

**BCAN Homeless Forum**  
**15th September 2012**

<p><b>Present: PH HR RD RL KV DP VM. GW arrived part way through. RL left part way through.</b></p>	ACTION
<p><b>Actions from last meeting</b></p>	
<p>None – No minutes produced. PH remarked that the biggest news was that Ian from the Methodist Centre has left and there are no news of a replacement for him as yet.</p>	
<p><b>Information Share</b></p>	
<p><b>RD – Julian Trust</b> Open Day – Excellent. It was the second year of doing this. They saw about 150 people through the building and the people who visited were given tours. There was lots of interest in the work carried out and it was considered to be a very worthwhile experience. There was also a cash collection totalling £250.</p> <p>Service User numbers generally down. This has been quite nice, low key and pleasant.</p> <p>Hussna – Sudanese lady with a son in care who has a lot of problems in her past. There have been some meetings which have been quite ineffective so far but people are looking for resolutions for her situation. The purpose of these meetings are for professionals to talk about Hussna’s situation – Hussna does not attend herself. If anyone would like to attend, the next meeting is: 29<sup>th</sup> November at 9:30am at Beam street. PH suggested VT might like to go – PH to email RD for more information and pass on to VT.</p> <p>SNAP – research project. Julian Trust have been selected at random to take part.</p> <p>Julian Trust are very short of blankets. Please could all bear this in mind and direct any that might come their way to the Julian Trust.</p> <p><b>RL – Caring at Christmas</b> The Survival Handbook, volunteer Application Form and most recent Newsletter are all online. These can be found at <a href="http://www.caringatchristmas.org.uk">www.caringatchristmas.org.uk</a>.</p> <p>There has been a lot of changes in the trustee department (apologies for any misspelt names!): Shelley Bailey, Roger Granger, Robert Keel and Lindsey Jones are now a trustees Kat Caldwell is now the treasurer Phil is now the chair person</p> <p>The next Survival Handbook goes to print in June. A letter will be sent out in March for any updates - changes to existing information or additions of new services. It was generally noted that some of the information had already changed in the current Survival Handbook. VM to obtain some information cards for one service that has moved to slip inside the current Handbook.</p>	<p>PH</p> <p>All</p> <p>VM</p>

Caring in Bristol website – still live. No one knows how to take it down. General thought is that it should cease to exist after two years when the 'name' is not paid for again.

### **KV – Bristol City Mission**

Feels like the 'new kid on the block'

Located opposite the New Street Day Centre

Still trying to work out what to do with the building and other resources.

It is the new home to the Matthew Tree Project.

See approximately 200 people pass through the building each week.

The Matthew Tree Project is similar to a foodbank but also different in a couple of areas. People are referred by an approved agency, like a foodbank. The client is then allocated an allowance of weight for different food groups which they then choose themselves. This way people end up with food they like and can cook with the cooking facilities available to them. The criteria for a client is 'someone who is in danger of going hungry without us giving them food'. Currently feeding about 70 people a week.

A cooking school is currently being organised to teach people to cook healthy meals on a budget.

It was suggested it would be worth hanging a poster in the Julian Trust so clients were aware of the Matthew Tree Project.

KV to send email to Paul with details of projects and events (like the cooking school) to PH who will then circulate.

There is a prayer session that happens each Wednesday 11am-11:30am for service users who stay after and chat about bibley things. The aim is to start a church out of these Wednesday sessions.

### **DP – Christchurch Breakfast Run**

The church that allows the breakfast to be served from their site have become a lot more amenable which is good.

The other leader of the breakfast run has begun training to go to Mozambique. Di Akon has come on board to help out.

Behaviour of service users is generally very good but there was some difficulty on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September which caused the team to have to make a swift exit.

### **VM**

The lunch run is still very busy every Saturday. It starts in Clifton and stops off where people are found and ends at the Bear Pit. There are no problems with finishing at the Bear Pit even though it has become more modern. Produce 50-60 lunches each time.

A church takes a month each in a rota style.

Still looking to operate a drop-in centre.

### **PH – Crisis Centre Ministries**

Chris and Jess have both moved on – Jess is working with Naomi in Bedminster and Chris is at the Gilead Foundation in Devon.

