

# Grant Application YOUNG WOMEN & GIRLS

Organisation Name		Reference coo	le	
Evolve Recovery Homes		2025-10-YWG	13	
Organisation Address				
5 Clifton Street, Queensbury				
Bradford				
West Yorkshire BD13 2PW				
UK				
Website Address				
www.evolverecoveryhomes.co.uk				
How did you hear about the Triangle Trust?				
Online				
Please describe your organisation's purpose in one or two sentences.				
Evolve Recovery Homes provides safe, supported housing and trauma-informed				
recovery programmes for women and girls affected by homelessness, abuse and				
disadvantage, helping them to rebuild their lives and achieve independence.				
Type of organisation? (tick all that apply and complete relevant details)				
Charity	Registered Cha	rity Number	Date Registered	
Yes	1200813		2022	
Community Interest	Registered Com	panies House	Date Registered	
Company	Number		-	
No			Evol	
Social Enterprise	Has your organi awarded the So Mark?		Year Awarded	
No				

#### **Grant Summary**

This grant will fund Evolve Recovery Homes to deliver trauma-informed housing and support for young women at risk of offending, helping them break cycles of abuse, disadvantage and build safe, independent lives.

We seek funding to expand our specialist housing and recovery programme for young women vulnerable to criminalisation, providing safety,

## Please describe the specific needs of the young women and girls you work with that this project will address

The young women we support are among the most marginalised in society. Many are aged 18-25 and have experienced multiple disadvantages including childhood abuse, domestic violence, trauma, homelessness, poverty and poor mental health. These experiences place them at high risk of criminalisation, often through survival behaviours such as theft to meet basic needs, coercion by abusive partners, or difficulties linked to unstable housing and relationships. Without targeted, traumainformed support, they are more likely to reoffend, experience further harm and remain trapped in cycles of disadvantage.

Evolve Recovery Homes is women-led and shaped by lived experience of homelessness and recovery. We understand the barriers young women face and provide services designed exclusively for them. Our safe, women-only housing creates a secure base where they are protected from exploitation and intimidation and able to begin rebuilding their lives.

Alongside accommodation, we deliver a programme of trauma-informed support including one-to-one casework, group sessions, peer mentoring, life skills development and pathways into education, volunteering and employment. We use tools such as

Outcome Star and Recovery Capital Cards to monitor progress and adapt support to each young woman's goals. Our staff team are trained in motivational interviewing, trauma-informed practice and boundary management, ensuring high-quality and compassionate care.

Co-production is central to our model. Many of our staff and volunteers are women who have progressed through Evolve's services, offering visible role models of recovery and independence. Young women are actively involved in shaping their support and influencing service design, which builds confidence, resilience and agency - all protective factors against further criminalisation.

Our project addresses the specific needs of young women by providing safe housing, reducing risk of harm, offering therapeutic support for trauma and mental health, building practical skills in tenancy management and employment, and creating positive peer networks that reduce isolation. By working with probation, youth offending teams and community partners, we provide resettlement support and interventions that reduce reoffending risk.

This grant will enable us to reach more young women aged 18-25 across Bradford and Halifax, ensuring they receive the housing and support needed at a critical stage in their lives. The project addresses immediate risks of homelessness and criminalisation while also building long-term protective factors such as education, employment, wellbeing and community belonging. By breaking cycles of disadvantage, we help young women achieve stability and independence while contributing to safer, stronger communities.

# What are the key outcomes you will be seeking to achieve for young women and girls either at risk of offending or who are already caught up in the criminal justice system? How will you track the impact you are making?

"The purpose of this project is to ensure that young women aged 18-25 who are at risk of offending or already involved in the criminal justice system can achieve safety, stability and independence. By addressing the root causes of disadvantage such as trauma, homelessness, abuse and social exclusion, the project will reduce the likelihood of reoffending and support young women to build positive futures.

We will help young women reduce their risk of offending by providing safe housing, trusted relationships and constructive alternatives to crime. Our women-only environments create protection from abuse and exploitation and allow young women to focus on their recovery. Through trauma-informed support they will gain improved wellbeing, stronger resilience and the skills needed to sustain independence. The project will build confidence, develop practical skills in tenancy management, budgeting and self-care, and open pathways into education, volunteering, training and employment. Involvement in service design will strengthen voice and agency, enabling young women to influence their own recovery and future direction.

