



Economic
and Social
Research Council



***Understanding the support needs of the dependents of modern slavery survivors:
An embedded case study.***

ESRC DTP Collaborative Studentship

University of Nottingham and CityHearts

The Midlands Graduate School is an accredited Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP). One of 14 such partnerships in the UK, the Midlands Graduate School is a collaboration between the University of Warwick, Aston University, University of Birmingham, University of Leicester, Loughborough University and the University of Nottingham.

The University of Nottingham as part of Midlands Graduate School is now inviting applications for an ESRC Doctoral Studentship in association with our collaborative partner CityHearts to commence in October 2021.

Supervised by Dr Nicola Wright (University of Nottingham), Dr Andrea Nicholson (University of Nottingham), Prof Kevin Bales (University of Nottingham) and Mr Phill Clayton (CityHearts). This studentship offers a unique opportunity to explore the experiences, needs and support provision for dependents of those who have survived modern slavery-

There is an emerging evidence base in relation to the wide range of health and social needs that survivors of modern slavery have as a result of their experiences. It is acknowledged that some survivors may have dependents (e.g. children). However, support for dependents is not funded through the UK's official channels. This means that some organisations have considered not providing support to families. The support needs of dependents and families and how best to meet these are under-reported in the literature.

The studentship will address these important evidence gaps and also inform policy and organisational change. The project will focus on the following research questions:

- (1) What are the physical, mental and social support needs of dependents of modern slavery survivors?
- (2) What are the factors that facilitate or hinder dependents in accessing support?
- (3) What are the strengths, coping strategies and resiliencies that dependents use to maintain their health and wellbeing?

The student will undertake a qualitative case study utilising observation and interviews. The research will take a participatory approach underpinned by the "researcher in residence" model (also known as embedded research). This approach embraces the co-creation of knowledge between researchers, practitioners and survivors. Adopting a researcher in residence model, the successful student will be co-located between the University of Nottingham and CityHearts. CityHearts is a Sheffield based NGO offering a range of services including crisis safe houses, long-term

support and employment programmes. Situated for part of time within the Development Department, the student will experience many support environments across the organisation. For further information about CityHearts: <https://cityhearts.global/>.

Application Process

To be considered for this PhD, please complete the Collaborative Studentship application form [available online here](#) and email this to Jonathan Roe: jonathan.roe@nottingham.ac.uk along with a CV (2 page max) and cover letter (1 page max). Shortlisted applicants will also be required to provide two references.

Application deadline: 2nd March 2021. Interviews to be held by Microsoft Teams on 11th March 2021.

Midlands Graduate School ESRC DTP

Our ESRC studentships cover fees at the home rate, a maintenance stipend, and extensive support for research training, as well as research activity support grants. Support is available to both home and international applicants. For further details, visit: www.mgsdtp.ac.uk/studentships/eligibility/.

Informal enquiries prior to application can be directed to Dr Nicola Wright: nicola.wright@nottingham.ac.uk. Please note applications sent directly to this address will not be accepted.