

St. ANTONY'S CENTRE

CASE STUDY PROFORMA

PART A: CONTACT DETAILS

Provider Name	St. Antony's Centre
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PART B: PARTICIPANT CASE STUDY

Participant's Name	Einollah Shabsavan
Date of Birth	16/08/78

Project Overview (*Approximately 100 words*)

Please provide a description of the project, identify what it is the project is delivering, who to (target group) and where (geographic coverage).

This project is a partnership new initiative with Cornerstone, a charity assisting homeless people across Greater Manchester. It will involve providing conversational and accredited courses in English that both help participants integrate more effectively into social life and enhance their prospects of finding work or securing places on vocational courses. The project will support 30 homeless people who currently access Cornerstone's facility for food, health and clothing services alongside help with finding housing and work. Based on consultations with service users and Cornerstone staff it is expected that 5-10 participants will be refugees/asylum seekers.

Participant's Background and Circumstances (*Approximately 250 words*)

Please give details of the participant's background and circumstances prior to joining the project. Include details of the individual's employment status and previous work experience, skills and qualifications obtained prior to commencing on the project, any health issues, care responsibilities or particular barriers faced by the individual.

Einollah was born and raised in Iran where he studied, among other subjects, English to a basic level. After leaving school, Einollah worked in the carpet industry in Tehran before the difficult circumstances in the country forced him to seek asylum in 2011. Einollah's application for asylum was approved and he settled in Manchester. As he had always been keen to learn, Einollah quickly registered for and achieved qualifications in ESOL, IT, football coaching and food and catering. He enrolled on an access course for university in 2014 but became homeless, at which point he was advised by a friend to seek support from Cornerstone, a charity supporting homeless people.

Soon after accessing Cornerstone's services, Einollah began working as a volunteer both out of a desire to help others affected by homelessness and to help him re-integrate into the local community. He combined his voluntary work serving refreshments, washing-up, cutting hair and

shopping for provisions with attending a conversational English class to improve his skills, although he found that he was more advanced than the other participants having already spent 3 years living in the UK and building friendships with local residents.

Einollah was made aware by the Cornerstone's manager of accredited English courses that were being developed with St. Antony's Centre and immediately jumped at the opportunity to start on the course as he wanted to gain a nationally recognised qualification that would help him further integrate and communicate with others, find work and go on to university.

Participant's Achievements (*Approximately 250 words*)

Please describe how the achievements of the participant whilst on the project. Include details of the progress made, skills and qualifications achieved, progress in gaining employment or work experience and barriers which have been overcome. Where activity is ongoing provide an update on progress.

After an initial assessment by his tutor, Einollah was enrolled on a Level 2 Functional Skills English course. He initially undertook his learning as part of a mixed ability group, and his higher level skills meant he was able both to make good progress with his course and to support others in the classroom.

Einollah's preferred learning style is for quiet, private study and he occasionally found some of the noise in the classroom distracting. It was therefore agreed with him that we would attend some additional one-to-one teaching sessions to help him prepare effectively for his exams. This proved of particular benefit in helping Einollah achieve the Writing element of his course which he found the most difficult.

Einollah commented that a big factor in his success was the level of encouragement and support he received from his tutor. He described both his tutor and the other staff he came into contact with as amazing for the way they had helped build his confidence to the extent that he is now regularly volunteering as a teaching assistant in further English courses being delivered at Cornerstone by the Centre. Achieving his English certificate has given Einollah a more positive sense of his own well-being, especially in his ability to speak in public on different subjects.

His experience of the course has inspired him to want to contribute something back to society which he is doing already as a volunteer at Cornerstone. Einollah's next steps are to progress to a higher level of learning, potentially in ICT, and to use the skills, accreditation and experience he has gained to help him find work.