

Preston PM

Financial Support for a local Shelter

Members and attenders from Preston PM have been contributing financially to the work of the Fox Street Shelter for the past ten years. The donations are collected on a monthly basis, and are sent every few months directly to the manager of the shelter. From time to time, we receive an update on the work of the shelter (see below), and know that the money is put to very good use. The amount of money collected each year exceeds £200.00 and is a fair demonstration of pennies making pounds!!

Dear Friend

Firstly thank you very much for the support you give to the ongoing work of Fox Street Community shelter. This newsletter goes out to our supporters so the fact you are receiving this means we do greatly appreciate all that you do and value the vital part you play in the successful running of the shelter. Our hope is that in this brief update we'll fill you in on what is happening and help you to understand more of what is currently happening in Fox Street, what will be happening over the next weeks and months and possibly other areas where you can be involved in what is happening.

As you may have read in the local paper, Fox Street and a number of other homeless providers in Preston were allocated funding from the government in January. We have secured funding for a complete refurbishment of the building. We now have exciting and ambitious plans which will completely overhaul the current facilities. All of this money is ring fenced for the physical development of the premises and we will still very much rely on donations from retailers and individuals without whom we wouldn't be able to provide the services we do. With these developments we will go from dormitories to individual rooms, the rebuild will have interview, training rooms and both a teaching kitchen and laundry.

Fox Street has also been allocated increased funding by Supporting People for a new and revised staff structure where a greater emphasis will be on individual development and rehabilitation. These are exciting times in our development, within the last month two senior development workers have started, an office manager appointed and the selection process for a manager is nearing completion.

There are 34 beds in Fox Street; we are an all male facility. More often than not these beds are full, we are an emergency direct access hostel which means individuals can present themselves at the door and if we have a free bed they can be booked in. This does make use high-risk, but it also helps us to meet the great need that exists in Preston, we can immediately help those most in need without making them go through a referral process.

Fox St community provides more than just a roof. We serve 3 meals a day and provide access to medical services. This is done through the NHS Homeless Team. As a house would, we have sofas, dining tables, a Television, computers and game consoles.

Thanks again for your support, if you could like any further information please don't hesitate to contact me.