



For women to **heal and thrive**

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Dear Prayer Supporters,

It was an honour to attend the Vision for the Vulnerable meeting a couple of weeks ago and to meet those of you who were there. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Safety and health

As we move into the winter months we are seeing women accessing our outreach van who are out working despite the cold and rainy weather. Please pray for women's health during this season and that we will connect with them and be able to support them to access somewhere safe and warm to stay.

Night outreach pilot

The plan now is to pilot an expanded 7-night outreach van service. This should start in early December and run through the height of the winter season. The recruitment for weekend outreach workers is underway and additional volunteers have started their training. Please pray for this project and for all of One25 services – for us to be where the women need us most, to best meet their needs.

Protection and resilience

We continue to ask for prayer for the difficult work we do in challenging contexts. We ask for continued prayer for our staff and volunteers, for their protection and resilience as they provide support to the women. We are still experiencing an impact to services due to the Covid pandemic. However, we are grateful that we are able to open and run services safely for the women.

Thanks for stories of hope

The stories of hope that we hear from women we meet give us such encouragement. Whether it's a story such as Liz's (that can be found in our annual report) or that of Trudy Makepeace (who recently launched her book *Abused, Addicted, Free*) or whether these are smaller stories of bravery, like a woman walking through our drop-in doors for the first time...

We continue to hold relentless hope for every woman that we meet.

Praying regularly for specific women

Having been feeling so low with her really poor health, it's so good to see a turnaround in **Shirley's** mood. She's recognised that the health issues have left her needing additional support. Although this was hard for her to accept she's engaged with a social worker to get a community care assessment. As well as this she's worked with Dr Lucy to get onto a different substitution drug prescription and this new medicine is working really well for her. Shirley's been active in drop-in taking part in lots of creative activities – she's animated and articulate and is beginning to think about how to break the cycles of ups and downs that she goes through. Please pray that she stays buoyant, keeps to her script and isn't afraid to reach out for help when she needs it.

Give thanks that **Lucy** still has her tenancy but please keep praying for her as she is frightened of the consequences of getting the police involved with the threatening drug dealers in her building. She's not been seen much and her physical health is very poor. She's so isolated and experiencing some very dark thoughts. But her caseworker keeps sending her cards and showing her love and care. Lucy even came to drop-in recently and was welcomed so warmly by other women there. Please pray that she begins to know love as a path to healing; pray for her safety and for her health.

Although **Camilla** was so keen to go into a residential detox, when she visited beforehand it felt too much like a prison and would have been too much. This was after her community detox didn't work out and she feels she is a failure. Addictions like hers mask massive traumas and without the substance it's often hugely overwhelming – it's such a hard thing to do. Please pray that she understands that it's not her fault. When she'd been feeling good she was getting involved in activities at Peony and elsewhere – please pray that she finds hope in these, that her immigration status keeps progressing, that her physical pain heals and that she keeps her safe housing.

*“...and the people all tried to touch him,
because power was coming from him
and healing them all.”*

Luke 6:19

Thank you,

Maxine Johnson

Operations Manager (maternity cover)