

# *in*Hope.

*For those who need us most*



## Information and Update Letter

inHope is a Christian charity working in the heart of Bristol, to support the most vulnerable and marginalised people within our city. Based in Easton, inHope offers a place of love and acceptance, supporting people through practical provision, shelter and housing whilst helping people develop life skills and employability. All of this is done whilst offering people the opportunity to encounter Jesus and to discover the love and hope that he offers.

As a church partner, St Michael's supports inHope through prayer, donations, financial giving and as volunteers. Without the support of Christians across Bristol, and churches like St Michaels, inHope would not be able to support those most in need in our city.

## Recent news

2020 has been dominated by the pandemic, which has transformed how inHope supports those most in need. The Wild Goose homeless drop-in has moved to a pop-up model, serving hot lunches to up to 100 people every day. Spring of Hope women's night shelter had to close under government guidance for night shelters, but has continued to stay in touch with vulnerable women by phone, virtual meetings and in person. Several women were supported to move into their own accommodation.

The Life Recovery project has run its first virtual life course, attracting participants from as far afield as Scotland. A face-to-face course run through the autumn was over-subscribed as other options for face-to-face recovery support is extremely limited. The Foodbank has completely changed its approach, delivering food directly to people's homes, whilst demand increased by 100% during the first three months of lockdown.



## The Refurbished Wild Goose Drop-in

In the midst of the pandemic, the Wild Goose drop-in has undergone a much needed face lift, including a new floor, an extended kitchen and reconfigured toilets. The work is due to end this autumn, with the Wild Goose open again in time for winter (albeit in a Covid-secure way).



## Future Plans

The pandemic makes it extremely difficult to make future plans. One pressing priority is to reopen Spring of Hope in a covid-secure way. However, there are aspects of inHope's Development Plan which are more important now than they were before the pandemic:

- To establish four community houses, in partnership with local churches, to provide move on accommodation, particularly for Spring of Hope and Life Recovery guests.
- To equip and resource the wider church with Life Recovery resources, enabling churches to provide support for people in recovery from addiction within their own community.
- To develop opportunities and networks through which clients can develop their employability.

## How can St Michaels pray for inHope?

Please pray for:

- Anyone who will be homeless or facing an uncertain future this winter.
- The amazing team of volunteers that have faithfully served God through the pandemic. Pray too for those volunteers who have had to stay away to shield themselves and others and who we miss seeing on a daily basis.
- The Wild Goose as it reopens more fully following refurbishment.

We thank God for the generous provision of food and practical donations from churches across the city.

St Michael's appointed link person: Rachel Mason

**The  
Wild Goose**

*Meals, support and hope  
for those in need*

**Spring of  
Hope**

*Shelter and support for  
women in need*

**Life  
Recovery**

*Life skills and mutual support  
for those in recovery*

East  
Bristol  
**foodbank**