



step away from the streets

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Dear Prayer Supporters

As I was writing our annual business plan, setting targets and goals, I realised we now need close to 300 volunteers to keep all of our services running throughout the year. Each of them is so appreciated by the women and, of course, we staff. They're not only essential, they bring so much personality to what we do.

Please thank God for the good standing we have locally that draws so many volunteers and supporters, and that Christian congregations and communities may play a bigger part in this.

Rich blessings

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Christmas appeal which raised three times the amount of the previous year! Now I'm getting really excited about my 'Wonderful Women' group. Nine have joined so far and we met for the first time a fortnight ago, aiming to raise £50k from corporations. With their enthusiasm and networks, I feel confident we can – may this be blessed as a way of making relationships too, not just raising needed funds.

The Pause team will now run a peer mentor programme. Similar to the peer mentoring at Peony, this will support women from Pause to gain skills, confidence and to positively get involved in their wider communities. Please pray that this work is blessed.

Short notice

We are working hard to recruit van volunteers for back-up team who don't mind being contacted at short notice. Sadly the van outreach has had to be cancelled a few times recently owing to sickness. Please pray for good health among volunteers and thank God for their committed generosity – those late night shifts can be absolutely exhausting.

She can make it

Finally, please pray for one woman who we know will do so, so well if she stays in rehab. She's been through detox, went to rehab but then discharged herself before Christmas. We were so worried about her. She's back in now though - she's making plans and has a job to look forward to if she can make it.

Praying regularly for specific women

Although **Shirley** has come so far of late, there have been some horrible setbacks. Not only was she assaulted in her flat and has been robbed in the street, but also she was forced by a group of drug dealers to let them use her flat. Her mental health and physical health have both suffered. But despite all this, she's hugely determined to stay on her script. Please pray that this strength endures.

Sadly, **Lucy** has come off her script and hasn't been to drop-in for a while. Her family are really supportive and want to be in touch but she's struggling. This could all turn around for the better so quickly and she's still got her housing after being homeless for such a long time. May God use the events of her life to give her the opportunity to re-engage with staff here; to re-assure her that she is worth every effort.

Camilla is doing really well, keeping safe, away from the streets and in her accommodation. She is linked in with a number of other services and even though she has so little money, she prioritises getting to various appointments around the city. Buses are taking a lot of what she has to spend but she's also managing to cook well at home and eat well in drop-in. We pray she continues to be nourished by all around her and gets the quality of support that she deserves.

*"Answer me, O Lord, for your steadfast love is good;
according to your abundant mercy, turn to me."*

Psalm 69:16

Vision for the Vulnerable meetings in 2020 (from 7pm to 9pm) are:

28 April:	Woodlands Church, Woodland Road, BS8 2AA
14 July:	Horfield Methodist Church, 1 Churchways Avenue, BS7 8SN
13 October:	Christ Church Clifton, Clifton Down Road, BS8 3BN

Thank you,



Anna Smith
Chief Executive Officer