Impact will be measured through structured assessments at entry and review points, using tools such as the Outcome Star and Recovery Capital Cards to show progress in housing, health, relationships, skills and aspirations. We will track attendance at activities, completion of training, progression into education or employment, tenancy sustainment and successful move-on to stable housing. Where relevant we will also gather information from probation or youth offending services to evidence reduced reoffending.

Feedback will be collected directly from participants through regular conversations, reflective exercises and interviews. Staff will record progress through observations and case studies, and peer-led reviews will provide additional insight. This combination of quantitative and qualitative evidence will be analysed and reviewed quarterly, ensuring the project remains accountable and adaptive to need.

By the end of the grant period we expect to demonstrate that young women have

improved safety, wellbeing, skills, independence and aspirations. The project will show a clear reduction in the factors that drive offending and stronger protective factors such as stable housing, positive relationships and opportunities for growth, supporting young women to move forward with stability and independence."

### What are the key activities you will undertake with this funding to achieve these outcomes?

With this funding we will provide safe, women-only accommodation for young women aged 18-25 who are at risk of offending or already in the criminal justice system. Having a secure and stable base is essential, as it protects them from exploitation and gives them the foundation to address deeper issues.

Each young woman will be supported through an individual plan developed with a key worker. These plans will set clear goals around housing, health, relationships, skills and employment, and will be reviewed regularly to measure progress.

We will deliver trauma-informed support combining one-to-one work, group sessions and peer mentoring. Sessions will focus on wellbeing, resilience, confidence and boundaries, while practical workshops will build skills in budgeting, tenancy sustainment, cooking and preparing for work.

Peer support is a central feature of our model. Staff and mentors with lived experience provide role models, reducing isolation and showing that change is possible. Young women will also help to shape activities, ensuring services reflect their voices and needs.

To reduce reoffending risk, we will work in partnership with probation services, youth offending teams and safeguarding agencies. This joined-up approach ensures that women leaving custody, or serving community sentences, receive consistent and coordinated support.

We will also open opportunities for education, volunteering and employment. Young women will be supported with training, CV writing, interview preparation and links to local providers, giving them positive and realistic alternatives to offending. All activities will be grounded in trauma-informed practice, ensuring safety, dignity and empowerment. The funding will sustain staff capacity and allow us to reach more young women in Bradford and Halifax.

Through safe housing, personalised support, life skills development, peer mentoring and strong partnerships, the project will help young women reduce risks of offending, build resilience and independence, and move forward with hope and stability.

Does your proposed project already exist or is this a new piece of work? If this project is already operating, please describe to us how you will use this as an opportunity to build on what you have achieved to date. If this is a new piece of work, please explain what this funding will enable you to do differently.

This project builds on Evolve Recovery Homes' existing work providing safe housing and recovery support for women affected by homelessness, abuse and disadvantage. Our model is already established and has shown strong results, with many women progressing from crisis situations into stable housing, employment and family life. What this funding will enable us to do is focus more specifically on the group of young women aged 18-25 who are at heightened risk of criminalisation or already involved in the justice system.

Currently our provision supports women across a wide age range. While this has been effective, we have identified that younger women face particular challenges that require tailored approaches. Many are leaving care or custody without support, entering unhealthy relationships that increase their vulnerability, or engaging in low-level offending linked to survival. Without focused intervention, these young women risk becoming trapped in the justice system at an early age.

Through this grant, we will create a dedicated strand of work within our existing service that prioritises young women in this age group. We will adapt our support programmes to be more youth-focused, increasing opportunities for skills development, peer connection and progression into education and employment. The funding will also allow us to strengthen our partnerships with probation, youth offending teams and local

colleges, ensuring that young women leaving custody or community sentences have a clear pathway into safe housing, support and opportunities for growth.

Building on our existing foundation means we are not starting from scratch. We already have experienced staff, robust systems, women-only accommodation and a proven track record of trauma-informed delivery. The difference this funding will make is in sharpening the focus on younger women, dedicating staff time and resources to their needs, and expanding our reach so that more can benefit. It will also allow us to capture learning and evidence about what works best with this age group, creating a model that can be replicated and shared more widely.

In summary, the project exists in part through our established housing and recovery model, but this funding represents an opportunity to extend, specialise and deepen our work with young women aged 18-25 who are at risk of offending or reoffending. It will build on the positive outcomes we have already achieved, while enabling us to target support more effectively, reduce the criminalisation of young women, and create long-term pathways into independence and stability.

