



## Bethany Christian Trust: *“Ending homelessness in Scotland one person at a time”*: Possilpark, Glasgow: June 2022 Update

### Context:

Possilpark is one of the most deprived areas in Glasgow: Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019 identifies two Possilpark data zones as being within the top 10 most deprived areas in Glasgow. Perhaps most concerning is that it currently has the lowest life expectancy of all neighbourhoods in Glasgow for both males and females.

The Trusted Executive Charitable Foundation (TTECF) has been supporting Bethany Christian Trust’s community development programme in Possilpark since January 2019 with a series of grants totalling £32,771 (@Aug2021). These grants have helped to support the creation of a community cafe as part of the programme.

### June ‘22 Update:

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#### Recovery by putting learning into practice:

May brought the end of our current Bridge to Freedom recovery programme that has been running for the last year in Possilpark. We were delighted to award 4 people with certificates for completing the course (meaning they had attended most sessions and made a commitment to their recovery by putting their learning into practice) with one individual celebrating a year clean and sober. The Bethany staff team and the groups’ volunteers enjoyed a day out with some of the participants, hiking the nearby Conic Hill. The climb was very symbolic of the journey of recovery; at the beginning it looks too great to achieve and on the way up there was lots of stops and starts. But the group rallied round each other, supporting and encouraging one another when the path got tricky, and trusting that the hard work would ensure they safely arrived to where they needed to be.

The view was magnificent, but even better than that was the sense of achievement and pride from the participants. We were treated to a packed lunch from the Clay Café and a short devotion from one of the church volunteers focusing on what comes next.

As a team we will also be looking at what comes next for the recovery work in Possilpark, restarting outreach and engaging with more people who would benefit from a community based recovery programme.

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#### Putting something back in to help others

Many of the youth apprentices have had exams over the past month, but the majority have managed to complete their self-identified goals and volunteer hours to receive their Level 6 Community Achievement Award. The Board Game Café and the Virtual Schools Café will be taking a break over summer, but after some successful interviews a handful of the young people will be continuing to volunteer on Thursdays, keeping the café open for the same day-time hours as usual.

We are hoping for another Level 6 Community Achievement Award shortly for one of the people we support through Work Placement at Clay Café. C will be hosting an Afternoon Tea event to raise money for a partner charity in Glasgow city centre that has also been supporting her family. It is sure to be a great day, with sandwiches, scones and cakes all made by C as well as a raffle to raise funds to support others in their recovery.

These are great examples of Bethany Christian Trust helping young people to rediscover the joy of achieving goals through their own efforts and the support of those around them. Not only are these young people overcoming addictions but they’re generosity is helping others too. for greater benefit within the community, demonstrating: the ability to deliver, and to be consistent (some of the “Nine Habits of Trust” <https://trustedexecutive.com/nine-habits-of-trust>).