



Bethany Christian Trust: “Ending homelessness in Scotland one person at a time”: Possilpark, Glasgow: March 2024 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 £65,216 (@Feb2024). These grants have helped to support the creation of a community cafe as part of the programme.

March ‘24 Update:

Bridge to Freedom



Jamie is Bethany’s Recovery & Resettlement Worker responsible for The Bridge to Freedom¹ recovery group in Possilpark. The latest programme came to an end this month, with 5 people receiving certificates for completing the year long course. The group enjoyed a wonderful celebration together with food and mini golf.

The feedback showed that 100% of participants felt more self-confident, can respond positively when things get tough, can encourage others and feel able to share their own experiences as

well as learning skills to help them retain a tenancy and seeing improvements in their relationships. Here are some quotes from the group;

‘I trust the people at the group and do not fear sharing. Hopefully this does likewise for others’

‘Life is full of ups & downs - accept the downs’

(What has gone well?) ‘My sobriety - I have learnt to reconcile my triggers and handle them. I have enjoyed the group and the people in it.’

‘The programme works if you work the programme. I am living proof.’

Building a new business:

One of our Youth Apprentices with Glasgow Virtual Schools (in partnership with Action for Children) has been working hard to create his own baking business. When Leo first came to the café he lacked confidence, not even lifting his head to speak but he has grown so much since then, even helping to teach the newer students. For his business he worked hard on the pricing to ensure he made a profit, did practice bakes for quality of the loaves and inviting the other students to help him design the advertising.

These accounts from Bethany Christian Trust’s work in Possilpark are great examples of supporting those often considered least in our society. Recognising and celebrating success, builds confidence and self worth. By walking alongside people for the long term, Bethany are working to

¹ <https://www.bethanychristiantrust.com/service/bridge-to-freedom-recovery-group-possilpark-glasgow/>

transform the community one life at a time and creating resilience through a spirit of hope and generosity. Their care and commitment is demonstrating: the ability to be consistent, and to deliver with kindness & humility (some of the “Nine Habits of Trust” <https://trustedexecutive.com/nine-habits-of-trust>).