

# News



## Big Sleep Out

A sponsored sleep out on 27 April 2018 raised £60,000 for Cornerstone's night provision – Safe Haven. This enables us to continue our 24/7 service for 24 clients in 10 pods who otherwise would be sleeping rough.



**Mussab** was a refugee from Sudan who lost his accommodation as he was granted status in 2016. From sleeping in the pods, he worked full time as a computer room support worker for Cornerstone and will start university in September 2018.

**Brendan** was homeless after being made redundant. He wrote a letter to Cornerstone and left it at the reception. The next day he was assisted in applying for benefit and was offered a bed. He stayed at Safe Haven pod for five months and started volunteering in the Day Centre. "That experience gave me confidence," Brendan said.

After Christmas, Brendan moved to Morning Star Hostel and was assisted in applying for his own flat. Brendan told us, "I received the keys to my flat now. Thanks to everyone at Cornerstone and Morning Star for helping me and many more people."



## Can you help?



Cornerstone receives no public funds, and we rely completely on the generosity of individuals, organisations and grants from charitable trusts. We are tremendously grateful for the support we have received since we began in 1991: without you, Cornerstone could not be the special place it is for so many people.

As we continue to develop our services to provide for the needs of homeless and vulnerable people in Manchester, we need your support more than ever.

### You can help by:

- \* Regular giving
- \* A one-off gift
- \* Sponsoring an accommodation pod
- \* Sponsoring our Education programme

### Visit us:

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**Cornerstone**  
Caritas Diocese of Salford



**Upholding Dignity  
Giving Hope  
Rebuilding Broken Lives**



Registered Charity No: 1125808

# What is Cornerstone?

Cornerstone is a day centre providing services to vulnerable and disadvantaged adults. We help people facing a wide range of issues including homelessness, poverty, social isolation, poor mental health, and drug and alcohol addiction.

Our aim is to meet the needs of homeless, disadvantaged and isolated adults by providing services that enhance their quality of life. The Centre gives companionship, support and practical help, and enables people to access other statutory, social and Voluntary services.

A Christian ethos underpins our approach, and we welcome clients from all faiths and none.

## Cornerstone in numbers

**150-200** visitors each day

**£1800** a week to run the Centre

**22** volunteers a day

**£6500** a month to run our night shelter

**80** free haircuts a month

**21** free English and Maths classes a week

**35** homeless people accommodated nightly

## Core Services

Cornerstone provides a safe, warm environment in which our clients can access our services. We serve breakfast from 10.30am, a hot lunch, sandwiches, and tea and coffee throughout the day.

### We also provide:

- Shower facilities
- Laundry facilities
- Clothing shop
- Free haircuts
- Computer suite
- CV Surgery



## Health and wellbeing

We recognise that our clients need more than the basics of food and shelter. Through a range of activities offered throughout the week, we aim to build people's sense of dignity and self-esteem, offering opportunities for them to use their gifts and skills or develop new ones.



### Activities include

- Allotment work
- Bingo & quiz
- Table tennis
- Football league
- Group walks
- Art and craft group
- Cornerstone choir

We also run a programme of occasional trips further afield during the summer months, offering clients the chance to explore the countryside around Manchester

## Developments

### Safe Haven Night Shelter

Ten specially adapted porta cabins provide warm, safe accommodation on site for up to 24 people. As well as enabling us to help rough sleepers off the streets and into permanent housing, the pods have also enabled us to house a number of Syrian and Sudanese refugees.



### Houses

Finding 'move-on' accommodation for clients using our pods is a major challenge. In partnership with St Vincent's Housing Association, Cornerstone now rents four houses in Manchester. These provide a stable home for clients moving out of the pods, giving them a basic level of security while they find suitable work or education, and enabling us to help more people off the streets.



### English and Maths

Cornerstone now employs 3 teachers with 35 volunteers to manage and deliver our growing free English classes. These are key in helping refugees and international clients gain the language skills they need for employment and integration. We also have a volunteer math teacher