

**BCAN Homeless Forum**  
**8<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

<p><b>Present: Paul, Hazel, Alan, Val, Kevin, Debs</b> <b>Apologies: Rhiannon, Jill, Elaine, Richard, Graham</b></p>	ACTION
<p><b>Actions from last meeting</b></p>	
<p><b>Replacement at Methodist Centre</b> Ref Elaine Brightwell has take over management of the Methodist Centre. She is very keen to learn about food preparation and homelessness even though she doesn't know very much at the moment. Paul is planning to meet with her in the next week or so.</p>	
<p><b>Info Cards</b> Val will give some to Alan.</p>	Val
<p><b>Information Share</b></p>	
<p><b>Christ Church Breakfast Run - Debs</b> Nothing much to share. Looking forward to doing the survey on Saturday.</p> <p><b>Churches Together in Clifton, Cotham and Redland Lunch Run and St John Ambulance – Val</b> Christ Church's turn to do the Lunch Run in December; 5 Saturdays in total.</p> <p>Churches Together meeting next week.</p> <p>Member of the St John Ambulance team injured on 7<sup>th</sup> November at the night shelter. There was a incident with an ambulance and whilst Tammy (on of the team) was assisting, her hair was pulled from behind and she fell over. The lady who pulled Tammy's hair has been charged with assault and remanded in custody. The Wild Goose was shut last week because of the same lady causing trouble.</p> <p>Val and her St John Ambulance colleagues will support the sleep out in March.</p> <p><b>Matthew Tree Project - Kevin</b> The team are starting to see some cases closed which is really good.</p> <p>They see 4/5 new referrals each week and 4/5 people stop coming each week so the numbers are staying fairly constant at present.</p> <p>The Friday sessions are well attended with 21/22-30 people coming each week.</p> <p>The Matthew Tree Project fed 237 people in September.</p> <p>Kevin re-iterated that there was no limit on the number of food parcels an individual could claim but each time they come for food they must sit down for a appointment and provide a certain amount of proof that they still need the food. The overall aim is to help people move on and support themselves and this happens through building up a relationship.</p> <p>The cooking school has gone well.</p> <p>On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> of November at 19:30 the BBC programme 'Inside Out' is focussing solely on the Matthew Tree Project.</p> <p>Kevin asked if the Wild Goose would like to have referral forms to hand out. Alan stated that he is able to do food parcels in extreme circumstances (after</p>	

4pm) and would rather send people elsewhere to get referral forms.

**Crisis Centre Ministries – Paul and Alan**

Spring of Hope opened for a 3<sup>rd</sup> night per week about a month ago.

Alan is going to speak to the welcome team at Christ Church about how to welcome homeless people.

Val and Alan spoke about an amount of difficulty with a homeless man called Paul who is using Christ Church facilities and asking the members for money. He is due to go into detox soon but if that doesn't happen the police will give him two warnings to stop before putting him in prison.

Alan handed out updated opening times and details of activities happening at the Wild Goose. These can be found on the CCM website. CCM will produce this info on a business card to hand out. Alan talked through each activity.

The Wild Goose is closed on Saturdays and is being used for a number of different fundraising events which has raised CCM quite a bit of money. If other organisations would like to rent the space on a Saturday then please speak to Alan.

Alan will provide Val with the phone number of the nurse who works for the Homeless Health Service.

The biggest struggle that Alan is facing is the lack of accommodation in Bristol. It is easier to send people out of Bristol to live.

The biggest push at the moment is to get Spring of Hope open for 7 nights a week. There are definite plan to be open on a Monday night as soon as possible. To do this we need more volunteers and some more money.

Alan is proud to say there has not been one incident since the nightshelter opened.

Alan spoke about Borderlands charity which helps asylum seekers and refugees. Alan is a trustee because of the overlap in their work and the work of CCM.

They currently feed 80 people on a Tuesday lunchtime at St Nicholas of Tolentino.

They struggle to get the food to feed people so Alan supports them with donations from the Goose.

Alan stated the CCM do help refugees and asylum seekers but prefer to do it behind the scenes. Other than both people groups requiring food, their needs are very different. Alan aims to keep the groups apart as mixing everyone together is often not very helpful.

**Caring at Christmas – Paul gave update from email**

Opens 24<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm, closes 1<sup>st</sup> January at 10am.

They currently have a shortage of overnight volunteers. Please spread the word, email or ring to refer. Rhiannon also has a flyer that can be distributed.

Caring at Christmas is starting a new project in January called 'Safe Stay Bristol'. This is very similar to Night Stop but will help all young people, not just low risk young people. It will also function during the day as well.

They are recruiting for a number of positions.

Paul will circulate further information about project.

Alan

Paul

**Notified Business**

<p><b>2012 Survival Guide</b> Nothing shared</p>	
<p><b>A4 Summary Sheet</b> Everyone agreed it would be worthwhile having a A4 photocopiable summary sheet detailing all the places offering food, help and advice. Hazel will update the current sheet and circulate for individuals to print out.</p>	Hazel
<p><b>2013 Sleep Out</b> Please publicise and invite influential local people (MPs, Mayoral candidtates, media etc). Cardboard City is happening in February. Alan will find out more details and circulate.</p>	Alan
<p><b>2014 Sleep Out</b> Philip Knott from Easton Christian Family Centre suggested doing the next sleep out of College Green. He has also offered to negotiate on our behalf with the Council and the Cathedral. Everyone agreed this was a good idea. The date will probably be in March but Paul will check with Johnny.</p>	Paul
<p><b>Homelessness Survey</b> Feedback has been good so far. The people who have running the survey in the Wild Goose have said that it is a good excuse to talk to people. Hazel will collate results. St Mungos and Second Step are both conducting surveys.</p>	Hazel
<p><b>No Second Night</b> No more information.</p>	
<p><b>Positive Causes</b> No more news.</p>	
<p><b>Base</b> This a young persons project for those who are/have been in care and a vulnerable. It is for those people in danger of being groomed, used and abused. It is funded by Banardos. Alan has been told to ring the police if anyone fitting this description comes into the Wild Goose but when he does this the police don't turn up. More and more young people, both boys and girls, arte coming into the Goose. Alan asked everyone to keep their eyes open and if any project get young people in any quantity ring Alan or Base directly. Alan will tell Paul more information about Base and Paul will forward to BCAN group.</p>	Paul and Alan
<p><b>Police Training</b> Beverley from the Police has offered free training for CCM staff to help spot vulnerable people who are in danger of being groomed for terrorism.</p>	
<p><b>AOB</b></p>	
<p><b>Next Meeting:</b> 7:30pm January 10<sup>th</sup> 2013 at Caring at Christmas</p>	