Fifty things about Sacro



Its Mission

Sacro's mission is to deliver life-changing services that empower people, give hope and protection, and help to build safe communities.

With people and communities at its heart, Sacro provides a wide range of services in community justice, public protection, care and housing across Scotland.

Since 1971, the organisation has been a pioneer in establishing ground-breaking services across the country with the aim of making Scotland a place of safety, inclusiveness, and wellbeing for everyone.

By designing its services on sound evidence and focusing on individual needs, Sacro has supported and empowered thousands of people across Scotland to change their lives for the better.

"I like having someone who is passionate about my wellbeing. My worker makes me feel safe to speak about the work I am involved in and I have always felt judged in the past.

"My worker is the only person I feel 100% safe in opening up to."

Woman supported by Another Way Service

INVESTORS IN PE©PLE™ We invest in people Gold

Sacro's commitment to the care, development and wellbeing of its employees has earned it Gold accreditation with Investors in People.

Fewer than one in five of all organisations accredited with IiP have achieved the Gold award standard.

















Sacro, its people and its services have won many independent awards over the years.

"Sacro was instrumental in setting up a number of innovative services; practically all of them the first of their kind in Scotland."

I joined Sacro in 1990 at a time of significant transformation. What had previously been a collection of local campaigning committees – setting up disparate and independent local services – was shortly to become a national body overseeing national standards and advising on funding streams. I believe it was around this time that the real roots of modern Sacro took hold.

Sacro was instrumental in setting up a number of innovative services; practically all of them the first of their kind in Scotland.

Coming to work was a pleasure and there was a genuine pioneer spirit as we pressed forward in new areas like community mediation, restorative justice, supervised bail, throughcare and intensive support to name but a few.

It's hard to overstate the impact Sacro made on community justice at this time; much of which is still evident to this day.

Keith Simpson

Former Head of Development and Research, Sacro.

SERVICE USERS AT THE HEART OF WHAT WE DO DESIGNING OUR SERVICES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PEOPLE

PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

SUPPORTING INDIVIDUAL JOURNEYS AND WELLBEING SUPPORTING AND HELPING TO KEEP COMMUNITIES SAFE Sacro's strategy places people and communities at the front and centre of everything we do.



1994	Forensic Psychiatrist, Royal Edinburgh Hospital	2007	Director of The Centre for Crime & Justice
1995	The Rt Hon the Lord McCluskey Senator of the College of Justice	2008	/
1996	Roy Cameron Chief Constable, Lothian and Borders Police		Chair of The Scottish Prisons Commission and former First Minister of Scotland
1997	Baroness Vivien Stern King's College London. International Centre for Prison Studies	2009	Hugh Monro CBE HM Chief Inspector of Prisons in Scotland
		2010	Kenny Macaskill MSP Cabinet Secretary for Justice
1998	Cedric Fullwood Chief Probation Officer, Greater Manchester	2011	Terry Waite CBE Humanitarian and Author
1999	Dr Andrew Coyle International Centre for Prison Studies	2012	Colin McConnell
2000	Dr Neil Hutton Centre for Sentencing Research	2013	Chief Executive, Scottish Prison Service Lord Carloway
2001	Professor David Smith	2014	Lord Justice Clerk
	Professor of Criminology, University of Edinburgh		John Scott QC
2002	Mrs Elish Angiolini QC The Solicitor General for Scotland	2015	Arun Gandhi Humanitarian and Grandson of India's Legendary Leader, Mohandas K. "Mahatma" Gandhi
2003	Rod Morgan HM Chief Inspector of Probation for England & Wales		
		2016	Erwin James Author and Newspaper Columnist
2004	Kathleen Marshall Commissioner for Children and Young People in Scotland	2017	Dr Claire Lightowler Director of The Centre for Youth & Criminal Justice
2005	Dr Barry Goldson Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work Studies at the University of Liverpool	2018	Baroness Helena Kennedy QC
		2019	David Wilson Broadcaster and Emeritus Professor of
2006	Andrew McLellan HM Chief Inspector of Prisons		Criminology, Birmingham City University

Names and indicated roles are current at the time of lecture.

"10 out of 10! It was really good and made my son really think about what he had done. Everybody we worked with was really understanding and there was no judgement.

"Because the worker spoke to him like a normal person, he was able to open up to her."

