## **TK Report for Parish Meeting**

The Hope Centre currently has 8 residents, with 3 empty rooms at present.

Over the last 12 months the Hope Centre has helped several women rebuild their lives and successfully move onto independent living in the community. We continue to support our ex residents with telephone support and advice when it is needed.

Since Covid began we have seen an increase in domestic violence against women and most of our referrals recently have been as a result of women fleeing from this. We offer support and guidance for our residents and signposting towards other services that can assist them.

We have several projects that our residents become involved in during their time with us such as gardening projects, cookery workshops, community volunteering projects, workshops on managing debt, health workshops and domestic violence workshops. Our residents also make use of our well stocked arts and crafts room, making cards, cushions, pictures and other items which they then sell to the local community. The funds that they raise help to finance the arts and crafts projects that we run.

We are very thankful to our generous benefactors that make regular financial donations to us which help us to continue to run as a charity.

We have recently installed solar panels at the Hope Centre to help us to become more self sufficient in the wake of constant rises in prices of gas and electricity. The ladies also have a vegetable patch where they grow their own vegetables. It is very beneficial for our ladies to plant seeds and to nurture them and watch them grow.

The Hope Centre is a place of safety, peace and sanctuary where our residents can come to rebuild themselves and look to a brighter future after life's circumstances have led them to become vulnerable. We have a committed and dedicated team of support workers who work with our residents and we now offer a 7 day service to our ladies to ensure that they feel supported by staff, no matter what day of the week it is.

Thank you to everyone in the parish that has supported our work in the past and we look forward to continuing to build our relationship within the community.