

# St Giles

## SOS+ Programme

**St Giles aims to break the cycle of prison, crime and disadvantage to create safer communities by supporting people to change their lives.**

**We use expertise and lived experiences to empower people who are not getting the help they need, who are hard to engage because they have been repeatedly failed – held back by poverty, exploited, abused, dealing with mental health problems, caught up in crime or a combination of these issues.**

We train 'Peer Advisors' to become qualified in Level 3 Information, Advice and Guidance.

They use this qualification and their lived experience to inspire and support people facing similar situations. Being helped by someone who has 'been there' is powerful and underpins all our projects.

### **SOS+ SERVICE**

St Giles' SOS+ Service delivers early intervention work in educational and community settings, through preventative sessions on violence, vulnerability and exploitation. Our award-winning approach uses trained professionals with lived experience of the criminal justice system to de-glamorise gang involvement and expose the harsh realities of crime and violence.

SOS+ delivers educational sessions that tackle the issues of county lines drug smuggling, gangs, and knife crime to young people who are vulnerable and at risk of exploitation, alongside providing training and awareness sessions on these topics to parents, teachers and other professionals.

### **SOS+ PROJECT AIMS**

- Prevent young people becoming involved in serious youth violence and criminal

activity by demystifying gang culture and educating them about the harsh realities of knife crime and prison life;

- Impart real tools that young people can utilise to make better informed decisions and to avoid negative lifestyle choices;
- Endorse the benefits of education;
- Equip parents and professionals with the knowledge, understanding and tools to help safeguard their young people.

### **OUR WORK HAS THREE THEMES:**

**Building safety:** most clients cannot focus on longer-term aspirations until they feel safe and secure. Our staff support clients to immediately address these needs.

**Building aspirations:** We support clients to build up the skills, confidence and resilience needed to create and to re-engage with education, training and employment.

**Building connections:** All our clients experience social isolation. We support them to develop the tools to become create positive relationships within their community.

**SOS+ webinars -**  
click to open

**Parent's webinars with 90 min Q&A session**

**Friday 26th February 5-6pm**

**Fri 12th March 5-6pm**

**Thurs 22nd April 5-6pm**

**St Giles**

Turning a past into a future

St Giles is a registered charity No 801355.

St Giles Head office, 64-68 Camberwell Church St, London, SE5 8JB.

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# St Giles

SOS+ Programme

Turning a past into a future

## SOS+ GANGS AND COUNTY LINES PARENTS' AWARENESS SESSION

60 minute webinar for parents followed optional live Q&A

### Parents' sessions

Our gangs & county lines parents' session consists of speakers utilising their lived experience within the criminal justice system to unpack and explore the realities and consequences of county lines, gang involvement, and serious youth violence.

Perspectives from previous perpetrators and runners/transporters, combined with relevant case studies, aid audiences in gaining an authentic and credible understanding of this complex and cross cutting issue.

The session will help parents and carers to identify signs and triggers that a child/young person might be involved in county lines and gain an understanding of how to appropriately respond to such indicators.

### SOS+ parents' session aims:

All participants will leave the session able to:

- ⊙ Define the term county lines;
- ⊙ Outline the methods used to groom, recruit and exploit young people;
- ⊙ Have an awareness of the push and pull factors that contribute to a young person becoming vulnerable and susceptible to county lines involvement;
- ⊙ List the risks and consequences of county lines involvement;
- ⊙ Recognise key signs and indicators that young people are being exploited or at risk of county lines involvement;
- ⊙ Understand the perspective of either a survivor or perpetrator after hearing from an expert witness, including a brief overview of how girls are used;
- ⊙ Facilitate a safe place within the household to encourage healthy conversations;
- ⊙ Identify the services available to support a young person at risk of or involved in county lines, and the conventional referral processes;
- ⊙ Utilise practical advice and approaches to keep young people safe, including preventing and reducing risks associated with each stage of the county lines process.

### CONTACT SOS+

#### Bookings and enquiries

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