

‘Supporting the Homeless’ Sleep Out Pip’n’Jay, Bristol 27 February 2009 Organisation Invitation Letter

Dear friend,

I am writing to invite your organisation to join in the ‘Supporting the Homeless’ Sleep Out to raise awareness of the issues of homelessness in and around Bristol, and to raise, through sponsorship, funds for your work with homeless people.

Earlier this year two charities shared a similar event at the Clifton Cathedral, and felt that it would be worth repeating on a larger scale – opened up to all the organisations in Bristol working to help homeless people. This was discussed and agreed at the BCAN Homelessness Forum. From this, a small group of four agreed to act as facilitators and co-ordinators of the event.

The idea is that people will sleep out in the grounds of Pip’n’Jay Church from 10 pm until 7 am to experience a small taste of some of the hardships faced by those who regularly sleep out. Soup and a bread roll will be provided from 10.30 before people settle for the night, and coffee and a roll from 6.30 am before people leave.

Kitchen facilities are available for the caterers to prepare the soup and drinks, but will not be available at other times. Toilet facilities will be made available to the participants.

We are asking for organisations to make a small donation of £15 to cover costs (primarily the catering). Each organisation will register its own participants and collect its own sponsorship. We are hoping to have between ten and fifteen organisations involved, and to keep total numbers to a manageable level each organisation will be able to register an initial maximum of 20 participants. We expect to be able to make more places available to you from the start of February, when we will have a better idea of the numbers taking part.

Further details are available on the BCAN web site (www.bcan.org.uk/sleepout/), but if you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me or one of the other members of the steering group.

I have enclosed a form to register your organisation’s desire to be involved. Please return it to me at the given address as soon as possible. Thank you.

Paul Hazelden,

on behalf of the Sleep Out steering group:

Richard Drake (richard.drake@blueyonder.co.uk)

Paul Hazelden (paul@crisis-centre.org.uk)

Val Moore (val.moore@blueyonder.co.uk)

Tony Richmond (t.richmond@alabare.co.uk)