Parent of participant with Fife Youth Justice Service

I recall a meeting I had with Michael Forsyth MP, the UK Secretary of State for Scotland that resulted in the first intensive support provision for high-risk offenders in Scotland.

Although scheduled as a general discussion about Sacro's work, the Secretary of State was instead keen only to discuss the centre page spread in one of the day's newspapers, showing "mug shots" of Scottish convicted sex-offenders. The accompanying article challenged the government to keep society safe from these men, on their eventual release from prison. Mr Forsyth asked what Sacro could do for the government to prevent these men offending again. My response was that I would discuss this with Sacro's experienced team and that we would design a service to achieve this goal.

Sacro's Senior Manager, Keith Simpson, aided by some other skilled staff with comprehensive knowledge of working with sex-offenders, quickly drafted protocols and recruited an experienced workforce – made up mainly of ex-prison officers – to provide 24/7 monitoring. Government funding was provided and the service became the Intensive Support and Monitoring Service.

A forerunner to today's Intensive Support Packages, Sacro's ISMS laid the groundwork for this important community safety provision.

An MSP once commented to me that he was grateful that Sacro was brave enough to supervise these dangerous and high profile offenders, especially given the potential for reputational risk for the organisation!

Susan Matheson

Former Chief Executive, Sacro.

I joined Sacro shortly after arriving in Scotland from New Zealand, working as a researcher and volunteering with the Restorative Justice service.

I got so much from the attitude, approach, and ethics shown by the people who worked there. They do stuff that other people just don't want to do. It's complex, sensitive work and it's not easy.

So many of the talented people I have worked with in Sacro have had a massive influence on me.

Dr Steve Kirkwood

Senior Lecturer in Social Work & Director of Postgraduate Research, The University of Edinburgh. Former Research Officer at Sacro.

"They do stuff that other people just don't want to do. It's complex, sensitive work and it's not easy."

Sacro's Veterans Mentoring Service (VMS) supports men and women who have completed service within the UK Armed Forces and are at risk of becoming involved or are already involved in the criminal justice system. It is also a preventative service for those veterans on the periphery of the criminal justice system and used as a means of early intervention.

VMS is an intensive mentoring and one-to-one peer support service that is focussed on supporting veterans, the mentees, at a time of significant challenge in their lives. It assists mentees to recognise and develop their life skills including accessing education and employment training, sustaining their tenancies and accommodation and building the confidence to make critical changes in their lives

94% of those engaging with Sacro's Veterans Mentoring Service stated their offending is now in the past.

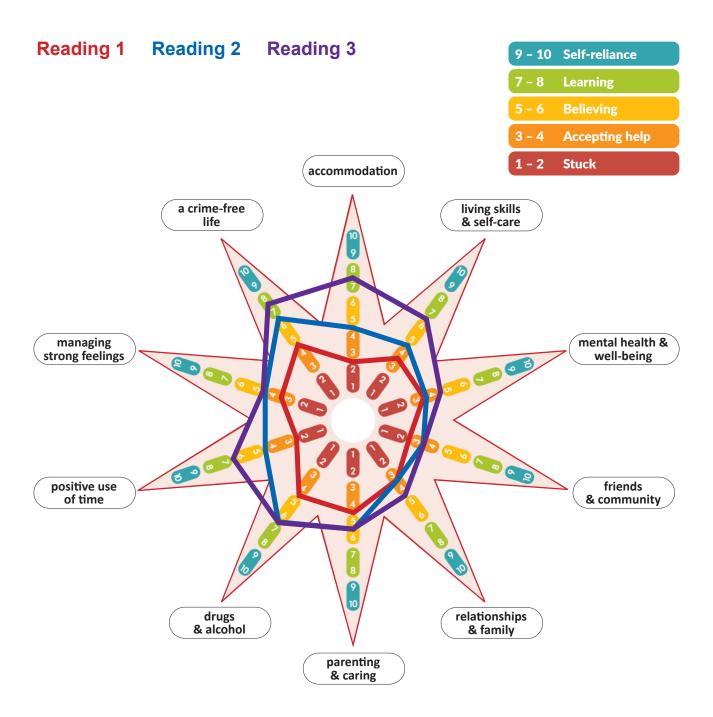


Its Monitoring

Sacro uses the Outcomes Star[™] tool to analyse how a person using one of our services is responding to the service. The tool provides a valuable, evidence-based way of measuring and visualising their outcomes.

