Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter 21/22 News #1 (Aug, 21)



<u>Winter 20/21:</u> The project block-booked 7 ensuite rooms in a centrally located bed and breakfast last Winter. This provided 24-hr Covid-secure accommodation for 17 guests in total over the 3 months. Guests commented on how cared for and safe they felt. They could access volunteer support three times a day in the team room. You can read more about the impact of last year's project <u>here</u>.

'Staying here has opened my eyes to new horizons. After years of sleeping rough, I'm now looking to settle down!' (quest)

<u>Winter 21/22:</u> Public Health and Housing Justice have advised that no dormitory/communal style shelters should run during winter 2021/22. BCWNS has therefore applied to the Winter Transformation Fund to cover the costs of block booking 8 rooms at a centrally located B&B this Winter (Nov 21-Mar 22).

<u>Project duration</u>: Church representatives from across the city met in July to discuss whether to increase the duration of the project from 3 months to 5 months this Winter. There was faith to run BCWNS <u>for 5</u> <u>months from November 2021 to March 2022</u> (subject to funding). The rationale for this was that BCWNS could help more guests and make more of a difference as well as being an opportunity for more churches to get involved. If you would like to find out more about how your church could get involved, then please click the link below:

Information for churches wanting to get involved

<u>Job vacancy:</u> We are currently looking for a Deputy Project Coordinator to support the planning and delivery of the project alongside the Project Coordinator. More details of the vacancy and how to apply can be found <u>here</u>.

<u>Prayer Updates:</u> Please sign up <u>here</u> to go on our mailing list for prayer updates.

<u>Finances:</u> BCWNS will be notified on 6th September 2021 about whether the funding application has been successful. If successful, this funding will cover the extraordinary costs of the B&B accommodation. There are funds brought forward from last winter which will be used to cover some of the overhead costs (Project Coordinator and Deputy, Housing Justice liaison, church expenses e.g. food). However, there will remain a gap in funding for the project of approximately 10k.

We will be in touch after 6th September to let you know if we have secured the funding. If you, or your church, would like to help meet the shortfall in funding by contributing financially then we would be incredibly grateful; we will send out details of how to do this in our next news update if the bid is successful.

BCWNS Contacts

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■ BristolChurches Winter NightShelter

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