

Brighton  Howe
City Mission

since

1849

YOUR CITY
YOUR MISSION


Serving the City, Church & Christ

YEARBOOK 2017



JULIAN

MISSION DIRECTOR

I am excited and thrilled to be writing this at the start of 2017, in my third year as Mission Director at the Brighton and Hove City Mission (BHCM).

Looking back at the journey we have been on, seeing where we currently are and where we believe we are going in the future, is a great encouragement.

As a Christian, I can see the beautiful and distinctive fingerprints of Jesus leading this charity.

In 2015, we focused on rebranding and streamlining BHCM, ensuring that we are on the right track to serve the city, church and Christ, whilst remaining faithful to our roots.

“**...I CAN SEE THE BEAUTIFUL AND DISTINCTIVE FINGERPRINTS OF JESUS LEADING THIS CHARITY.**”

In 2016, we emphasised how the lives of people are being changed through the work that we do. The sub-theme of “Your Story” was echoed throughout our publicity. As a supporter, you had the opportunity to hear 15 testimonies at Taste and See, and read 12 testimonies in our postal newsletters and 14 testimonies in our e-news.



In 2017, we want to highlight partnerships, real Kingdom building partnerships, between churches and agencies in Brighton and Hove, stretching out across Sussex.

We said we are here to serve city, church and Christ, and we are.



This year, our design still points to our roots in the Victoria era, whilst still echoing the heart of Brighton and Hove, with its amazing design features of refurbished old brick walls and new stylish light bulbs.

But these light bulbs also point to the theme for this year:

Matthew 5:16 says:

“...let your light shine...”

As Christians we are called to shine our lights, the light Jesus has put in our hearts. One light bulb on its own can be effective. However, light bulbs are always connected to a power supply and are, quite often, on a lighting circuit. A whole string of light bulbs, connected to the same power supply on the same lighting circuit, can really illuminate a dark place.

That is why we are passionate about real partnership. We aim to bring unity by equipping and supporting Christians and churches, across our city, so we can shine brightly together to illuminate the dark places – I feel privileged to lead this kind of work for BHCM.

Let's build the Kingdom together.

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SCHOOLS



Our Schools team enjoy visiting many of the schools in Brighton and Hove, providing support, sharing stories from the Bible, and engaging with children in creative ways. The work they deliver divides into three areas.

Our team **provoke interest** in Christianity through engaging assemblies, supporting schools with collective worship, and Social, Moral, Spiritual, and Cultural (SMSC) development. They add flavour to Religious Education (RE), facilitating days that are tailored to meet the needs of each school.

Our team **facilitate connection** with community, faith, one another, peers, and elders by partnering with churches and organisations to provide prayer or reflection spaces in schools. They lead workshops to support primary age children moving on to secondary school, and to encourage young people by promoting positive relationships.

Our Schools team aim to **encourage educators** who serve Brighton and Hove and the surrounding area. They do this by leading Schools Work Training Days throughout the year. They offer Open the Book training for groups of church volunteers and support projects that aim to enrich school life. They host Christians In Education networking events and belong to a prayer network with their partner charity, Off The Fence.





TESTIMONY

It has been a joy to launch our Schools Work Training Days. One of the delegates, Kizzy, is the Children and Families Worker at St Cuthman's Church, Whitehawk, she writes:

"I am developing links with the local primary school in order to support their work and to bolster the Christian elements of their religious education when invited to do so. The training was fun and accessible as it was so interactive; it would have been impossible to get bored! I thought it was really helpful to have a wide approach to looking at the education system. We also learned about a number of styles of storytelling which gave me lots of useful tools to apply to children's work. I have become more adventurous and the knowledge gained on this training course has already impacted my work. My heart for the children throughout the Whitehawk estate is that, in their own time, each one will develop a personal relationship with Jesus and will have a revelation of his love for them."

PARTNERSHIP

Our aim is to work alongside many churches to help grow and equip their schools work. Here is an excellent example of a partnership:

Rev. Steve Daughtery, Rector of TRINITY Lewes writes: "TRINITY has a thriving Youth and Children's ministry, yet, harnessing BHCM's skill set in a partnership, whose agenda is to advance the Kingdom of God, has proved to be a winning combination. If you can see the potential for a partnership with an organisation whose core mission can be used to support yours – why wouldn't you?"