The individual nature of the analysis and its ability to accurately identify a person's needs provides an invaluable insight into how best to tailor an intervention to achieve the best outcome possible.

There are eight Stars now in use in Sacro services, analysing: Homelessness, Justice, Empowerment, Tenancy, Work, Youth, Life and Community.



From Sacro's 1995 Annual Report:

"200 delegates attended Sacro's 1994 National Conference on Women Offenders - Towards a Positive Strategy. Among other speakers, Helena Kennedy QC spoke about the unequal way in which the criminal justice system treats women offenders; a lively participative debate, chaired by Margo McDonald, looked at opportunities for change."

24 years later in 2018, Baroness Helena Kennedy QC delivered the Sacro Lecture on the treatment of women in the criminal justice system.



"It was a very pleasant surprise this morning to see the Sacro team of four doing superb work such as edging the grass and making the park look at its best.

"I took a few minutes to talk with one of the chaps who explained the work they have been doing recently in the park such as restoring and expanding the trails and working with a local nursery so that infants can enjoy the space.

"Can you please pass on my thanks to him and the other chaps, including the couple of young gents who were working hard! I hope they got a sense of satisfaction of a job well done as it is very much appreciated by the community in which they were doing such a great day's work."

Message from a Glasgow resident commenting on Sacro's Community Payback Service





Sacro's great strength is its ability to demonstrate by its actions that there is a humane and effective approach to safeguarding communities and reducing offending. It is not just a matter of punishment and imprisonment. The provision of supported accommodation, throughcare, mediation, bail supervision, offender programmes and restorative justice all offer a more hopeful approach to the reduction of crime. Sacro also demonstrates the value of voluntary bodies in the criminal justice field. A voluntary body can innovate; it can move quickly to set up new services; it has independence. I feel very grateful to have been involved in its valuable work in the field of criminal justice.

Niall Campbell

Former Chair of Sacro Board of Trustees.

As a Sacro mediator with many years of healing neighbourhood feuds under my belt, I have encountered some interesting characters:

I met a gentleman, who seemed genuine when he insisted that Frank Sinatra has stolen his voice and used it to create hit records.

I have come across more than one person who believed their neighbour was an alien.

I also helped resolve a dispute between two neighbours; each of whom had already fruitlessly spent several thousand pounds in legal fees to establish whether a back garden fence should remain in its current position or be moved nine inches to the South.

Ian McDonough

Former Mediation Advisor, Sacro.



'A' used drugs intermittently. If there was a toot going, he would have it and it was always getting him into trouble. He got involved with fairly low-level offending but was regularly coming to the attention of the police and was eventually referred to Sacro. His life was in a right state at that time and we worked with him as best we could but 'A' got himself lifted again for shoplifting. We took him back for a second time and at that stage, one of our forensic psychology students took him under her wing and worked with him intensively; using cognitive behaviour techniques. Her persistence paid off and 'A' turned his life around. We got him accommodation and many of the Sacro staff chipped in with household items to get him set up in his flat. We got 'A' onto an access course and he subsequently got a place at university studying IT.

I got an email from 'A' in 2020, over 21 years after I had worked with him. He was sitting at his work desk and had decided to drop me a line to say how he had just been thinking of his time with Sacro and the gratitude he owed them for turning his life around.

Cath Morrison

Former Glasgow Services Manager, Sacro.

"There was no one else who could support me. I would have been very lost without FearFree. I couldn't even think straight"

Service User, Aberdeenshire.



A middle-aged lady had contacted Sacro's Community Mediation Service because her upstairs neighbour's Afghan Hound spent its time when its master was absent by barking and continually pacing the poorly-insulated floor. All she wanted was a little peace and quiet.

On visiting the dog's owner, I established that he was indeed out at work all day and did feel a little guilty about leaving Barney alone in the flat. He had not, however, appreciated the way the issue had been raised by his neighbour and admitted he had given her a frosty reception, particularly as she had attempted to involve the local Police and the Council. Nevertheless, he had tried to resolve the problem – on the recommendation of a knowledgeable friend he had taken Barney to a Dog Hypnotist who had relieved him of £50 and put the dog into a deep trance-like state, implanting the command to behave quietly and peacefully during its master's absences.

Admitting to the failure of this strategy, the man agreed to a mediation meeting with his neighbour. We brought then together and, within 10 minutes, had established that his downstairs neighbour sometimes felt time hanging heavily on her hands, and would be happy to take Barney for a walk twice a day.

