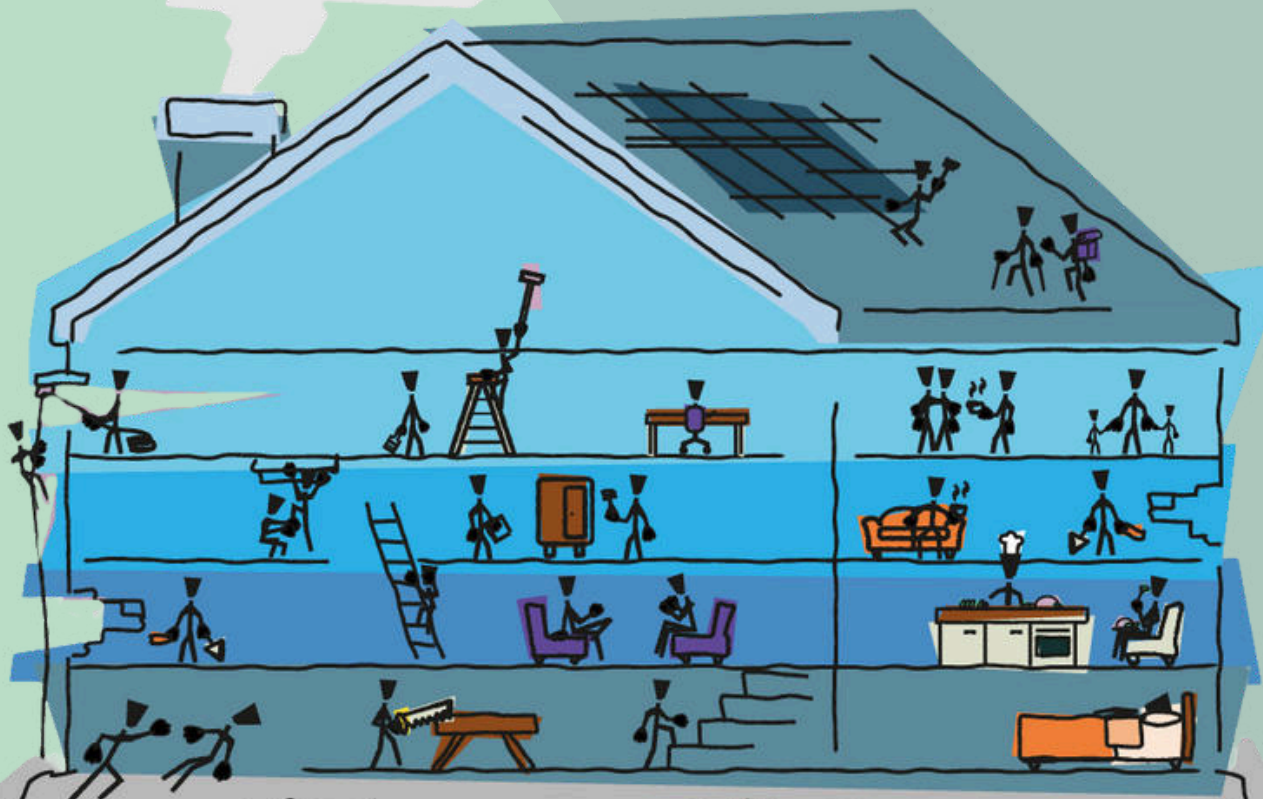




HANDCRAFTED
A HOPE + A FUTURE

IMPACT REPORT

JAN - JUN 2025





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For full details on how we measure impact
please visit:

www.handcrafted.org.uk/publications

**A HOPE
+ A FUTURE**

THE HANDCRAFTED STORY

Handcrafted is a charity based in the North-East founded in 2012.

We aim to empower the most vulnerable people in society to do the hard day-to-day work of turning their lives around by providing them with housing, support, training and opportunities.

We have developed a sustainable hub model to deliver our person-centred, holistic approach. And have scaled it across the North-East, first in Durham then to Chester-Le-Street, Gateshead and, recently, Sunderland.

Our hubs are based in areas of high deprivation to provide a welcoming community and holistic support. We ensure our hubs are flexible, able to adapt to their area's specific needs by working alongside local councils, community groups and organisations.

The focus of our work is supporting people with multiple, complex needs from disadvantaged backgrounds, who we find most benefit from a holistic approach designed to meet their interconnected needs.

Their needs include a combination of factors such as homelessness, unemployment, leaving care, leaving prison, seeking asylum, addiction, mental health issues, disability, and domestic abuse.