Neil Chisnall Children, Families and Schools Minister writes: "Last year my boss put me in touch with Kerry. We met and realised that BHCM and TRINITY could partner in running Prayer Spaces In Schools (PSIS). Kerry had me going along to a prayer space BHCM were running in Firle CE Primary School and I was not disappointed at what they were running. We then started working on one together, TRINITY provided seven volunteers, and BHCM planned and resourced the space. I know TRINITY are already looking forward to working with BHCM again."

BRIGHTON FOOD BANK



Brighton Food Bank supports individuals and families in financial crisis with emergency food parcels. Often clients have emotional, physical, and spiritual needs when they arrive. Our team work with each client to encourage them to move to the next step, which might involve signposting to local services such as Citizen's Advice Bureau, Christians Against Poverty, debt advice, or housing agencies; sometimes clients may need specific intervention from agencies such as MIND. Each client's situation is looked at on a case by case basis, and appropriate time is allocated whilst they attend the Brighton Food Bank.

As a Christian run food bank our team seek, whenever appropriate, to share their faith and offer prayer. In addition to being a food bank, they also run a Fuel Aid grant scheme. A small number of carefully selected families and individuals struggling with heating in the winter months are currently the most frequent recipients of the Fuel Aid fund.

For those in particularly vulnerable situations, such as homelessness, fleeing from domestic violence, or moving into a new chapter from rehab or prison, our team can assist with a basic Start Up Home Pack, consisting of some essential items, such as kitchen equipment, a towel, and some bedding.

Last year our team handed out 22.7 tonnes of food. With this mountain of food they were able to help 663 people through times of crisis; a shocking total of 108 families, with children, are included in these figures. Our team have also had the privilege of giving a warm welcome to 17 Syrian refugee families, who have settled in Brighton, and provided them with Start Up Home Packs.



THE BRIGHTON FOOD BANK HAS 4 SIMPLE STEPS OF HELP:



REFERRAL & APPOINTMENT BOOKING



FIRST ASSESSMENT



FOOD PARCEL



ONGOING CARE & REFERRALS

PARTNERSHIP

Our aim is to work alongside many agencies and churches to support and equip each other. Here is an excellent example of a partnership:

Sue Stone from Christians Against Poverty (CAP) and Holland Road Baptist Church (HRBC) writes: "HRBC has had a long partnership with BHCM, and are very faithful in supporting the charity by donating food. Sara and I have been able to meet up to exchange ideas and forge closer bonds. I have come in to train and raise awareness of CAP's services amongst the staff, and, on alternate Tuesdays, offer CAP debt help to clients. CAP have been pleased to assist Sara in setting up the Live Well Forum, where Christian agency workers can meet up to discuss the work they do and join together to pray for our city."

BECOME A FOOD BANK COLLECTION POINT

Your church or organisation can become an official collection point for us. Please contact foodbank@bhcm.org.uk to request a food collection bin.

TESTIMONY

Brighton Food Bank has many great stories of individuals and families being significantly helped through times of crisis. Many of the solutions are only achievable because of great partnerships with other organisations. Kerry, a Brighton Food Bank client, writes:

"The Brighton Food Bank has helped me in many ways. When I first started coming over a year ago I was in a very bad place mentally and emotionally. It was thanks to a volunteer at the Brighton Food Bank that pointed me to Safehaven for women at St Peter's Church, Brighton, and this literally saved my life. After speaking with Liz at the Brighton Food Bank and her giving me a leaflet about being special that refers to God making and loving me, I went to Safehaven. After a few months I had been talking to the girls who volunteer there and they suggested the Alpha course to me. This really helped me and changed my view on life. After doing the weekend away with Alpha, I felt a calming peace come over me that I have never experienced in my life before. This is when I felt God close to me and He has never left me since. I was baptised in June 2016 and now I volunteer at St Peter's Church, Brighton."

REST HOMES



Our Rest Homes team comprises of Bev and a team of faithful volunteers. Each month they visit 23 rest homes, a number that keeps expanding and will hopefully do so again in 2017. In most of the homes they lead an act of Christian worship, using familiar hymns, prayers, and a short illustrated talk. Every person in the room is engaged with individually by the team, this may be a conversation, a prayer, or simply making a connection. Each service is tailored to the needs and abilities of the residents in the homes.

Our team also visit individual residents to offer spiritual support or, sometimes, just to provide company and friendship.

The services and visits are very important in encouraging residents in their faith when they have often lost contact with their home churches. In many other instances, people can re-connect with the fledgling Christian faith of their Sunday School years.

