

BACKGROUND

Crisis Centre Ministries helps the most vulnerable in society by providing food, shelter and support. Many of the people helped by this charity face issues such as homelessness, addiction, mental health issues and broken family backgrounds.

The charity's four projects provides essential shelter, food and practical support to appropriate social and voluntary services.

These projects are:

The Homeless Drop-In Centre, The Wild Goose Café, is open five days a week and six evenings a week where those in need can receive free hot food and practical support.



The Life Skills & Initial Training for Employment Course (LITE) teaches fundamental life skills and basic preparation for work for vulnerable adults.

The East Bristol Food Bank provides short-term emergency food provision to those in extreme need.

The Women's Night Shelter, Spring of Hope, provides temporary safe and warm accommodation and emotional and practical support, to women fleeing from abuse, relationship breakdown and sex work.



OUR VISION

Our vision is to transform lives through offering food, shelter, hope and support to the most vulnerable and marginalised in the community.

OUR MISSION

To empower personal change through:

- The provision of food, encouragement and advice to the hungry.
- The provision of emergency shelter and key-working support to the homeless.
- Serving, providing community, learning & sharing our faith together with those lacking hope.

KEY INFORMATION

In 2014 the charity:

- placed 241 persons into short term accommodation and 23 into long-term accommodation.
- sheltered 110 women with emergency shelter
- served 3200 meals every week 49 weeks of the year
- made 274 visits accompanying clients to courts, rehabs and hospitals
- handed out 1729 food parcels, which fed 3685 people, 1443 which were children
- provided 665 counts of practical help which includes sleeping bags, clothing and furniture
- provided 1760 sessions of listening support

WE WORK IN PARTNERSHIP

- We partner with 136 local church partners and 46 businesses and organisations to run our projects.
- We are supported by 400 volunteers who assist us across the whole organisation.
- We also work with colleges and schools to provide work experience placements for young people who have an interest in this type of work.

HOMELESSNESS IN BRISTOL

Approximately 70 people sleep on the streets *every night* in Bristol (this is based on counts the charity performed in 2013), with a quarter of these being women. John Bird, the founder of 'The Big Issue', estimated it takes three years to recover from being homeless on the streets for three months. Homelessness is also often a catalyst for destructive drug and alcohol habits and mental health issues. Homeless women also face additional dangers of physical abuse, human-trafficking, grooming and rape when sleeping on the streets.

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Crisis Centre Ministries is a mission partner of St Michael's Church and a regular monthly donation is sent to support the work of CCM in Bristol.

Ways for individuals to get involved include:

Volunteer – help at the Wild Goose Café or the Women's Night Shelter or in office admin - your skills can be used in many practical ways.

Pray – sign up for prayer e-mails; join the regular prayer meetings

Give – food, money, clothes, sleeping bags. Current project: give an umbrella to keep a homeless person dry on the streets (golf-size umbrellas needed)

For more information, the link person at St Michael's is Rachel Mason. Please contact Rachel via the Church Office. Tel: 0117 969 2486 or e-mail: admin@stmichaelsbristol.org

See also the CCM website:

www.crisis-centre.org.uk