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Support and friendship
for families

Home-Start
Stoke-on-Trent

6th April 2011

To All Referrers

Dear Referrer

We hope that you are well.

I am writing to inform you of our current situation now that the New Year has finally started and many uncertainties have been resolved.

As you know we suspended any new referrals whilst our own uncertainties have been dealt with. I am pleased to say that we have received confirmation of a 6 months contract extension for our scheme and so as of 1st May 2011 we will be open to new referrals.

We have been spending time reducing our caseloads in preparation for the budget cuts and reduced funding, all of which has now come to fruition, and we just need these next few weeks to consolidate and re structure.

Regarding new referral forms for your use, please feel free to photocopy or download from our website: www.homestartstoke.org.uk, they are of a new design to fit with the new monitoring and evaluation system that we are adopting from our national organisation Home-Start UK. They will enable us to provide reports and statistics to support an improved evaluation of our service in the future. Additional forms can also be obtained from the office.

If you have made a recent referral on the old forms, please don't worry as we will be accepting these up to the end of September, after this time we will return any referrals on the old forms for you to complete on the new form.

We are pleased to be able to confirm that we are to continue to provide our service to you and to families across the City for another year and look forward to working in partnership with you all again. In this much more difficult environment where pressures on families and our services will be in even greater demand partnerships are going to be even more important.

Should you wish to discuss any issues relating to our service then please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Chris Pointon

Chris Pointon
Scheme Manager