

Press Release



University of
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MANCHESTER



Meet the students supporting vital work at Salford Foundation

As part of a strategic partnership, students from across Schools at the University of Salford have volunteered to provide critical support to vulnerable people at Salford Foundation.

Working mainly with service users at the charity's **Women's Centre**, many of whom have complex issues, including being victims or survivors of domestic abuse, students are able to test the skills they have learned at University in a real-world environment, while also benefiting the Salford city community.

Millie, a recent Law and Criminology graduate of University of Salford's Business School, successfully applied for a student placement working with the *SILKS* law clinic. This allows students to help advise on legal matters within the community alongside qualified solicitors. Millie worked closely with the Women's Service team, Millie provided pro bono legal advice to service users; working on complex cases anchored in the principles of family law, she was able to make a real difference to the lives of people within Salford.

"I'd like to thank the Salford Foundation for giving me such an incredible opportunity to work on real life cases," Millie said. ***"The charity provides a vital service in the Salford community, offering a safe space for women to access the help and support they need. I'm so glad I was able to be a part of the services offered. Learning in this practical way taught me to be personable and professional. I was required to carry out legal research across a range of different areas. The experience really helped to inform my decision to pursue a career in law after University."***

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The University's partnership with Salford Foundation goes deeper, with students at the **School of Health and Society** also undertaking social work placements with the charity. **Cathy Deihim, Employability Advisor at the School of Health and Society**, supports undergraduate students on non-allied health-related programmes. This includes Psychology, Sociology and Criminology.

Cathy said: ***"We have worked with Salford Foundation extensively, and it has proved to be an immensely important relationship. Their service users are referred via the Probation Service, and our students are able to gain very useful experience working with them providing counselling and therapeutic support. It's vital that students have the opportunity to meet real people and have the chance to apply their learning in authentic, human situations."***

Maggie Langhorn, Deputy CEO at Salford Foundation, added: ***"We're proud to work alongside the University of Salford to create opportunities for the next generation of our workforce. Working at Salford Foundation can be challenging, as we support a lot of vulnerable service users with complex needs and situations. Unfortunately, these challenges are replicated in the working world within the social work and legal professions, so exposing students to these situations early in their career can be a really beneficial experience for young people."***

Louise Hall, Senior Lecturer in Law, Solicitor, and SILKS lead at Salford Business School, further commented: ***"At the University of Salford, we're industry-led, and we look to make our students as employable as possible when they graduate. With something like law or social work, on-the-job training can be invaluable while you are studying. I'm so proud of how our students have worked alongside Salford Foundation to deliver services to the residents in Salford who need it most. Long may the partnership continue!"***

Press

Will Walton, Digital Marketing Officer
07549 211975
will.walton@salfordfoundation.org.uk

Charity/Corporate Partnerships

Helen Fenton, Corporate Fundraiser
07889 231103
helen.fenton@salfordfoundation.org.uk