**“ PEOPLE CAN RE-CONNECT WITH
THE FLEDGLING CHRISTIAN FAITH
OF THEIR SUNDAY SCHOOL YEARS ”**

PARTNERSHIP

Our aim is to work alongside many churches to partner with our Rest Homes team to present services and offer one to one visitations. Here is an excellent example of a partnership:

Simon James-Morse, Minister of Goldstone Church, Hove, writes: "Goldstone Church and BHCM's Rest Homes team are on a weekly services rota at Lindridge Care Home. It is an opportunity to share the love of Christ through a word, a song, a friendly chat, or simply by holding a hand. BHCM's team bring a heart-felt passion to the residents and staff. As one resident said, "I grew up hating church because I was forced to attend.

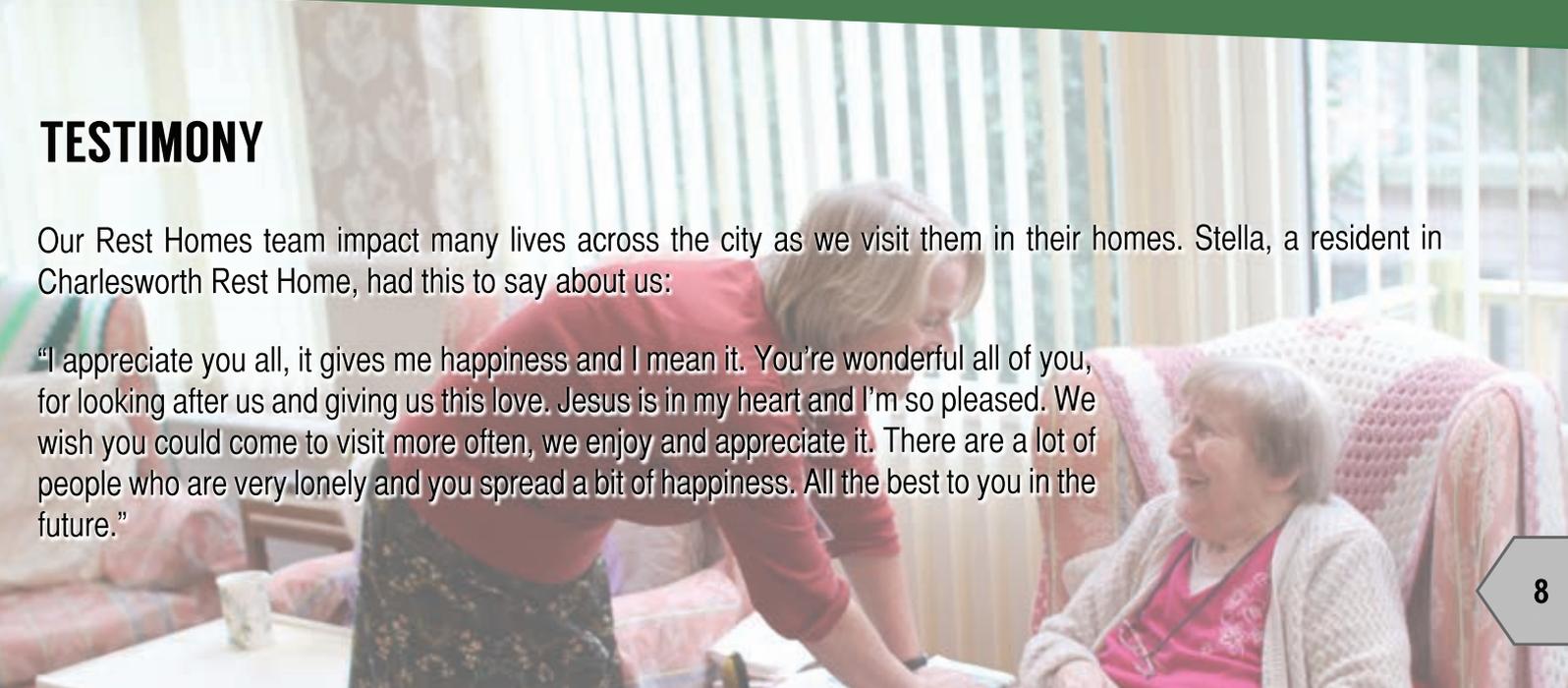
But these services are different." We consider our links in the rest homes an extension of our church, and are delighted when the residents refer to our visits as 'church'. It is a pleasure to partner with BHCM, because together we can demonstrate God's love in our community."



TESTIMONY

Our Rest Homes team impact many lives across the city as we visit them in their homes. Stella, a resident in Charlesworth Rest Home, had this to say about us:

"I appreciate you all, it gives me happiness and I mean it. You're wonderful all of you, for looking after us and giving us this love. Jesus is in my heart and I'm so pleased. We wish you could come to visit more often, we enjoy and appreciate it. There are a lot of people who are very lonely and you spread a bit of happiness. All the best to you in the future."