In 2023, we began our specialist young person's provision for 16-25s, the Engage Hub. They work across all of our areas supporting and housing young asylum-seekers and refugees, and care leavers with complex needs.



THE HANDCRAFTED STORY

HANDCRAFTED IS MISSION-LED

Everything we do is rooted in & driven by our missions statement. The mission statement not only serves as a North Star, guiding us in our decisions, it also reflects our very core beliefs on **how lives can be transformed**.

What we measure as an organisation is also anchored in this mission statement:



We hope that this small snapshot report is a helpful insight into the impact of our work in H1 2025.

- **The Handcrafted Team**

1. INPUTS



FINANCES

We've raised **£1.4 million** so far this year, including over **£400,000** of grants and donations



TEAM

We have recruited and trained up **5** new training and support staff taking us up to **41 people** and **32.2** FTE



HOMES

We acquired **7** more houses, so we can now offer **86** quality supported homes with **119 bedspaces**



HUBS

We have **4 hubs** across the North East plus **3 more** dedicated teams providing communities of support to young people, asylum seekers, and women

NEW!!!

NEW PROJECTS INCLUDE
THIS PLASTICS RECYCLING
ROOM IN GATESHEAD



2. NEEDS



WE WORKED WITH 150 NEW REFERRALS:

50 were referred with a combination of 3 or more complex support needs including mental health issues, drug or alcohol dependency, or homelessness

WE SUPPORTED 564 INDIVIDUALS IN TOTAL

49 young asylum seekers and refugees

102 ex offenders

100 young care leavers

91 affected by domestic abuse

Megan is a resilient young care leaver who has faced significant challenges, including time in prison and being turned away by other organisations due to her offending background and chaotic lifestyle.

Despite this, she is focused on building a better future and is engaging well with our housing and support.

Abdul fled on a 5,000-mile journey, fighting to survive for 18 months at the age of just 14. Abdul's father had served in the Afghan military and lost his life to Taliban reprisals.

Abdul had then been evicted from other supported housing due to damaging property. He faced homelessness but Handcrafted believes that everyone deserves another chance and settled him into one of our homes.

3. OUTPUTS



9,384 gathered activity attendances

110 people housed

5,370 support visits

661 completed projects

55 trainees provided with helping roles

NEW!!



6 people have taken on paid work placements with Handcrafted including Amber

Amber was a young care leaver attending a local college to study art, but her confidence took a knock. With us she played a huge part in printing 400 'Made with Purpose' hoodies, which we gifted to trainees and residents..

"I now feel more confident in going into an art job – it's made me realise that I actually know, and can do more than I think."



4. OUTCOMES



TRAINEE FEEDBACK

"Handcrafted has helped me find meaningful use of my time" (95%)

"I've made something at Handcrafted that I am proud of" (93%)

"I feel welcome and part of a community" (98%)

"It has a positive impact on my mental health" (93%)

"I have learned new ways to meet the challenges I face" (89%)

METRICS

60 residents **maintaining their tenancy** for 12+ months

25 residents in process of moving to **independent** housing

43 trainees completed Entry level 3 **qualifications**

16 beneficiaries taking a **leading role** in delivering sessions

42 people into **employment and volunteering**

"BUT WHAT OVERALL IMPACT DOES THIS ALL HAVE?"