We checked on the progress of this arrangement four weeks later and all remained peaceful.

Ian McDonough

Former Mediation Advisor, Sacro.

"The help I required was given without question.
The support has been brilliant, I wasn't judged and have a good bond with my mentor Rachel; she is fantastic. Honestly, Peer Mentoring and Rachel have changed my life. I've had support in the past but Peer Mentoring and the team is the best."

Edinburgh Peer Mentoring service user

A mother (let's call her Mrs MacKay), of a teenage boy killed by a drink driver, spoke very movingly, from the floor at a Sacro conference, about the positive difference Restorative Justice had made to her life. I sought out Mrs MacKay afterwards and she gave me more details.

For some time, Mrs MacKay had been very keen to meet the guilty driver, who had been imprisoned. Eventually it was decided a meeting would be allowed but only if she involved Sacro; a stipulation she was content with. Fortunately, the driver agreed to participate. An experienced and skilled Sacro mediator, Niall Kearney, separately worked with Mrs MacKay and with the driver (when he was still in prison) until they were ready for a face-to-face meeting. Careful and thorough preparation was essential to ensure Mrs MacKay would not be further victimised or traumatised and this took place over a 12-month period. When it took place, the meeting was still difficult for her but she found it cathartic. Having a structured meeting, in a safe setting, with a trained facilitator, achieved some degree of resolution for Mrs MacKay.

The power of this restorative justice process was further demonstrated, some considerable time later, on the day of Mrs MacKay's daughter's graduation. As the family entered the graduation hall, they became aware that the person at reception handing out badges and programmes was the driver. Mrs MacKay told me that had she not had the restorative justice meeting, to unexpectedly see him would have been a terrible shock that would have ruined the day for the family. As it was, they were able to greet each other civilly, he congratulated them and the family proceeded to have the wonderful day they had expected.

Susan Matheson

Former Chief Executive, Sacro.

On my retirement from a career in social work and community justice, including some time at Sacro, I volunteered as a driver with Sacro's Travel Service. Providing transport for people to visit their friends and family in prison may not seem that significant but it makes a real difference to those who would otherwise be unable to do so. It is one of Sacro's longest-running services and a practical, rational, and humane thing to do. For prisoners, this contact with their family has a proven benefit in reducing offending on release from prison.

I get to know some passengers very well if their family member is doing a longish sentence and I think they like their driver to be a familiar face. Many share details about themselves and their family and my role is simply to listen. It is not a formal support role but I believe that for some a sympathetic and non-judgemental listening ear is welcomed. I hear about many of the issues they face and never cease to be impressed by the commitment and love for their partners, sons and grandsons. Their resilience can be inspiring.

Many passengers are accompanied by children. One young girl, Trina, who had the misfortune to be sick in my car was impressed that "Donald is always well-prepared and has cleaning stuff and bags in his car". Some days later when I was parked near the sick kids hospital in Edinburgh, I returned to find a note stuck to my car saying "Thank you Donald from Trina".

It's a very rewarding role and I will continue to do it for as long as I can.

Donald Dickie

Former Criminal Justice Advisor, Sacro.

"Providing transport for people to visit their friends and family in prison may not seem that significant but it makes a real difference to those who would otherwise be unable to do so".



Since 2011, Sacro has held an annual staff conference in Edinburgh. The conference is a chance for all employees and volunteers from across Scotland to meet up, share their experience, and hear of developments in practice throughout the organisation.

The event features our annual Sacro People Awards which recognises employee excellence in a number of categories.

Its People

Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion are values, respected and lived by everyone in Sacro.

Sacro is committed to building on the personal values of its employees and works actively to embed a culture of understanding and tolerance throughout the organisation in everything we do.

The organisation aims to improve its employee's understanding of the many issues that can limit people's access to services and opportunities or cause offence or distress. It does this by providing mandatory training, and continuous promotion and monitoring of EDI within Sacro.





"the staff are like my family ... I know I can speak to my key worker about anything and they will support me."

Aberdeen Self-directed Intensive Support Service user





Sacro's Garden Project in Glasgow offers adults a gardening pathway to social inclusion and employment

The Project is delivered in three steps which are designed to ease individuals into a routine and gradually build confidence and skills. These steps introduce structure and motivation. Participants are supported and mentored by Sacro staff throughout.

