



Press Release

Immediate Release

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### **Hospital Administrator to Run Manchester Marathon for Domestic Abuse Charity**

A keen runner will be taking part in the Manchester marathon to help support victims of domestic abuse, a cause close to her heart.

Becci Berry will be raising funds for the domestic abuse charity, Fortalice, when she takes part in the 26.2-mile event in April.

Becci, 38, who is an administrator at Cygnet Hospital Bury, has been training and running for several years, and she has already competed in several half marathons, completing her first full marathon in 2022.

Her chosen charity Fortalice, supported Becci as a child when the family experienced domestic abuse first-hand.

She explained: "This is a charity close to my heart and I want to be able to give something back to those that have helped us when we needed it the most, leaving our home with nothing more than a bag and the clothes on our back.

"When I was 11 years old I was taken to Fortalice late one night by the police with my mum and brother.

"Fortalice supported us for over 12 months, and we even spent Christmas there with other families. They provided a safe place for us to stay and also helped us when we were finding a new home."

The charity offers wraparound support to women, men, families, children and young people in Bolton and the surrounding areas, working to promote and ensure a future free from abuse. It helps to offer refuge, safety, advice, and support for those fleeing abusive situations, helping to rebuild their lives and providing education programs for young people in schools. Counselling services are also available to children and young people.

Cygnet Hospital Bury, on Buller Street, provides a wide range of inpatient mental health services for men and women including specialist deaf services and CAMHS provision for adolescents.

Becci said her colleagues have been really supportive of her fundraising efforts.

“The whole team are really motivating me and giving me lots of encouragement,” she explained. “At work, you see people who are really going through a dark, difficult time and it really inspires you to keep training hard to make a difference for other people who are struggling.”

To find out more or to donate please visit Becci's JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/rebecca-berry-1700825288476>

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**Notes to Editors:**

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