5. IMPACT: MAINTAINING STABILITY

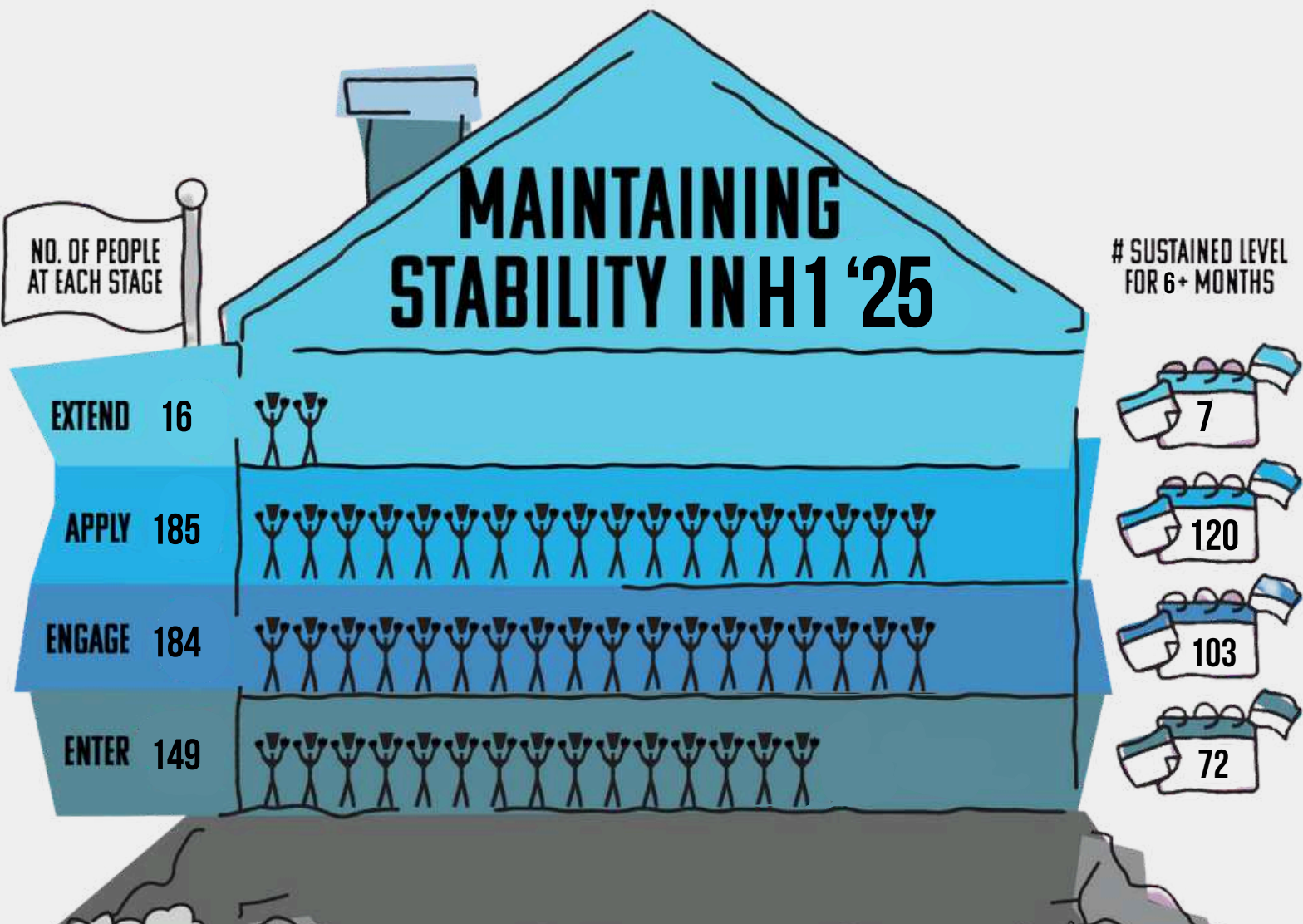
Stability measurements enable us to highlight that reaching and maintaining a level is in itself a positive in the lives of our trainees.

4 STAGES:



At referral, we identify the relevant areas of need, then we measure Four Stages of empowerment in each area:

- 1) **Entering** – “I am open to using resources available to me with some support.”
- 2) **Engaging** – “I am using my own initiative and taking hold of opportunities.”
- 3) **Applying** – “I have my own ideas of what I want to do using my new skills.”
- 4) **Extending** – “I am looking beyond myself, to build up my community.” OR “I am taking steps to strike out on my own without needing support.”



5. IMPACT: DISTANCE TRAVELLED

Distance travelled measurements give an indication of overall positive progress our trainees have made in different areas.

WE LOOK TO SEE PEOPLE EMPOWERED IN 5 AREAS:



- 1) **Living Space** - A safe place to live that feels like home
- 2) **Using Time** - Something meaningful to do each day
- 3) **Social Life** - People to talk to and a good support network
- 4) **Self Confidence** - Trust in our own abilities and having something to give
- 5) **Coping Strategies** - Ways to cope and bounce back when things get tough

DISTANCE TRAVELLED IN H1 '25

AREA	# OF TRAINEES	AVERAGE NO. OF STAGES PROGRESSED
LIVING SPACE	51	+ 1.5
USING TIME	186	+ 1.6
SOCIAL LIFE	201	+ 1.6
SELF CONFIDENCE	187	+ 1.6
COPING STRATEGIES	126	+ 1.7

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Handcrafted is able to continue empowering the most vulnerable people in society because of the generous support of our funders, referrers & wider Handcrafted family. We immensely value all contributions towards our mission.

If you would like to support us there are 5 key ways you can do so:



REGULAR DONATION



INVESTING IN ONE OF OUR HOUSES



BUYING PRODUCTS OR COMMISSIONING WORK FROM US



VOLUNTEERING WITH US



PRAYER SUPPORT

For full details on supporting our work please visit:

www.handcrafted.org.uk/contribute/