Participants can also choose to take part in the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society's 'Grow and Learn Award' which is an entry-level, all-ability practical skills learning journey through the basics of plant knowledge and garden maintenance.

The award is delivered by Sacro's educational gardeners, who guide participants through weekly practical activities and online learning.

"What Sacro does is support people to draw on and nurture this inner strength to help change lives for the better."

Sacro is about professionalising third sector social care support.

An unswerving commitment that bases its services on what works while remaining non-judgemental, flexible and adaptable to conditions is what underpins the "Sacro way".

It is this evidence-based approach that helps Sacro provide a sound base for people to "grow" internally. People make their own change. What Sacro does is support people to draw on and nurture this inner strength to help change lives for the better. Where this takes time and persistence, they stick with it and that's what can really make the difference.

Tom Halpin

Former Chief Executive, Sacro.



Shine Women's Mentoring Service has worked with over 5,000 women since its introduction in 2013.

Shine provides women with a mentor who will provide support on a one-to-one basis with many of the issues they might face in the community.

The service – led by Sacro – is provided as a Public Social Partnership (PSP); a strategic partnership between public and voluntary sector organisations.

It is available to every woman in Scotland serving a custodial sentence of up to four years, on remand or serving a Community Payback Order.

65% of women will see some improvement in their lives with 13% seeing an improvement in almost all measured outcomes.

"Without this service
(Shine) my life would be
chaotic and I don't know if
I would still be here today if
it wasn't for you."



Its Digital Infrastucture

In 2019, Sacro embarked on a major project to develop its use of digital tools, capability and infrastructure.

Equipment, devices, connectivity, security and software applications were all upgraded. It changed the way we work; making our information more accessible, and allowing us to communicate more effectively, no matter where we are.

A full training programme provided all employees with access to the most appropriate training in addition to a wealth of online resources.

By the beginning of 2020, new systems were rolled out to all Sacro services. This initiative proved invaluable when the Covid-19 pandemic took hold and many employees were required to work remotely.

Staff now have access to the information they need and the ability to produce and edit case files from anywhere on any device.



Sacro's STAR Awards scheme recognises employees who have shown excellence in their day-to-day role. The scheme is held quarterly and rewards three employees from across its hubs with a framed certificate and shopping voucher.

Since starting in 2019, over 30 employees have received a STAR Award.



Launched in 2021, Sacro's Aura service supports people affected by domestic abuse across North Lanarkshire. The service provides one-to-one support, information and resources. This confidential support is free and completely guided by the individual and their needs.

Importantly, Aura strives to be as accessible as possible. Support is provided to whoever needs it, regardless of gender, race or ability. Aura workers can chat over the phone, text or WhatsApp or meet face-to-face at a mutually agreed location.

Anyone affected by domestic abuse can contact an Aura worker about their situation or for information and support on issues relating to domestic abuse via a dedicated website, social media pages, live chat, online referral form or over the phone.











Sacro many years of experience working with local authorities to support individuals to complete Community Payback Orders (CPOs) and we have gained a reputation for the quality of our service and staff.

Our asset-based approach ensures optimum opportunity for individuals to successfully complete CPOs; planning and facilitating work that, as well as being reparative is of clear tangible benefit to the local community.

The Sacro Trust provides grants to individuals in the process of rehabilitation during and after involvement in the criminal justice system.

In the last 12 years, the Trust has provided over 500 grants for:

- > Household items;
- > Education/training/employment
- > Personal development and well being.

The Trust funds are made up of a permanent endowment that produces income. It is only this income that is disbursed. Assessments are made quarterly.

Sacro Trustees are always keen to increase the funds available for investment and thus, the income available for grants. The fund welcomes income from industry and commerce but also relies on the generous support of individuals through donations and legacies.

"*** is estranged from his partner. They have two young children together and he is now able to support his partner by having the children for visits at his home and take some parental responsibility which greatly assists his partner.

"Your grant has contributed towards a more positive outlook and he is now linked to our employment services and is actively looking for work."

Received on behalf of recipient of Sacro Trust grant



I worked closely with a whole range of the Sacro squad during my seven years with South West Scotland Community Justice Authority (RIP). Of course there was close collaboration with lovely and lively colleagues on my home patch in Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway (at one point I seemed to spend so much time in the Ayrshire office, I was pretty much an honorary team member) but also with the national team in Edinburgh.

