

Hello,

February 2021

I hope you are all well.

I would like to take this opportunity to Thank You for your continued support of CCHP, both for all your Prayers and your donations.

This is a brief update to reflect where CCHP is at this time. As you may know, due to the Pandemic, we could not run our Winter Night Shelter, however we have had a good winter so far in terms of delivering services to the vulnerable & homeless in our local community.

This winter we have housed 7 men and 4 women, so far.

Two of our guests are asylum seekers and Mr J, who was referred to us by Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum (Refugee Services), moved in successfully at the beginning of February, having been hosted by various families over the last 4 years while he sought refugee status. This status was achieved on Monday of last week. This means that he can now access some benefits as he has a clear legal status. Mr E is still pursuing clarity over his refugee status. Neither of these Guests consume alcohol or drugs, and the landlady at our friendly B&B states that they are 'charming'.

Mr D moved out of the B&B on Thursday of last week and into a council flat. Mr D has been with us most of the winter and everybody has been impressed with his commitment to being clean from heroin use. Mr D fought back from heroin use 2 years ago while rough sleeping. I consider this to be absolutely outstanding. He now has two complaints. 'I am getting fat', and 'I have so much energy I don't know what to do with myself'. The landlady advised that he visit anywhere that is open and offer to help. Mr D carried out these instructions and has found regular work on two or three mornings a week.

Mr H was offered accommodation by the council in Peterborough, but he found this unacceptable as his partner is in ICU at Addenbrookes in a coma with Covid. Mr H visits Addenbrookes every day to ascertain if there are any changes. This would be impossible if Mr H lived in Peterborough due to the cost and lockdown rules. Over 4 months ago, Mr H began his journey to become clean from Heroin use while rough sleeping and has been a great success.

We have also been able to offer emergency accommodation to those who need it, including one male Guest, and his female partner who stayed three nights with us until statutory services successfully rehoused them.

Two of our other male Guests are in poor physical health, with **no access to public funds**, and Mr K was discharged directly from Addenbrookes in-patient status to rough sleeping. We were successful in accommodating him within a couple of hours of discharge and continue to have him in our care.

The three other female Guests had all withdrawn from their emergency accommodations due to there being an immediate risk to their safety. One of these female Guests was 18 years of age. This is not an uncommon occurrence in emergency hostels as these are now mixed facilities and we are grateful to our partner agencies for working with us to ensure all vulnerable women have access to a safe and secure environment.

These success stories have only been achieved due to the support of our volunteers & donors. The accommodation that we access is paid at a rate of £25 per night, i.e. £750 for 30 nights. This is a reduction of £40 or more per night. We hope to accept a new Guest this week, once he accepts that our offer is 'for real'.

All that CCHP achieves is dependent upon the prayers & support of people like yourselves.

CCHP is only organised compassion, so Thank you for your support.

Christ said, "I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, I was a stranger and you made me welcome".

We will not cure homelessness but we can make a difference to those with whom we engage.

All Blessings,  
Stephen