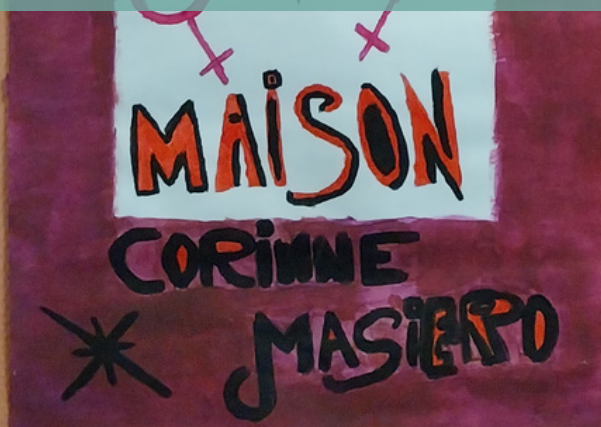




BRIEF 11

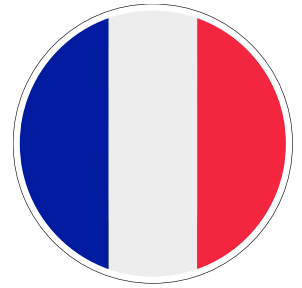
MAISON CORINNE MASIERO
Abej SOLIDARITE + CèdrAgir

Lille, France



INSPIRING PRACTICE

ID CARD



Lille, France

PROJECT TITLE.

Maison Corinne Masiero

MAIN OBJECTIVE.

To provide harm reduction support and housing for highly marginalised women experiencing homelessness with addictions, ensuring safety, stability, and comprehensive social and medical support.

TARGET AUDIENCE.

Women experiencing homelessness who face severe marginalisation, addiction, and gender-based violence.

IN NUMBERS.

54

women accommodated since March 2023.

11

accommodation units available.

€800K

annual budget.

SUMMARY.

Maison Corinne Masiero offers gender-specific, harm reduction-focused housing for women experiencing homelessness with long-term addictions. With 24/7 social and medical support, it provides a safe environment for stabilisation and recovery. The initiative fosters autonomy without imposing rigid conditions, ensuring accessibility for those excluded from traditional services. An independent evaluation highlights its success in engaging this vulnerable population.

CONTACT.



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CèdrAgir

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Project description

A Safe Space for Recovery and Empowerment

Maison Corinne Masiero addresses the specific needs of women experiencing homelessness who face addiction and gender-based violence. By providing a safe, women-only space, the project fosters stability and recovery through a harm reduction approach. The facility operates with 24/7 support from social workers, a nurse, and a psychologist, allowing residents to engage with services at their own pace. Developed by abej SOLIDARITÉ and CèdrAgir, the initiative benefits from their complementary expertise: abej SOLIDARITÉ specialises in supporting people in extreme marginalisation, while CèdrAgir brings its knowledge in addiction care. Since its launch in March 2023, 54 women have benefited from the programme, which offers a rare, long-term alternative to traditional shelters.

Securing the Future of an Innovative Approach

With an annual budget of €800,000, the initiative is funded primarily by the Regional Health Agency (€600,000 for addiction support) and the French government's housing and social inclusion fund (€200,000 for services targeting highly marginalised individuals). An independent agency has assessed the project's impact, with findings highlighting improvements in stability, health, and substance use reduction. The final evaluation, conducted in September 2024, informed the decision to make the initiative permanent. It underlined key lessons on housing stability, collective living dynamics, and the adaptability of support methods. Now extended beyond 2025, the model is set to serve as a blueprint for similar projects across France.

TIMELINE

March 2023

Opening of Maison Corinne Masiero with 11 places available.

Mars 2024

Independent agency completes first year evaluation.

September 2024

Final evaluation report presented to funders.

End 2024

Decision on securing long-term funding and potential expansion.

Inspiration note

A Flexible Path to Support

Maison Corinne Masiero uses a harm reduction approach that allows women experiencing homelessness, addiction, and trauma to engage with support at their own pace. By not imposing strict conditions or predefined treatment goals, the initiative provides an inclusive and flexible environment. This approach is particularly effective for individuals who have experienced long-term marginalisation, enabling them to stabilise and gradually engage with services without feeling forced or judged.

Creating Safe Spaces for Healing

The project's women-only accommodation model ensures a safe, supportive space where residents can feel protected from gender-based violence and exploitation. The facility provides individual rooms and shared spaces, promoting privacy while fostering a sense of community. This non-mixed environment is crucial for women who have faced abuse, offering them the safety they need to rebuild trust, regain autonomy, and focus on recovery. The model has been successful in attracting women who have previously been reluctant to engage with traditional shelters.

A Collaborative Approach to Care

Collaboration between abej SOLIDARITÉ and CèdrAgir ensures that the project offers holistic support to the women it serves. abej SOLIDARITÉ provides outreach and social care, while CèdrAgir's addiction expertise helps address substance use issues. Together, these two associations bring complementary skills and resources, creating a comprehensive support system that addresses the complex needs of the residents. This partnership has proven effective in delivering integrated care, improving residents' health and well-being.



Martinho Dias
Peer worker at CRESCER, Portugal

The Maison Corinne Masiero is a pioneering initiative dedicated to supporting highly marginalised women. Named after the French actress and activist Corinne Masiero, the project offers a safe and supportive environment where women can access housing, harm reduction services, and peer-led support.

By integrating lived experience into its framework, the Maison fosters empowerment and community among its residents. This holistic approach not only addresses immediate needs but also promotes long-term stability and reintegration, making it an inspiring model for inclusive and compassionate care.