



## Bethany Christian Trust: “Ending homelessness in Scotland one person at a time”: Possilpark, Glasgow: March 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.

### March ‘22 Update:

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#### Discovering value & learning skills for life:

Thursday at Clay Cafe is all about the youth! During the day Emma from Bethany Christian Trust runs the café alongside Virtual Schools Glasgow (part of Glasgow Education Services); a group of young adults who have experience of the care system and aren’t attending school, along with their support workers. They have been attending the café once a week since the beginning of January, learning customer service and hospitality skills. As yet, it’s all been without any customers, but they will soon be opening the doors to serve the community each week.

Emma speaks about one boy in particular; *‘He is around 13/14 and when I first met him he was very shy, covering his face a lot. Yesterday we were behind the coffee bar together, teaching barista skills. He was listening really well, with his head up, and engaging in the conversation.’* It’s amazing to see such a transformation in a few short weeks.

In the evenings “Board Game Café” is going from strength to strength with a team of youth apprentices taking real ownership of running it. Two of them have already completed their Level 6 Community Achievement Award, and another new youth apprentice has joined the team.

Dilly from Bethany Christian Trust says, *“We see so many youth in similar circumstances to both these groups follow a path into addiction, homelessness and unemployment; this is a real chance for each of them to learn valuable employment skills. But more importantly, it helps them realise their personal value and to discover abilities that can be applied to achieve goals they choose to set for themselves in the future.”*

These are great examples of Bethany Christian Trust working creatively for greater benefit within the community, demonstrating: the ability to coach, to deliver, and to be consistent (some of the “Nine Habits of Trust” <https://trustedexecutive.com/nine-habits-of-trust>).