One of my proudest achievements as a Chief Officer was my involvement in the early development of the Shine Women's Mentoring Service, which is really bathing in the glory of others but all the same. When my CJA colleague Jim Hunter and I pondered whether a national women's mentoring service might be possible, Sacro was the obvious partner to approach for first conversations and third sector leadership. On a personal level, I can look back now and see how much I learned being part of this process led by the one and only Tom Halpin - how to pull key partners together (and keep them together through sometimes difficult conversations); the importance of getting the infrastructure right with the right people in the right place; the battles to fight and the times to keep a diplomatic silence (to be fair that is still a work in progress for me); balancing strategic and operational priorities and pressures; and of course keeping women in the justice system right at the centre all the way through.

Shine has been life-changing for so many women and their families. When we established Shine, it was not guaranteed by any means it would still be going today, and its longevity is down to the fantastic delivery by all of the Shine partners, but also the tenacity, passion and drive of #TeamSacro.

Happy Big 50 to everyone at Sacro - past and present - what a legacy you have created and here's to many exciting years ahead."

Justina Murray

Chief Executive Officer, Scottish Families Affected by Alcohol & Drugs



SAFEGUARDING COMMUNITIES – REDUCING OFFENDING <u>Auchentibber Sacro Services - Evaluation Form - Service User</u>	3
Surname:	E
Year of Birth: 1989	
Male Female	
Please indicate if you Agree or Disagree with the statements below:	
1. The staff from Sacro treated me with respect: DISAGREE AGREE	
Could you give a couple of examples how: Kate S Teauch	
rice, what you see is what you	
got.	
2. Sacro staff supported me through this process: AGREE DISAGREE	
Could you give a couple of examples how:	
diecessions, adde cope with but	
after discissing definent by cook	
at Situations difficult.	
3. I was willing to take part in the Sacro services: DISAGREE O	
Could you say a couple of reasons why:	
doct with but goes it a go	
B very Surpi Sect how	
helpful it was look at	
sacro in a whole was light	

Throughout my career in social work (which began at the same time), Sacro has been a key feature of Scotland's concern for people who find themselves caught up in the justice system. It was a real privilege to join the Board and then to be appointed as Chair.

The most humbling and satisfying part of the role was the opportunity to meet the very wide range of people who are supported by the organisation and to hear their stories about the adversities they had faced. For those of us who have not faced such challenges these are almost inconceivable. For some Sacro simply brought them some stability while others achieved transformational change in their lives giving a sense of achievement and optimism often for the first time. It is those stories which underpin the value and importance of Sacro are and over the 50 years there have been very many of them.

Sacro can look back with pride and forward with ambition to achieve even more over the next 50 years.

Sandy Cameron

Former Chair of Sacro Board of Trustees.

Its Board

Sacro's Board of Trustees are responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation, safeguarding the use of resources and ensuring the highest standards of governance, management, propriety and conduct in the business of the Board.

With a vast range of experience and expertise in many areas of operations, governance and management, The Board provide vital support and counsel to Sacro's Executive and Leadership teams.

"I have been incredibly blessed to work with Sacro mentors. My dealings with them have shown that people do care that I can cry and that I can share my struggles and that I do not need to worry on my own. I believe that a great majority of people would not reach their potential without the Sacro Mentoring Service."

Mentee, Fife Women's Mentoring Service

Its Care

Providing care for people to live safe, happy, and meaningful lives in the community is one of Sacro's strategic goals. For those who need support, Sacro's Care and Housing services work to ensure they have better life experiences and opportunties in a safe environment for them and their community.

Having somewhere to call home is a vital element in reducing offending and improving life chances. Sacro works to alleviate homelessness, helps people sustain tenancies and supports them to live independently.



Its Protection

Protecting the public and keeping communities safe is one of the founding pillars of Sacro. Often working in partnership with other organisations and authorities, we work with people at risk of offending by supporting them to live better, more fulfilling lives within the community in a safe and integrated way.



Its Social Media

Communicating in the information age requires using every available platform to engage with the public, stakeholders and people who use its services.

