



The Cornerstone Partnership - a proven track record of improving lives of people touched by the care system

User Led Innovation from a User Led Social Enterprise - we examine the underlying issues through an end user lens, develop then test an intervention or service model creating an evidence base for implementation and a template for replicating at scale.

Our solutions are User Led, Practical, Replicable – more importantly, they work .

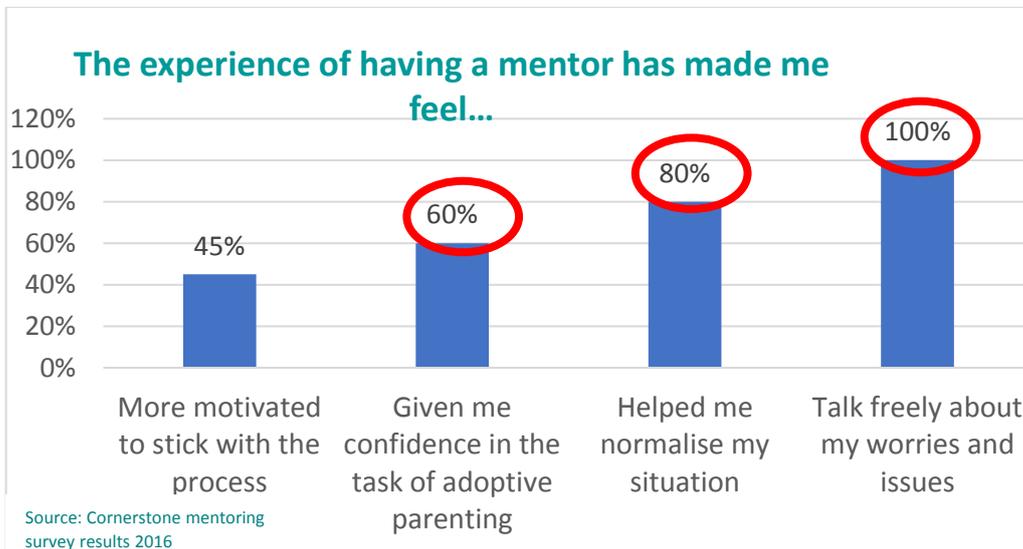
Since inception in 2015 we have run our **Peer to Peer Mentoring** and **Restorative Parenting Training Programme** in 12 local authorities' adoption agencies and are now implementing a National Licensing Programme. Our contemporary **Foster Carer Recruitment and Retention Model** was developed and tested in 2015/16 and is already generating "outstanding" results in the 3 local authorities and 1 Trust in which it has been deployed.



Impact & Evaluation team independently evaluated the success of the Cornerstone Partnership adoption programme in January 2017

Cornerstone demonstrated "*an extremely positive impact on adopters*", accelerated placement of children in particular those considered harder to place, prevented placement breakdowns, freed up social worker capacity and generated income to every participant through the external placement of well prepared and therefore sought after adopters. Cornerstone's adoption model has been recognised by Ofsted in every participating local authority inspected to date.

Structured Peer to Peer Mentoring: face to face or phone/ email, unlimited, personalised emotional support at every step of the adoption journey – mentoring can make the difference between a stable placement and one at risk of breakdown...and the rigour of the structured mentoring model provides assurance that this is done safely, with in-built protection for all.



"I think Cornerstone is amazing. I genuinely feel like [the mentor] saved our placement from breakdown. We were absolutely in crisis. I think it should be mandatory to have a Cornerstone mentor ... to really make a massive difference to people's lives."

Hounslow, mentoring

Source: Coram Evaluation Report 2017

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Restorative Parenting Training Programme – a three-day course informed by Dyadic Developmental Practice and led by a qualified therapist and an experienced adopter, providing theory alongside real lived experience and making all the difference in terms of impact... Cornerstone’s training changes people’s behaviour and their approach to parenting to the benefit of children placed.

94% of adopters who responded thought that what they had learned in sessions would benefit or had already benefited their adopted child

Source: Coram evaluation report 2017

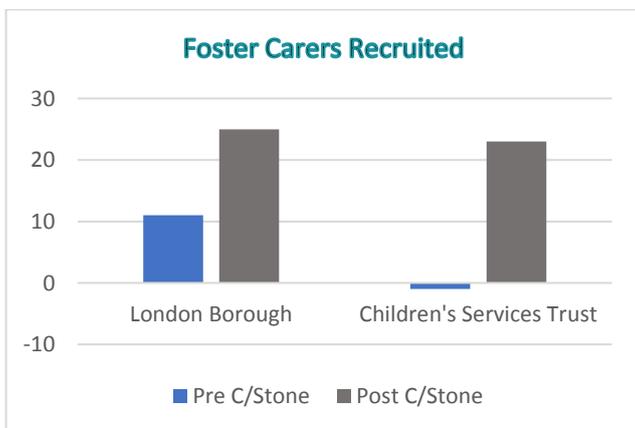


68% of adopters noticed an improvement in their child's behaviour as a result of the parent's receiving training

Source: Coram evaluation report 2017

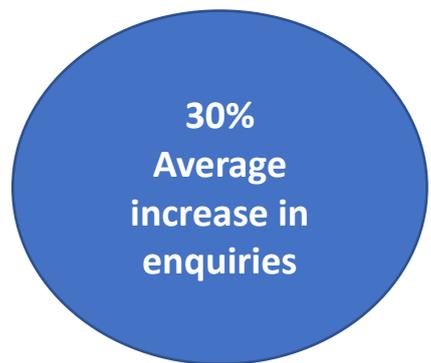
- **Improved** understanding of adopted children’s needs - All adopters who attended felt that the training had improved their understanding
- **“Outstanding”** quality - All adopters agreed the quality of training was "outstanding" compared to any other training attended
- **Complementary** to other training offered - Training complemented local authority preparation and offered a more "solution focused" approach.
- **Cost savings** in all pilot areas and income generation from the external placement of well-prepared adopters in every LA ranging from £68k to £486k

Foster Carer Recruitment and Retention Model – Cornerstone works with the in-house team to first analyse and diagnose the barriers to recruitment before developing a targeted and multi channel recruitment strategy that emphasises face to face contact with existing carers through an event based marketing plan. Adding in peer mentoring to ensure both new recruits and existing carers stay motivated, connected with the service and confident in what is a critical role for the long-term well-being of children.



ROI

Cost savings from 1) fewer IFA placements giving a typical saving of £265k annually (300+% ROI) AND 2) reducing placement breakdown rates generating total indicative savings ranging from £2m to £3.3m



“Cornerstone set out to test a new approach to the recruitment of in house foster carers which centred on targeted, face to face promotion supported by press and social media instead of blanket / generic in direct marketing and advertising. We tested a variety of channels and audiences and found clear trends which we used to hone the approach and in doing so supported the service to achieve a 30% uplift in enquiries”.

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