Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter 21/22 News #3 (Feb, 22)



<u>Winter 21/22:</u> BCWNS has block booked 8 rooms at a centrally located B&B from Nov 21 to Mar 22 to house low support needs guests. This means that we have a 5 month shelter.

<u>Guests:</u> BCWNS has been running now for **four months** and there is a wonderful group of guests staying at the B&B with all the rooms full. The difference it makes to their lives is tangible.

It's given me the opportunity to better myself. Before I came, I was sleeping in a field by my work but staying here has given me stability - a bed, a room, a warm shower.

Soon I will be moving to private rental accommodation.

Befriending: Most of our guests have chosen to be part of our befriending project – a chance for volunteers to meet guests over a cup of coffee and check in with them once a week starting now and continuing for 4-6 months after the end of the project.

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

Referral Agencies: This year we are operating a joint referral process between St. Mungo's and Borderlands. There has been some great partnership working between these agencies and together they provide referrals for low support needs guests who find themselves at risk of rough sleeping.

<u>Thank you:</u> Thanks to all the churches and volunteers who are contributing in different ways. BCWNS could not run without the help and support that is offered and the unity of all involved. Thanks to a God who oversees all the planning and preparation and goes before us in all that we do.

<u>Next year:</u> BCWNS is already starting to consider options for next year. The project is moving towards provision of self-contained units with 24hr access for guests and this immediately raises the question of finding a building. If you have any insights on this then please do get in touch with Amanda.

<u>Finances:</u> The project has been awarded a Winter Transformation Fund grant (provided by DLUHC, managed by Homeless Link) to cover the extraordinary costs of the B&B for this winter. However, there remains a <u>gap in funding for the project of just over 10k.</u> Current expenditure is in line with expectation.

If you, or your church, would like to support this winter's BCWNS, contributions can be made directly to the account below or via: https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/bristolchurcheswinternightshelter

Account Name: inHope Account Number: 01408518 Sort Code: 40-14-13

Payment reference: BCWNS

BCWNS Contacts

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■ BristolChurches Winter NightShelter

Project Oversight: <u>inHope</u>, registered charity (no. 298528),

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