



Bethany Christian Trust: *“Ending homelessness in Scotland one person at a time”*: Possilpark, Glasgow: August 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 £50,216 (@Aug2022). These grants have helped to support the creation of a community cafe as part of the programme.

August '22 Update:

Training pays off:

One of the Youth Apprentices, M, received her Higher exam results in July and was quite disappointed. She had also been applying for Saturday jobs for a while with no response from any of them either.

On the same day as receiving her results she was called into an interview for a customer assistant job she had applied for at a local soft play centre. The job paid the minimum wage for her age (approx £4/hr). During her interview the person asked about the barista training that she had on her CV as their barista had just left. She said if she could make a latte & a cappuccino that the chef was happy with then she could have that job (approx £6/hr). She made the coffees & got the job! Great success story & a real encouragement for M!

Our Youth Apprentices have all done their barista training and practice lots to achieve a high standard at the café, they also complete Community Achievement Awards and some have also done their Food Hygiene Certifications all of which are great additions to their CV's. Our Youth Apprentices come to the café for multiple reasons; for example another YA had an unconditional offer to St Andrews University, but joined the team to get real work experience and build transferable skills outside of academia.

New addition to the team:

We were delighted to welcome Lorna McFadyean to the team at the beginning of August as our new Work Placement Facilitator. Lorna will be supporting Emma and the team at Possilpark with Work Placements at the Clay Café; she will be conducting initial assessments for placements, carrying out regular reviews with line-managers and going over self-reviews with those on volunteer work placements. The Work Placement journey is designed to get people ready for employment, by learning skills, gaining experience and most importantly building confidence in their abilities and support from Lorna will guide each individual's journey.

Lorna is taking on this role part-time as she continues in her other role with [Glasgow City Mission](#), one of our partner charities who also work with people affected by homelessness and poverty in the city.

Queen's Award:

Bethany Christian Trust runs a Care Van service which provides for those in need on the streets with food, hot drinks, help or just someone to speak to (<https://bethanychristiantrust.com/service/care-van-edinburgh/>). The team have received the exciting news that the Care Van service has received a Queen's Award for Voluntary Service!!

This award is equivalent to an MBE for volunteers and is the highest award given to local voluntary groups in the UK.

The Bethany team and our partners [Edinburgh City Mission](#) are so thankful for the dedication of volunteers that go out to serve and care for people on the streets of Edinburgh every day of the year.

Their service is rightly celebrated with this award, and we couldn't be more proud!

James, Bethany Christian Trust's Care Van Manager had this to say:

"The Care Van is an all year round service that provides anyone struggling on the streets of Edinburgh with hot drinks, food and clothing. It's a lifesaver, a first contact. Over 600 volunteers not only provide signposting to other vital services but are also able to build a community of help and trust, combatting exclusion and isolation. We are so grateful to all the volunteers that make it possible."

Read the full story here: <https://www.bethanychristiantrust.com/.../queens-award.../>

These accounts from Bethany Christian Trust's work in Possilpark are great examples of 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 significant life challenges but they're generosity is helping others too. Their commitment and resilience is demonstrating: the ability to deliver, and to be consistent (some of the "Nine Habits of Trust" <https://trustedexecutive.com/nine-habits-of-trust>).