Lots of new staff, Hazel – Office Manager, Andy and Jonnie – Drop-in Assistant

KV + PH

<p>Managers. Andy Urwin is now employed one day a week at the East Bristol Foodbank. Application process in full swing for a female Drop-in Assistant Manager. Interviews 18<sup>th</sup> September.</p> <p>Wild Goose continues to open Monday to Friday and Sunday evenings.</p> <p>Library – Friday morning – could do with more ‘manly’ books like action etc but can find channels for all books if you would like to donate any.</p> <p>Wet Clinic – Tuesday afternoon. Solely for those so addicted to alcohol they are unable to be apart from it for long enough to eat a meal. Can access specific services during this time.</p> <p>Careers Advice Service – Every other Friday. Going very well.</p> <p>Counselling – Starting 18<sup>th</sup> September. Let PH know if you know anyone who would benefit.</p> <p>AG is regularly supporting people doing community detoxes. This is not an advertised service but if you know anyone who would benefit you can talk to AG.</p> <p>Spring of Hope – Opening for a third night on wednesdays at beginning of October. Hoping to open for a fourth night, probably a saturday or monday to provide two two-night runs a week. This will help provide some sense of continuity. Monday was suggested as better due to there being more people in the Julian Trust nightshelter.</p> <p>Point raised that the Julian Trust closes one day a week to help people to not become overly dependant. There is a danger that between the Julian Trust and Spring of Hope they will become the places that people ‘live’ which is not good. Everyone agreed to keep an eye on the situation.</p> <p><b>GW – Soup Run</b> GW provided information sheet. Please contact him directly if you require a copy.</p>	
<p><b>Notified Business</b></p>	
<p><b>Open Space meetings</b> The previous meetings and training sessions have been very good but the people that they planned for never turned up. These meetings have now come to an end and there is no plans to arrange any more. PH suggested that if a daytime training session would be of use to the BCAN group he would be happy to organise number of more one-off style events. Question posed as to what would be the most helpful subjects. The following were suggested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child Protection (could take half the BCAN meeting time to cover this session)</li> <li>Mental Health First Aid (Mind do a session on this)</li> <li>Holistic training to deal with certain behaviour</li> <li>Caring at Christmas training</li> <li>Helping Vulnerable People training</li> <li>Disposing of Clinical Waste</li> <li>Housing Poverty Report</li> </ul> <p>Any suggestions for training, please email PH.</p> <p>Caring at Christmas training: 29<sup>th</sup> November 7pm – 9pm: Mind – Mental Health BDP – Drug Awareness Training 6<sup>th</sup> December 7pm – 8pm: Richard Martin – Managing Difficult Behaviour</p>	<p>PH</p>

13<sup>th</sup> December – Volunteer Training (not applicable)  
15<sup>th</sup> December – All previous training sessions repeated:  
10am – 11am – Managing Difficult Behaviour  
3pm – 5pm – Mental Health and Drug Awareness

### **Sleep Out**

Date for next sleep out : 1st March 2013

Plan to do what we did last year. Everyone agreed to arrange a meeting, via email, to discuss matters before Christmas. PH to coordinate.

Publicity that is required: Tell people about the date, get big names involved before Christmas. Get prospective Mayors to agree to be involved before they get elected.

PH

### **Survey**

Papers have been agreed and circulated. Please let PH know if anything needs updating, otherwise it is ready to go.

The survey is already on the website or it will be shortly.

If a homeless person has already completed a survey, they need not complete the whole thing again. They just need to complete the top section.

For those people who use fictitious names – it is just fine, but they must use the same fictitious name for every time they complete the top section of the survey.

Volunteers are required in reasonable numbers in order to conduct the survey. GW suggested that he would be able to find a good number of volunteers and will mention it at the AGM next week. PH will do the same. Other groups will be fine to find volunteers to cover the sessions they run.

GW + PH

### **No Second Night (on the streets)**

This is a government scheme with an aim to implement a system to prevent people from having a second night sleeping on the streets. Some discussions and questions raised about the actuality of how this system will work it's way out and who it applies to. PH believes it is solely for those who become homeless after the scheme starts, not to those who have been in and out of homelessness – which are most of our clients. RD was under the impression it wasn't as strict as that. Some clarification required.

St Mungo's are heading up the scheme and should be getting in touch with the Julian Trust but they haven't yet.

### **Positive Causes**

This is an internet cafe in Old Market. There have been mixed reports from staff at Lagos House. People are still trying to find out what they are about but it appears to be a self-help place for people that are homeless. They seem to have a strong base in Plymouth and the organisation is run by a couple of ex-homeless people.

It appears that they raise money from the sale of an A5 booklet that they sell door-to-door and on the streets.

If anyone makes contact or has anything else to report – please email PH who will circulate to everybody else.

### **Mental Health Review**

Here is a link to the Mental Health Review page: <http://www.bristol.nhs.uk/your-health/mental-health-and-wellbeing/modernising-mental-health.aspx>

The link is on the right hand side underneath the 'Related Documents' and is called 'Consultation Document'.

Also under the 'Related Documents' you will see a Questionnaire which PH would encourage you all to take part in.

<b>AOB</b>	
<b>Next Meeting:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2012 at Bristol City Mission, Great George Street (Opposite the New Street Day Centre) The following meeting will be on January 10 <sup>th</sup> 2013 at Caring at Christmas	
<b>Agenda items</b> Please send any agenda items to HR by 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2012 (don't worry – I will send a reminder!)	