.org

“I look forward to hearing more about the progress of the mediation service and hearing the stories of those it will undoubtedly assist.”

The sorts of issues that can lead to conflict resulting in homelessness can include things like a reduction in benefit entitlement due to a young person's age, failure to agree on house rules, changes in relationships and breakdowns in communication. UNITE's skilled and experienced mediators act as impartial intermediaries to help all those involved in the conflict have their say and to find a way to resolve things for the future.

The service runs until the end of March 2011. It is available, free of charge, to any families in Middlesbrough where there is a risk of a young person becoming, or remaining homeless as a result of conflict within the home.

For more information call Jayne on 01642 327583 ext 362 or email jaynegray@unite-mediation.org

End

Contact

Mike James
Media Officer

Tel: 01642 327583 ext 329
Email: mikejames@unite-mediation.org
Website: www.unite-mediation.org



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE