

## **Dear Prayer Supporters**

There's so much to be thankful for at One25! We here in the office, in drop-in and on outreach are thankful for your prayers. And those of us who have faith in God have seen his blessing in so much of our good news.

## **Safety**

With new Comic Relief funding we can now employ a second IDSVA (independent domestic and sexual violence adviser). The majority of street sex-working women experience violence and this can severely exacerbate other needs around mental health, addiction or housing, for example. The caseload is so big and the work so sensitive; another IDSVA hugely improves our ability to be there for women in their trauma and in the shame of feeling so vulnerable. Please pray for them – that, in time, their weakness may be their strength.

## **Community**

Since I last wrote in the summer, the 'Peony' service has got up and running and nearly 30 women have attended. When I visited recently I was struck by the confidence and openness of these women who are now finding their feet outside of One25's drop-in. As women's regularity grows, we're also seeking to open up the offer of a safe space and nurturing programme to other vulnerable women not from Pause or One25. Would you pray for discernment and wisdom for us as we assess women with similar needs? Let God's hand of justice be in our work in the city as we try to meet these unmet needs.

## **Vision**

Some of the vision is becoming reality - to see women move from high support and towards independence. We know that this vision for lives restored is shared by many others and for many others. So we're now recruiting for a role embedded within St Mungo's new 'Somewhere Safe To Stay' outreach team, working to divert people from their first night sleeping rough. Please pray that this new field of work will reach hidden women.

I would also ask you to pray for our new Board of Trustees which has shaped up to look really strong: may their work be filled with the same vision, energy, purpose and generosity that our other amazing volunteers show.

The next Vision for the Vulnerable meetings are: 23 April, 2 July and 9 October. We'll send out an email when we hear which venues have been chosen.

### **Praying regularly for specific women**

Prayer volunteers are still working to ask women their consent to be included below. As you may imagine, it can be difficult to ask this kind of question when being asked to pray about things which may be traumatic. We are also making plans to look at how prayer can be better embedded into the life of drop-in.

It's been so good to see **Shirley** build a relationship with her support worker. This has helped her to do really positive work on her emotional health. In turn, she's been able to begin to address problems with her tenancy. Please pray that there is understanding and compassion in this situation. Also give thanks for her bravery and determination, that she's finding ways to be less isolated and is focusing on a fresh start for 2019.

*Behold, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth  
I tell you of them.*

Isaiah 42:9

Thank you, as ever.

Kind regards,

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

Anna Smith  
Chief Executive Officer