# What expertise and track record do you have to be able to deliver this work successfully? Please specifically mention your expertise linked to gender and trauma informed approaches.

Evolve Recovery Homes has the expertise and track record to deliver this project because we are a women-led organisation built on lived experience and trauma-informed practice. Our founding vision came from recognising the lack of safe, gender-specific support for women in West Yorkshire, and we have since developed a proven model of supported housing and recovery that combines professional skill with authentic understanding.

All of our staff and leadership have lived experience of the issues faced by the women we support, whether homelessness, disadvantage, criminal justice contact or recovery. This creates immediate trust and credibility with the young women we work with. Alongside lived experience, every member of staff has completed training in traumainformed approaches, safeguarding and motivational interviewing. We bring empathy and understanding, but also professional consistency and clear boundaries. Trauma-informed practice runs through everything we do. We understand that many young women carry the impact of abuse, neglect and exploitation, and we design services that prioritise safety, trust and empowerment. Staff are skilled in responding in ways that reduce the risk of retraumatisation, supporting young women to build resilience and take positive steps forward. Even our housing is designed to feel secure and dignified, recognising the need for safe spaces in which recovery can begin. We also hold specific gender expertise. Women and girls often enter the justice system through different pathways than men, including survival behaviours and coercion within relationships. Our women-only environments reduce the risks of intimidation or exploitation and provide a culture where young women feel safe, believed and supported.

Our track record demonstrates the effectiveness of this model. We operate multiple supported housing properties and have helped many women move from crisis into stability. Women who once faced homelessness and disadvantage have gone on to achieve independent living, further education and employment, with some progressing to become staff or volunteers within Evolve. This cycle of progression and peer leadership shows the strength and sustainability of our approach.

Evolve is also recognised as a trusted partner by probation, safeguarding and housing services, who value our consistency and the outcomes achieved. We have established safeguarding systems, strong governance and a reputation for collaborative working. In summary, our expertise comes from the combination of lived experience, trauma-informed training, and years of delivering results for women facing multiple disadvantages. We are uniquely placed to extend this work to young women aged 18-25 who are at risk of offending or reoffending, and with this grant we will apply our skills to provide the specialist gender- and trauma-informed support they need to build safe and independent lives.

#### Please explain how the grant will be spent

The grant will be spent on delivering safe accommodation and trauma-informed support for young women aged 18-25 who are at risk of offending or already in the criminal justice system. The majority of the funding will be used to maintain and expand staff capacity, ensuring that each young woman has access to a dedicated key worker and the consistent support needed to address complex needs. Staff time will cover one-to-one casework, group sessions, peer mentoring and partnership work with probation, youth offending services and safeguarding agencies.

A portion of the grant will be used to deliver structured programmes that build life skills, confidence and resilience. This includes workshops on budgeting, tenancy sustainment, healthy routines, wellbeing and employability, along with therapeutic group activities designed to address trauma, reduce isolation and strengthen positive relationships.

Funding will also contribute to the running costs of safe, women-only accommodation where the project will be based. This ensures participants have a stable, secure environment in which to recover, free from the risks of abuse and exploitation often faced in mixed or male-dominated services.

Some resources will be allocated to materials, training and external partnerships that directly benefit the young women, such as educational resources, volunteering placements and links to local employers and colleges. We will also set aside a small proportion for monitoring and evaluation, enabling us to track outcomes through Outcome Star, Recovery Capital Cards, participant feedback and case studies, ensuring the impact of the project is clearly evidenced.

Overall, the grant will be invested directly in the delivery of housing, support and opportunities for young women at a critical stage in their lives. It will not be spent on capital works or unrelated organisational costs, but will be targeted towards activities that reduce offending, improve wellbeing, and build independence. By focusing resources on staff capacity, safe housing and tailored interventions, the grant will ensure that more young women can be supported to break cycles of disadvantage and move forward with stability and hope.

#### Who will be responsible for overseeing and delivering this work?

Oversight and delivery of this project will be the responsibility of Evolve Recovery Homes' leadership team, frontline staff and trustees. The organisation is led by our Founder and CEO, who has lived experience of homelessness and recovery and has built Evolve into a respected women-led charity. She will provide overall strategic oversight, ensure delivery stays aligned with our mission, and report regularly to the Board of Trustees on progress and impact.

