

URBAN OUTREACH

Newsletter Winter
2023/2024

Our 2023 figures!



Street Life provided meaningful support around housing issues for **591** people.



Eve's Space provided meaningful work with **116** people.



Reachout supported **28** women in issues around sex work.

4 of those left sex work for good.



Adults Team



Children & Families Team



524 individual children were reported missing, aged 3-17.

RUNA responded to **2185** missing child episodes.
RISE Worked 1:1 with **97** young people and **32** parents.



Group provision has looked at emotions, self esteem and anxiety, wellbeing and self-care, friendship, emotional health tool kit, games, socialising and much more!

Trips and activities have included: wellbeing walks, Jump Extreme and 'pop up' cinema.

Food Team



11,377 food parcels were distributed to collection points or delivered to people's homes via the Food Hub.

This fed **25,781** people!



£497,944 gas and electric top ups administered.



83,883 lunches made for children across Bolton!



2,040 Christmas hampers feeding **6,777** people.

Smithills Christmas Markets 10th Anniversary.



A whole community comes together to raise money for Christmas Dinner on Jesus.



A whopping...

£14,233.50

...was raised by all the stalls on the day!



Ross and Yvonne - Involved since day 1!

"The market is and always has been great for the community as it brings us together and with the monies raised it helps people in our town.

So, by having fun coming together we are hopefully making a difference to others who we don't know to bring a cheer on Christmas Day."

Ken - "Techno Man", setting up and overall responsibility for the sound

Ken has been involved with the Christmas market since its conception and in fact Ken explained that it goes back further than the 10 years!...

"The market goes back to the children of two families, the Stainthorpes and the Beasleys who one year made red and white bunting which was used to decorate half of Redcar Road! From this John and Adele Platt were inspired and took the vision further into a Christmas market idea within the Smithills community.

Since then, there has been no going back and even through 'Biblical floods' everyone involved has continued with much enthusiasm and a heart to be a living, breathing community that reaches out to help those in difficulty."

A massive thank you to everyone that took part in this event to bless and show the love of Christ to many people in our town.

CHRISTMAS AT THE AMBER CENTRE



Our Eve's Space team have continued to work closely with many teams in Bolton including Bolton Probation, Holding Families, Achieve, Ingeus, Greater Manchester Women's Alliance and NHS Foundation Trust to provide well rounded support for our women. Christmas was a wonderful opportunity for all the workers to enjoy time together as a team, appreciate each others work and celebrate everything we accomplished in 2023.

2023 marked the first Christmas of our Genesis Project.

Genesis is providing an invaluable safe space for those in vulnerable positions; such as those moving from homelessness to housed or those overcoming addiction. Working closely with teams such as Rapid Rehousing, the rough sleeper team, Drug and Alcohol team and Early Intervention. Genesis is providing support, encouragement and most importantly friendship to those in need.



NEW AND UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES



Flourish is a new virtual reality course created with survivors for survivors of domestic abuse. Flourish aims to teach women about the effects of coercive control, understand what happened to them and help plan for the future. The first course met in January and courses will continue throughout 2024.

Coming soon to the Amber Centre will be a small group who will begin to explore their own individual ways of being creative through different forms of art media, the written word, and any other ways of expressing unique thoughts and ideas. We are excited at this opportunity to get together to be inspirational and to get to know each other in a safe, friendly space.



christians
against
poverty

CAP

We are joining forces with Christians Against Poverty to deliver two sessions on money coaching. Through expert help and a series of videos the course will cover drawing up and balancing a personal budget and managing expenditure. Designed to empower clients with the knowledge, skills, tools and confidence to better manage their finances.

STREET LIFE PROJECT

Due to the housing crises across the country, we are seeing a huge number of people coming to the Street Life Drop-in, many in desperate situations. The team aids those in need in finding suitable private rents, mediating with landlords and providing advice on tenants rights and eviction processes. Further support is offered to address the causes of homelessness such as applying for benefits, registering clients with vital health services such as GPs, mental health services, and, drug and alcohol detox/rehabilitation services. Please continue to pray and show support for this much needed project.



Team News

Farewell



At the beginning of 2024 we said goodbye to Nathan who has been a brilliant member of the Food Team. We pray God blesses him in his next role.

Welcome

Dom joined our Food Team in January 2024. Dom has a PhD in theology and has a special interest in theologies of social justice and community building. He also has a diploma in making coffee and so is qualified to make a decent brew!

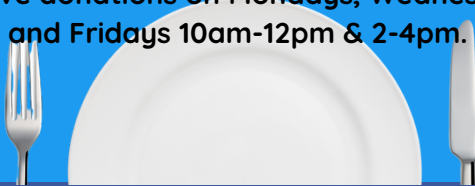


Dominic

The Food Hub Opening Times!

From Monday 5th February 2024 the Food Hub will be closed on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

We will be open for volunteering and to receive donations on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10am-12pm & 2-4pm.



Volunteer Opportunity!

We have new opportunities for volunteering!

Working in a team of 2, you will take our van to stores around Bolton to collect surplus food. Each week day starts at 9am and finishes between 12-1pm depending on the day.

If you would like more information please contact mark.leeson@urbanoutreach.co.uk to arrange a time to discuss this further.



****These positions are subject to references, driving licence information and a completed medical questionnaire due to activities involved****

BWFC SLEEPOUT

Friday 22nd March 8pm - 8am

SUPPORTING  in the community  BACKUP 

It's back! This year Bolton Wanderers are hosting their second sleep out fundraiser. Titled the "Tough Sleep" the fundraiser will generate much needed funds for Bolton Wanderers in the Community, Back Up North West, Emmaus Bolton as well as our own projects in the Adults Team.

Check out the website for more information <https://www.bwffc.org.uk/sleepout-at-the-toughsheet/>

We're taking donations through the Just Giving Page if you would like to donate!

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/urban-outreach-team-2024>

Join us in prayer and support as we share solidarity with those we work with who have no choice to be on the street.