

# Talitha Koum



April 2018

Dear supporter of TK

Over the last few weeks we have made you aware of the challenges facing TK. We now want to share some great news with you.

There are two elements to our work.

The first is the Women Together Support Groups with which we continue to be delighted. These are TK's support for women with addictions in the Ipswich and surrounding community, women who don't need rehab but need a safe environment where they can address their addictions in a mutual support group with other women. We have now had 100 women coming to the three groups which meet in different parts of town and see great outcomes there with lives being transformed through the care and support offered.

Then secondly is the Hope Centre which you recall was to have been a niche post-detox facility for women needing rehabilitation for drug and alcohol addictions. That route was closed to us earlier this year.

As we have sought input from others in the recovery world, we have been convinced that the Hope Centre is to be a place of support, love and rehabilitation for women with a **variety of vulnerabilities**, not just drug and alcohol addictions.

We are now progressing the Hope Centre's aim to be the setting for **supported accommodation for vulnerable women**. We are in the midst of registering as supported accommodation with our local Council who are very supportive of what we are trying to achieve. The Hope Centre will have a variety of community activities happening which will aid the therapeutic journey for women and our aim is to **support vulnerable women towards independent living**.

We will be inviting women facing a range of challenging situations to reside in our beautiful rural community setting where they will experience respite, rehabilitation, recovery and refuge.

There are many women who need to turn from a variety of abusive circumstances; some facing domestic violence; others who are street workers longing to break free from that life; victims of sexual assault; those suffering from modern slavery; others who are on the road to recovery from addiction who need a moving on house.

We will be working closely with referring agencies to provide the specific support that a woman will need whilst she stays at the Hope Centre as well as having our own staff providing day to day support.

The funding for this work will have to come from a variety of sources, including women themselves, but also from grant making bodies, churches and supporters such as yourselves. We believe in faith that this funding will come.

The running of the Hope Centre will require someone with the right blend of skills and experience with these different groups of women and their needs; someone skilled in managing volunteers; someone who is comfortable with small enterprise work; someone familiar with local government processes; someone held in high esteem in the recovery world in Ipswich and Suffolk.

I am, therefore, delighted to tell you that Marlene Scrivener, just such a person, has now joined TK to run the Hope Centre.

Marlene comes to us from SELIG where she has been working as a support worker in the Ipswich Winter Night Shelter and Hope into Action operations. With volunteer, nursing and management experience behind her, Marlene is ideally suited to this new role and we are excited to have her on board!

I am pleased to point you towards the advertisement that SELIG have put out to replace Marlene - you can find this at [www.selig.org.uk](http://www.selig.org.uk).

Thank you for your ongoing support. Having been through disappointment, we are now facing the excitement of our first women coming to the Centre hopefully very soon. We hope that you will join us in celebrating this and will of course keep you informed about that progress.

In the meantime, we would be delighted to see you on May 12<sup>th</sup> at St John the Baptist Church in Cauldwell Hall Road, Ipswich IP4 4QE for an evening of musical entertainment from the Community Light Orchestra (7.30pm – free admission) and on Thursday June 21<sup>st</sup> for an Open Morning at the Hope Centre to celebrate Suffolk Day (10.00am to 12.00noon).

Warm regards



Ken Donaldson  
Project Director

Talitha Koum, The Hope Centre, Wash Lane, Witnesham, Suffolk IP6 9JE

Tel: 01473 857432 • Mob: 07935 058685

Email: [admin@talithakoum.org.uk](mailto:admin@talithakoum.org.uk) • [www.talithakoum.org.uk](http://www.talithakoum.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1135528 • Company Number 07137899

Talitha Koum is a trading name of Talitha Koum Community Limited, a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee