



Helping the homeless in our city

It is amazing but this time last year I was setting up an Exhibition Stand at The Gathering (a large festival run by Christian Vision for Men), its amazing what a difference a year can make to our lives. I was due to be going again this weekend thankfully they are doing it all online and will be featuring a video about what we do.

We are still very actively engaged in our outreach work and seeing around 30-35 clients per day. It is amazing to continue to being able to have conversations with the clients as people start to open up and their hopes and needs as well as being open to receiving prayer.

A change in the the way that we continue to work will be that Project Beacon will no longer be called this as the Trustees have decided to fully amalgamate it into the rest of the Outreach work that we are doing on Mon-Fri. We will then have two teams going out from Monday to Saturday every morning/lunchtime.

I hope that by the time the next newsletter comes out, I will be able to confirm some really exciting plans that we have for GCM as the lease comes up in November on our current centre and we move in to a time of leaving The George Whitefield Centre after 5 years and carrying on restructuring the way that we help those in need in some new and exciting ways..

Kevin



We are still asking for donations of the following items please to take out on outreach;

- Pot Noodles
- Fray Bentos pies, quick and easy packet meals
- Sun hats (Baseball style caps)
- Small and Medium T shirts (or size 8, 10 and 12 women's t shirt)
- Joggers (s/m/l)
- Leggings (10 and 12)
- Hoodies (size m and l)

We regularly put out appeals for items on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn so please follow us on those channels as well.



THESE EDITIONS OF THE NEWSLETTER WILL ONLY BE PRODUCED DIGITALLY PLEASE SHARE IT WITH FRIENDS/FAMILY/CHURCH/WORK COLLEAGUES ETC

MONTHLY TEXT GIVING

We have a Text Donate Appeal to encourage supporters to give a £1 or even a couple of pounds per month through their mobile phones. This will help us with cash flow and to keep us going in the future.

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Because this donation is done through your phone we hope that you might not even miss the amount that you are giving us :)

It is so easy to do, just; Text GLOSCM to 70085 to donate £3 a month
(Texts cost £3 (or the amount you donate) plus two standard rate messages)

If you would like to give another amount per month you can do this as well up to £20;

“To donate £1 a month text GLOSCM 1”

“To donate £5 a month text GLOSCM 5”

To donate £10 a month text GLOSCM 10”

Thanks to the volunteers who are doing outreach work for us and also to the staff at Pret a Manger in Cheltenham who have partnered with us to provide us with food for outreach sessions on a weekly basis, this week we collected over 60 meals from them.

We have also continued our partnerships with donations from Tesco, Asda and Fare Share.

We must also thank the Gloucestershire Community Foundation for a follow up grant to the one they gave us at the start of the epidemic.



One of our clients was released from prison last week and on his first day out he came to see us with this card that he had made.



I asked some of our staff and volunteers what has kept their spirits up over these difficult past few months. Here are some of their responses;

'Having the time to sit down and really talk to my daughter without playing revolving doors or using a phone. Hearing birds sing clearly rather than through the rumble of traffic. Seeing the seasons come to life by having the time to observe flowers growing in the garden. Normally you don't have the time to have a daily inspection. It has been beautiful to see. The fun and humour of zoom meetings !!! Technology is always amusing. Imagine trying to get 25 family members on a face book messenger video call is hilarious. But most of all what has kept our spirits up is that we have all remained safe and well. My husband has 4 brothers and sisters And I have a brother. All with children and grandchildren. Not one of us has been ill - that is the greatest gift of all - our health, oh and Gin.'

'Being part of the Feed the 5000 team. Zoom meetings with family and friends. Seeing funding coming in for GCM some unexpected, lots from our faithful regular supporters.'

'For me its going back and doing what we do best which is looking after these guys the best way we can, and knowing that i can come home feeling very humble.'

'The beautiful weather we have had and being able to spend time in my garden has really kept my spirits up. Plus exploring the local woods finding new walks and just being in God's amazing creation.'

The 94

by Marlene Brace

Out for a walk the other day
The 94 bus passed my way

It used to be my mode of travel
It got me out, my life to unravel

But alas that came to a bitter end
No shopping, no cafes, no money to spend

This virus came like a thief at night
Giving us all such a terrible fright

The masks, the gloves, the sterilisation
It took all this to shock the nation

The schools were closed... no beer for the dads
And as for mums... they're going mad

They keep giving us another three weeks
hoping that then the virus will peak

Forget this summer, they tell us all
Perhaps we may enjoy the Fall

As for Christmas, that's another tale
Think of January... we'll be off to the sales!

Prayer List

As well as praying for GCM's clients, volunteers and staff please also hold these people in your prayers. To add someone to the prayer list please email GCMprayer1@gmail.com

- Clients in emergency hotels and those who have found themselves back on the street;
- Our Outreach teams
- Families who we cannot be with;
- Our good friend Nick;
- All those who have lost someone to Covid19;
- Our volunteers and friends who are isolated;
- School children and staff who have returned to school, as well as those still at home;
- The Homeless Healthcare Team who continue to look after clients on the frontline;
- The Foodbank for the amazing work they are doing;
- Our Church leaders and their staff;
- Shop staff and those other people returning to work, please give them wisdom and strength to deal with new ways of working.

PLEASE COME AND VISIT OUR ONLINE SHOP. YOU CAN BUY A WHOLE RANGE OF T-SHIRTS, HOODIES, PHONE CASES AND BAGS IN DIFFERENT COLOURS AND SIZES AND ALL PROFITS GO TO OUR WORK

WWW.GLOSCITYMISSION.ORG.UK/SHOP



Please take a few minutes to have a look at our website www.gloscitymission.org.uk Also follow us on



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