Sacro encourages and uses social media platforms to establish a presence in the community. We are active on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter with upwards of 5,000 followers on our accounts.



sacrogardenproject More grapes from the garden this morning. Forgive us for being so



"Time spent in prison can have a catastrophic effect on women's lives, causing them to lose their homes, custody of their children and their job". Far too many women are still being unnecessarily remanded. https://www.sundaypost.com/fp/women-on-remand-support/



SUNDAYPOST.COM

aura

'Jail, drugs, jail, drugs': Experts say there are too many women on remand with too little support to stabilise th...

Delighted to launch our new service "Aura" today. Aura is an inclusive service providing support to anyone affected by domestic abuse in North Lanarkshire. Anyone affected by domestic abuse can receive support from us w ...see more



Telephone: 01698 757667

8 likes

Sacro 867 followers

Email: aura@sacro.org.uk

Website: www.aura.scot

Facebook: @AuraNLan

Twitter: @AuraNLan



'You have to believe you're worth defending': Aberdeen self-defence class empowering women to... pressandjournal.co.uk/fp/news/aberde... via @pressjournal



pressandjournal.co.uk

'You have to believe you're worth defending': Aberdeen self-defence class emp...

After an hour and a half at a self-defence class for women, I left Ferryhill

Community Centre in Aberdeen standing that little bit taller, walking with

9:33 AM · Oct 4, 2021 · Twitter Web App



1980s

Its Look

Sacro's corporate identity has changed over the years to reflect the organisation's direction and commitment at the time, as well as contemporary design trends and usage.



1990s



2000s





Sacro provides a number of services to support people who require support or encounter harm, violence or intimidation, based on their gender.

Domestic abuse services: Aura, Aditi, FearFree and the Caledonian Project, provide specialist support to those suffering at the hands of their partners.

Another Way works with women at risk of, or involved in prostitution. by offering non-judgemental, holistic, one-to-one emotional and practical support. The service also supports women who have been involved in, or affected by any form of Commercial Sexual Exploitation.

Women's mentoring services such as Shine, provide support for women leaving the criminal justice system to help them move on with their lives.

Its Partners

Sacro works throughout the country in collaboration with many other statutory and voluntary organisations who share our values and whose contributions help to achieve empowerment and positive outcomes for the people who use our services.

The synergy gained from effective collaborations can often bring results greater than the sum of its parts and Sacro remains committed to working with others to achieve the best possible outcomes for people in Scotland.

"I had at least one 'wow' moment in every single session, and sometimes was not even the content of the module itself but the attitude of the trainer. I feel it is incredible how the trainers have created this space in which everybody felt comfortable and safe and relaxed enough to talk about their own issues to strangers, and that is the real key of it all.

"It has had a much bigger impact on me than any unpaid hours I could have done. I felt supported and understood".

Participant in Sacro Community Payback Service, Glasgow.



"Clients have been telling me that the Sacro staff are amazing!!"

"Thanks again, it's great working with an organisation that have a personcentred approach".

"I always know they are in good hands with you and your team".

Comments from criminal justice social workers who refer to Sacro Community Payback Service

"The group has had a tremendously positive impact on my life as a whole. I have learned to control and manage myself in a more acceptable manner."

PAIR Domestic Abuse Perpetrator Programme Groupwork service user

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE FORUM SCOTLAND

Sacro founded and manages the Restorative Justice Forum (Scotland). The Forum brings together all those interested in the development of restorative justice in Scotland, such as: practitioners and managers from the statutory and voluntary sectors (including children's services), academics and policy makers, to:

- > increase understanding of restorative justice
- > encourage improvements in the quality and availability of restorative justice in Scotland
- promote the development of advice and support for potential participants and those referring to restorative justice
- > disseminate relevant information.

The Forum is a body itself independent of statutory agencies and the Scottish Government, but it seeks to work with key partners to promote the development of restorative justice at all relevant stages of criminal justice and youth justice, within the statutory and voluntary sectors, and to encourage policy development.



"The help and support that is given to veterans who have fallen on bad times and are down on their luck is second to none and beyond reproach. A very essential and excellent organisation.

"Just thankful that there are services available like VMS and appreciate all the help."

Service User, Sacro Veterans Mentoring Service

Its Future

We think it's bright! Over the past fifty years, our organisation has supported thousands of people to improve their lives and move on from their past. We have worked with some amazing people and brought hope to many who thought they had none.

Sacro's values, principles and vision have changed little over the years but are as relevant as they ever were.

We go into the future with big plans, a new look and an unswerving commitment to make Scotland a place of safety, inclusiveness, and wellbeing for everyone.

