# **Meet the Team**



Mike
Crisis Alternatives
Coordinator



Jan



**Adrian** 

**Crisis Alternatives Advocates** 



Lawrence



Del

**Crisis Alternatives Peer Supporters** 

For enquiries about the Touch Base Project, please contact Mike Clarke









# The Touch Base Project



# A Crisis Alternatives Service for Autistic Adults

Kent & Medway

#### What we offer:

- Up to 8-weeks of 1-to-1 Self Advocacy Support
- Peer Support Groups with a Mental Health Focus
  - Seasonal Projects and Trips
- Some Face-to-Face Meetings in the Community
  - Phone, Text and Online Support via Zoom





## The Touch Base Project is for:

Adults (aged 18 and over)

Who live in Kent or Medway

Who have **an official diagnosis** of autism or Asperger's or are on the waiting list for assessment

Who have additional mental health needs

Who are at risk of reaching a crisis

#### **Referrals Routes:**

- Self-referral
- KCC or Medway Council Social Work Teams
- Kent and Medway NHS Trust Assessment Teams

Please download our referral form from our website.

#### **Our Aims**

To offer support and inspiration to all individuals in a creative and stress-free environment.

To achieve an environment of stress-free creativity alongside an ethos, that we all have equality in our thoughts, reality in our visions and a future in our dreams.

To foster a space where we can make things happen, think bigger and speak out louder and be comfortable to act as ourselves.

To "live like no-one's watching."

### More About the Touch Base Project:

The Touch Base Project provides a detailed, individual, and specific mental health service for **autistic adults** experiencing **mental health distress**.

Our aim is to prevent a crisis.

We cannot support those who are already in a crisis and who need clinical intervention.

#### 1-to-1 Self Advocacy

Each of our members is allocated an advocate, who can provide 6 weeks of self advocacy. Alongside your advocate you will discuss and agree a goal of a change that you would like to make which would improve your mental health and wellbeing. This support will either be face-to-face in the community or remotely via telephone, text, email, or Zoom. We do not work in people's homes. The intervention can be extended by an additional 2 weeks, if needed.

#### **Peer Support Groups**

Our support groups are run with the help of Peer Supporters, staff with lived experience of Autism and mental health issues. These groups have a range of formats and cover a number of topics: from drop-ins to target-driven projects, from art to videogames. This is a chance to speak to people who might understand the issues you are facing.

#### Signposting

We can support you to identify suitable sources of support from a range of local and national organisations and services. We can also suggest ways to help you communicate your needs effectively.

The Touch Base Project is part of our SEAS (South East Autism Support) programme. Please ask for more information about what is currently available in your area.