Day-to-day management will be carried out by one Service Manager, who is trained in trauma-informed practice, safeguarding and motivational interviewing. The Service Manager will coordinate the team, monitor caseloads, oversee support plans, and ensure consistent quality across all aspects of delivery, including housing, one-to-one work, group sessions and partnership activity with probation and youth offending services.

The frontline team will consist of four Support Workers, each responsible for a caseload of young women. Every participant will have a named key worker who will coproduce and review her support plan, monitor progress using Outcome Star and Recovery Capital Cards, and provide regular one-to-one support. These staff will also deliver group workshops on wellbeing, confidence, resilience and life skills, ensuring the programme combines therapeutic support with practical preparation for independent living.

Delivery will be further strengthened by two Peer Mentors, both of whom are women with lived experience and have progressed through Evolve's services themselves. They provide encouragement, reduce isolation, and act as positive role models. Their involvement demonstrates that recovery and independence are achievable, while also ensuring the project reflects the perspectives of those with lived experience. The Board of Trustees, currently made up of five members, will provide governance,

safeguarding oversight and financial accountability. Trustees bring expertise in housing, health, safeguarding and finance, alongside lived experience, ensuring a balanced and robust governance framework. Trustees meet quarterly to review performance, risks and compliance, and receive regular reports against agreed outcomes.

This structure ensures the project is guided by strategic leadership, managed by a skilled Service Manager, delivered by trained Support Workers, enriched by Peer Mentors, and overseen by an engaged Trustee Board. Together they provide the professional expertise, lived experience and governance required to deliver high-quality, trauma- and gender-informed support to young women at risk of criminalisation.

#### How do you plan to continue this work once the grant ends?

Evolve Recovery Homes recognises that grant funding must be used to create sustainable change, not dependency. Our plan is to use this opportunity to strengthen and expand provision for young women aged 18-25, while also building a long-term funding and delivery model that allows the work to continue beyond the life of the grant. A core element of sustainability will come from embedding the project within Evolve's existing housing and recovery model. Because we already operate multiple properties and a range of support programmes, this project will not stand alone but will be fully integrated into our wider service structure. This ensures continuity for participants and makes it easier to absorb costs once grant funding comes to an end. We will also diversify our income. Our current strategy includes securing multi-year grants from a range of charitable foundations, expanding local authority contracts for supported housing, and exploring social investment to strengthen our property base. We are already in discussions with commissioners about the need for gender-specific housing and support for young women at risk of criminalisation, and this project will provide the evidence and outcomes needed to secure statutory support in the future. Alongside external funding, we are developing social enterprise activity linked to supported employment, training and peer-led services. These ventures will generate income that can be reinvested back into the charity, creating an additional funding stream that supports long-term sustainability. We are also committed to ongoing

fundraising through community giving, corporate partnerships and local events, ensuring that our support base is broad rather than reliant on a single funder. Another key factor in sustainability is our focus on capacity building. We invest in staff training, peer mentoring and progression so that women who have benefitted from our services can become part of the workforce. This creates a self-sustaining model where lived experience continues to drive the organisation, and where we are less dependent on external recruitment.

By the end of the grant period we will have gathered robust evidence of impact through Outcome Star data, case studies and partnership feedback. This will allow us to demonstrate to commissioners, funders and stakeholders that our model works and should be supported long-term. We will use this evidence to build new partnerships, strengthen existing ones and secure multi-year commitments.

In summary, while this grant is vital to expand and specialise our work with young women aged 18-25, we do not see it as a time-limited intervention. It will enable us to integrate this focus into our core service, diversify and grow our income, strengthen partnerships with commissioners, and create a sustainable peer-led model that ensures young women continue to have access to safe housing and trauma-informed support long after the grant ends.

Is your organisation led by women and are at least 80% of your organisation's total beneficiaries' women and girls? Please provide a breakdown of your beneficiary numbers for the past 2 years.

Evolve Recovery Homes is both women-led and women-for. Our CEO, Board of Trustees and leadership team are all female, and all frontline staff are women with lived experience of the issues our beneficiaries face. Our services are designed exclusively for women, providing supported housing, recovery programmes and trauma-informed care in safe, women-only environments. We do not provide accommodation to men,

which means more than 95% - and in practice almost 100% - of our beneficiaries are women and girls. The only exceptions are a very small number of dependent children connected to women in our services.