VOLUNTEER





DON'S STORY

"I was at church and Julian did a talk on all the things the City Mission did and that they needed more volunteers. I thought it sounded interesting, so filled out a form and met Sara, and then Colleen. They started me off in the Rest Homes team. We went in to give a small service and you saw the people there become happy, and that made me happy too. I now also help at the City Mission in the Brighton Food Bank. When you see all the food coming in it makes you think that there are good people out there after all. I found everyone at the City Mission so friendly. I'm so glad I gave it a try, as I really enjoy helping out BHCM. It makes you feel that you are doing something for people who need it, and get to serve God too."

If you want to join our team of over 40 volunteers who serve in Head Office, and across our three teams, please visit: www.bhcm.org.uk/jobs/volunteer-opportunities.



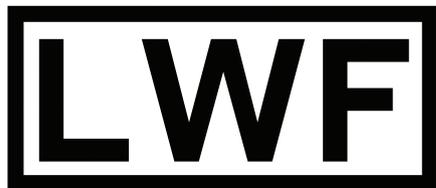


CHRISTIANS IN EDUCATION

An event to connect, inspire, and encourage Christians involved in all aspects of work within the schools and colleges in Brighton and Hove.

In partnership with Off the Fence Schools Team, we welcome teachers, teaching assistants, students, governors, administrative staff, and anyone who cares about their local school to network, over refreshments, and support each other in prayer. There are short talks on a range of subjects, from work life balance to sharing our faith.

For more information, dates, and times, please contact: schools@bhcm.org.uk.



LIVE WELL FORUM

Bringing together Christians working in the wider poverty sector, both professional and voluntary, whether that be in homelessness, debt advice, mental health, food banks, or other support services to network and support each other, both practically and in prayer.

The forum is run in partnership with Christians Against Poverty (CAP).

For more information, dates, and times, please contact: foodbank@bhcm.org.uk.



CHRISTIANS IN THE CARE INDUSTRY

Bringing together Christians in the care industry, working in rest homes, care homes, nursing homes, and the community to network and support each other, both practically and in prayer.

For more information, dates, and times, please contact: resthomes@bhcm.org.uk

BUILDING UPDATE

We are now entering our 4th year of searching for a new building. For some of our faithful supporters this may seem frustrating. We share that frustration as we work in increasingly cramped conditions. We have looked at many potential buildings during the last year, however nothing suitable has yet been found.

We have looked at property in Lewes Road, Ditchling Road, Viaduct Road, Preston Circus, and Islingword Road. We have three irons in the fire, however, the most realistic possibility is partnering with a church to revitalise their large building and their ongoing ministry.

We urgently need a new building for:

Head Office team: Require space for our ever increasing team and volunteers.

Schools team: Require space for our training and resource centre and desks for three staff members.

Brighton Food Bank team: Require ground floor access, with plenty of room for food storage and one-to-one rooms.

Rest Homes team: Require space for a desk and storage.

Training and meeting rooms are also required for our forums and various training courses, as we look to train, equip, and serve the church better.

We already have approximately £100,000 set aside for the new building. To find a suitable building to house an ever expanding City Mission we would need between £500,000 - £1,000,000.

Please join us in prayer, and support us as we keep on pushing forward in our search.



Schools Work Training Days

DAY 1 - WHY? WHAT? HOW?
ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR WORKING IN SCHOOLS

DAY 2 - GOING DEEPER
LET SCHOOLS KNOW WHAT YOU DO

DAY 3 - SHARING YOUR MESSAGE
WHY AND HOW GOOD COMMUNICATION WORKS

DAY 4 - DEVELOPING YOUR WORK
SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT, EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

To find out more e-mail - schools@bhem.org.uk or visit bhem.org.uk/training



FINANCE

In 2016, we saw, and are continuing to see, the fruit from employing a fundraiser two days a week. Unfortunately, our fundraiser left us in September 2016. However, having seen much potential in having a fundraiser on board, we watch in anticipation to see who 2017 brings onto our Head Office team.

