NEWS | Partnerships · Alabaré

New crisis house offers haven for mental health recovery in Wiltshire

Stone Circle is thrilled to announce its latest project with long-standing partner Alabaré, offering short-term residential support to people facing mental health challenges. The 'Crisis House' provides an important, often overlooked, middle ground for those needing extra care, a safe place to recover, as an alternative to hospital environments.

Crisis houses support those within the community battling with their mental health, offering short-term, but impactful, stays of up to 10 days. This critical work provides guests with person-centred, trauma-informed support in a safe space within the community.

Because it feels more like a home than a hospital, guests can stay somewhere comfortable while they get support, with more say in how they are cared for and the space to recover at their own pace. Referrals come through local Mental Health Intensive Support Teams, who are there to help people find the right support when they need it.

This new house joins two others already open in Chippenham and Swindon, meaning there are now three homes across the county providing safe, person-centred care.

We are pleased to announce that the newest house opened this week. It is one of two mixed-gender houses, while the third is for women only. Each house can support up to six guests at a time, with numbers changing according to demand and as guests come and go.

> *"We're incredibly happy to be working with Alabaré once again. They've shown us time and time again how much they care, and the difference they make to people's lives here in Wiltshire. Crisis houses matter because they give people somewhere that feels like home when things get tough, a place to get help and still feel like themselves, rather than environments that can make a hard time even harder. If someone in our community is struggling, we want them to know there's somewhere safe they can turn, and we hope our partnerships make this possible. We are excited to see what we do together next."*
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> Hayley Stockham, Director of Stone Circle Group

This newest crisis house marks our sixth project with Alabaré since our partnership began in 2021. It follows the recent opening of Devizes' first home for veterans who are experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness. Each project brings us closer together, and shows what we can achieve for people in Wiltshire when we work as one team.

> *"Our partnership with Stone Circle ensures continuity of service, providing a comfortable, homely space for people to get the respite and reset they need to move towards improved mental health."*
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> Andrew Lord, Alabaré Chief Executive