

Spring 2017 prayer letter



The Grosvenor Centre t 0117 909 8832
138a Grosvenor Road, f 0117 941 2382
St. Pauls, Bristol, e office@one25.org.uk
BS2 8YA w www.one25.org.uk

Dear Prayer Supporters

I am so pleased to be working for One25 and thoroughly enjoying my new and busy role. I come to the organisation from a background in working to provide services to women who have experienced domestic abuse and women who have had contact with the criminal justice system.

It has been very cold lately and I have been thinking about the women we work with sleeping rough at night; please pray for them to have shelter. Two women at our drop-in are currently pregnant; please pray for their health and wellbeing. May they be prompted to engage with us and take up the safe options we recommend.

All change

I also ask you to pray for me and the rest of the team at One25 (a few of them also new). Change can be exciting but we all have a lot to learn and need to support each other through this busy time as we settle into our roles. I would ask you to give thanks for this new, full complement of staff.

Pause Bristol

One of the biggest challenges we face at the moment is the Pause Bristol programme which One25 will host. Pause Bristol will work with 20 women over 18 months; women who have had two or more children permanently removed from their care. These women have often not been supported through this deeply traumatic experience and, as a result, many go on to have more children removed.

Pause provides innovative support. Participation is voluntary and by committing to the programme women agree to take contraception during their time on Pause. In this instance, the most effective form of this is a long acting reversible contraception. The purpose of this is to allow them to have the opportunity to reflect and focus on their own needs, often for the first time in their lives.

There is a great deal of excitement in Bristol about this programme and we are working hard to ensure that we recruit the right staff and begin to work well with the women who need the service most. Please pray for discernment in doing this.

Please pray for these particular women:

Lucy is still only seen through outreach. She asks for prayers for safety. Please pray for so much more.

Jamelia remains in prison where she is also dealing with some significant health worries. There are other big uncertainties in her life to do with her family. She is up and down but feels confused and in a state of limbo. Please pray for peace.

Camilla is still at risk of losing her home. Her lack of immigration status is the main cause of her not being able to move on. Pray that she finds hope and is able to get the legal help she needs.

Portia has left her abuser but has dropped off the radar. She is so young and has experienced so much trauma. Pray that she comes to realise her worth and that she trusts and comes to One25.

Kezia is out of the brain injury unit after the attack that put her on life support. She's out of Bristol now, back with family. Please pray that she continues to heal and be made whole in all parts of her life.

Lulu's relapse was temporary and she is engaging well with groups and services. She's determined to beat her addiction but obviously it's a huge struggle. Pray that she has resilience and that her feelings of guilt and isolation are transformed.

Netty has had her beautiful baby. She is making great progress in her recovery from addiction but her baby has gone straight to a foster placement and she feels so sad. Pray that she stays strong...

"It's the best I've felt in a long time and I couldn't have done this without the support of One25. You've all been amazing. I now have contact with my family and structure in my day." - Netty

Thank you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna." with a period at the end.

Anna Smith
Chief Executive Officer