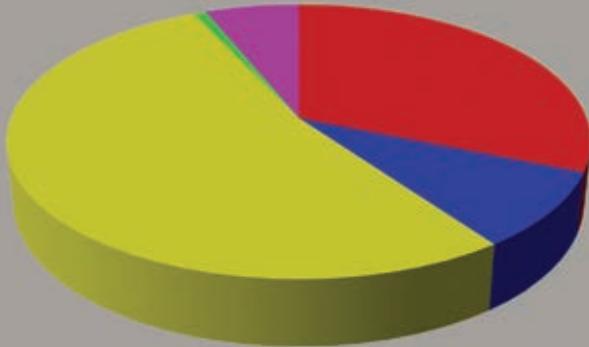
Our deficit saw a decrease of £12,629 during 2016, which means we are moving, and are continuing to move, in the right direction as we enter 2017. We are putting a variety of measures in place to ensure that we break even in 2017, these include a combination of decreasing expenditure where we can, without it having a detrimental effect on the work that we do in our city, and increasing our income across the board, whether that be through individuals, churches, trusts, or businesses.

We have continued to produce our accounts in the same way as we did in 2015. However, with the closing of our Life Stream team, the expenses of Head Office are now split across our teams in the following ways:

- Head Office – 30%
- Schools – 20%
- Brighton Food Bank – 40%
- Rest Homes – 10%

On the next page, you can read how you can keep us moving in the right direction by supporting us during 2017. Here is a brief look at how you supported us in 2016, and how that money was used effectively across our City Mission.

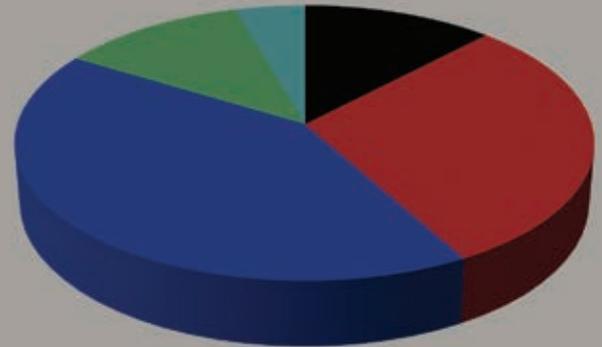
INCOME



- Individuals - £52,125
- Churches - £14,882
- Trusts/Businesses - £88,455
- Legacies - £1,325
- Gift Aid - £10,234

Total Income - £167,021*

EXPENDITURE



- Head Office - £24,702
- Schools - £60,687
- Brighton Food Bank - £85,154
- Rest Homes - £24,200
- Life Stream - £8,997

Total Expenditure - £203,740*

* Figures from the Charity Commission may differ, as they include gifts in kind

HOW FAR CAN YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT GO?

£10 Will enable a service to be held by the Rest Homes team

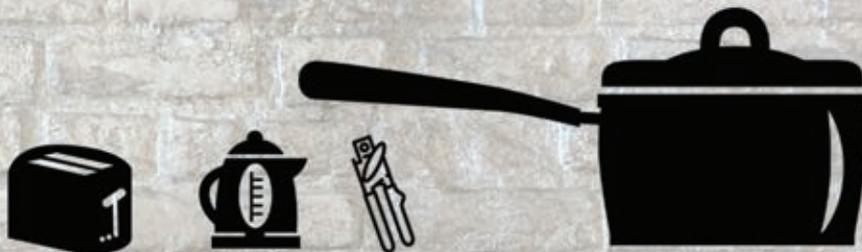


£50

Will provide a client in the Brighton Food Bank with a start up home pack

 **£20**

Will pay for the Schools team to present an assembly in a school



We really appreciate all those who support BHCM financially. If you would like to become one of these people, you can give in two different ways, either through a one off gift or a standing order. Both of these can be done through Stewardship by visiting www.give.net/20022562, or alternatively, please contact Becky on 01273 609484 or at office@bhcm.org.uk.

YOU CAN ALSO FIND AND SUPPORT US ONLINE



FACEBOOK

Brighton and Hove
City Mission

Brighton Food Bank



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Brightoncm

BtnFoodBank



WEBSITE

www.bhcm.org.uk



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E NEWS

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online

Trustees: John Prideaux (Chair), Julian Milson (Vice Chair), Alan Hare (Treasurer), Liz Adshead (Secretary),
Derek Brimley, John Casse, Alice Fanstone

Council of Reference: Colin Annis, Sean Avard, Dr. John Blanchard, Chris Butler, Dr. John Etherton,
Rev. Derek Fortnam, David Goldin, David Harland, John Head, Rev. Neil Milmine, Rev. Philip Moon, Harold Oakley,
Bob Overton-Hart, Michael Pope, Andrew Russell, David Treneer, Steve Walford

BRIGHTON ^{AND} HOVE
CITY MISSION

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