We have been scaling our provision over the last two years and began using a central monitoring system in 2024 to capture data more consistently. Our current portfolio includes 13 community properties and an Intensive Support Suite with 4 apartments and 9 beds, providing around 54 spaces at any one time. With average occupancy of 85-90% and typical stays of 6-9 months, we support more women each year than our total bed spaces might suggest.

In 2023/24, while still scaling, we supported an estimated 80-90 women across our accommodation and recovery services. In 2024/25, with more properties in operation and steady growth, this rose to around 110-120 women. Alongside this, a small number of dependent children were also supported indirectly. These figures mean that consistently over 98% of our direct beneficiaries in both years have been women and girls.

Beyond those in housing, further women engage with our aftercare, outreach and peerled activities, extending our overall reach. Although these participants are not always captured within the formal monitoring system, they represent additional evidence of the impact we are having among women in our community.

While we only have system data for the past year, our organisation has always been exclusively for women, and our referral records and staff reports confirm this has remained consistent since our founding. The only change has been scale: we have expanded the number of properties, increased the number of places available, and steadily grown the number of women supported.

In summary, Evolve is a women-led organisation that exists solely for women and girls. Our governance, leadership and staffing are female, our services are designed to meet gender-specific needs, and our beneficiary profile is overwhelmingly female. In both of the last two years, over 98% of our total beneficiaries have been women and girls. We therefore not only meet but exceed Triangle Trust's requirement that at least 80% of beneficiaries are female.

### Does your organisation have existing knowledge and expertise working across the criminal justice system?

Evolve Recovery Homes has developed strong knowledge and expertise in working with women across the criminal justice system. Many of the young women we support have current or historic involvement with probation, youth offending services or the courts, and our model has been designed to meet their specific needs. Our staff team are trained in trauma-informed practice and motivational interviewing, and bring lived experience that allows them to understand the realities of criminalisation, custody and recovery.

We have established close working relationships with probation services across Yorkshire. Our staff liaise directly with probation officers to coordinate support plans for women subject to licence conditions or community sentences, ensuring that housing and recovery support is aligned with statutory requirements. This joined-up approach means women can meet their obligations while also addressing the underlying issues driving their offending, such as trauma, unstable housing, poor mental health or abusive relationships. Probation colleagues regularly refer women to Evolve because of our reputation for providing safe, women-only accommodation and reliable support that helps reduce reoffending risk.

Our work also extends into prisons. We provide in-reach support to women preparing for release, working alongside prison staff to ensure resettlement plans are realistic and safe. By engaging with women before they leave custody, we can offer a pathway straight into stable accommodation with wraparound support, reducing the risk of homelessness, relapse and reoffending on release. Women leaving prison often face multiple barriers including stigma, lack of housing, and fractured family relationships, and our service offers the secure base and trauma-informed care needed to break this cycle.

Through these partnerships we have built practical knowledge of the criminal justice system and how it impacts women. We understand the gender-specific drivers of offending, including coercion by abusive partners, survival behaviours linked to poverty and homelessness, and the effects of trauma. Our women-only, trauma-informed approach is specifically designed to address these factors and provide credible alternatives to custody.

We are also engaged in wider criminal justice networks, contributing to local safeguarding boards and multi-agency meetings, and sharing our insight as a womenled, lived experience organisation. This ensures that the voices of women in our services are heard within broader policy and commissioning conversations. In summary, Evolve has extensive experience working across the criminal justice system in Yorkshire, both in the community and in custody. Our partnerships with probation and prisons allow us to provide continuity of support from custody through to resettlement, and our trauma-informed, gender-specific expertise ensures that women are given the best possible chance to rebuild their lives and avoid reoffending.

#### Will you be receiving funding from any other sources for this project?

We have £42k local authority funding and bids pending; this grant will focus specifically on young women in the justice system.

Do all staff have enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks? If no please state why.

Yes

Reason why not all staff have DBS checks.

# Total funding requested in this application (£10,000 to £80,000 with a maximum of £40,000 in one year)

£70000

Proposed grant start date	Proposed grant duration in months		
4/1/2026	24		
How much funding is required each year?			
Year 1	Year 2		
£35000	£35000		
What was your organisation's expenditure in the most recent	What was your organisation's annual income in the most recent financial year?		
financial year?	, , , , , , , , , , , ,		
£265397	£265185		

What value of unrestricted reserves did your organisation have at the end of the most recent financial year? £8580