

LOVE There Is SOUTHAMPTON Hope

Newsletter 3# (July 2022)

Dear Churches,

Welcome to the 3rd newsletter from Love Southampton.

Love Southampton News:

ANNUAL REPORT: We are delighted to announce that our annual report for 2020 - 2022 has now been published. This uses case studies and evidence to give a detailed overview of the work that Love Southampton has been doing between 2020 and 2022. This includes outlining the work undertaken during the pandemic, being transparent about our governance, and explaining how we have helped in the various areas that we believe we can be supportive with (Food, Debt, Students, Internationals).

You can download a copy of this report from our website [here](#) in both printable and digital versions, and you can also request printed copies by emailing us at matt@lovesouthampton.org.uk, however churches will receive a printed copy anyway over the next week or two.

CORRECT CONTACT ADDRESS: As we look to more proactively work with churches city-wide it would be useful to know how up-to-date our records are. So, if you are receiving this newsletter through a church email address then could please drop us a brief reply to let us know that you have got this. This helps let us know that we are using the right email addresses.

-COMMUNITY SUPPORT QUESTIONNAIRE: One of our goals this year is to gain a good understanding of the various community projects and outputs that the churches operate. With this in mind, it would be appreciated if you would let us know what community outputs (EG foodbanks or debt centres) operate. We can then map this across the City to get a better idea of how the churches are contributing to the community holistically.

We have prepared a google form and have kept the questions as light and easy as possible. You can be as detailed as you want to be and it is obviously completely optional.

The questionnaire can be accessed [here](#).

-FREE USE OF A HOLIDAY COTTAGE FOR REFUGEE FAMILIES: A church on the Isle of Wight is offering a holiday cottage for a free one week getaway. This offer is for 3 refugee families. The families would all come at different times during August and September. They would need a car to get around the Isle of Wight. The accommodation is free - they would

only have to pay for their travel including the cost involved in crossing the island. It would suit families with 1-2 children. Refugees who are a bit more settled and working full or part time and have a car would probably be best suited for this opportunity. Please email sue.butler@welcomechurches.org for more information.

MONTHLY FOCUS: Southampton Street Pastors



Street Pastors

Southampton Street Pastors offer **reassurance, safety and support** through **listening, caring and helping.**

Our trained volunteers run regular patrols at night-time during weekends in Southampton city centre and through the parks. We do Saturday evening patrols, daytime patrols, and afternoon patrols all in different parts of the City. Our 140 volunteers have clocked up over 67,900 hours on patrol since 2009, offering reassurance that is relied upon by door staff, emergency services, city officials and communities.



What we do

We meet and help people in the moment, taking a non-judgmental approach. We look for the vulnerable, those that are unwell, lost, on their own and we intervene where we see predatory behaviour. We help calm emotional or aggressive situations. We engage with those sleeping rough ensuring they have access to services, have enough food and supplies. Many times on the streets we are finding people are open to God. Since Spring 2017 (started to count) to date street pastors have had 1246 faith conversation, prayed with people on 968 occasions and given out 147 Bibles, plus signposting people to churches. Each patrol is supported by at least one Prayer Pastor, who is praying at home or from base, in real time for the encounters the team are having. We see God's presence making such a difference and we see direct answers to prayer.

Testimonies:

“A person in the workplace of a street pastor wanted to express how grateful she was to the team that helped her son on Saturday, she was overwhelmed by the care the team gave him into the early hours. She said they saved his life. Her son has made a good recovery in hospital and is now home.”

“I just wanted to thank you for looking after my daughter and her friends last night. I had never heard of your organisation up until last night and what a wonderful and kind endeavour it is. Thank goodness you were there. ...You are all a reminder of the good there is in the world.”

How you can help?

There are various ways to give to Southampton Street Pastors, to find out more go to:

<http://www.southamptonstreetpastors.org/give>

Or **Text Giving** is quick and easy. To donate:

£1, **text** SSP01 to 70201, £3, **text** SSP01 to 70331, £5, **text** SSP01 to 70970, £10, **text** SSP01 to 70191

If you are considering joining us as a Street Pastor or Prayer Pastor, email

southampton@streetpastors.org.uk, or visit our website

www.southamptonstreetpastors.org/join/

Or just to find out more visit our Facebook page: Southampton Street Pastors.

Kind Regards

Matt Bunday and Prof. Keith Brown

(Project Coordinator & Independent Chair of Love Southampton)