



VOICES OF CARE LEAVERS

Are you care experienced and over the age of 18, and would you be interested in accessing your care records with support? 'Voices of Care Leavers' invites four care experienced adults to access, explore, respond to, and annotate their care records.

You will be offered group and individual support in locating, accessing, and exploring your records.

Care records can add a sense of chronological history, explain the reasons for coming into care, and may be important to care experienced people's sense of identity and understanding of their pasts.

As care records often do not sufficiently acknowledge or record the voices of children themselves, the project provides you with the opportunity to annotate and comment on your records, inserting your retrospective, adult voice into them.

You will be invited to publish annotated excerpts of your records on the dedicated project website, should you wish to do so. This element is optional and not a condition of participation.

The project is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and is part of a larger project which explores the history of residential care of babies and young children in Europe. Voices of Care Leavers seeks to give care experienced people resident in England a voice in the project. There is no expectation that you entered care at a particular age, and we welcome participants of any age over 18.

For further information, or if you would like to participate, please contact Dr Chris Nicholson (cnich@essex.ac.uk) or Dr Kath Rowold (k.rowold@essex.ac.uk) at the University of Essex.

