

## Cardiff Churches Nightshelter

### Cardiff Churches Nightshelter 2017-2018

**What** - Seven Churches from differing traditions who host 15-20 homeless people each night during Winter. Each Church hosts a separate night each week. Each Church provides a warm, safe and comfortable place for homeless people to rest after being on the streets all day. Hot meals are provided. Most centres have camp beds and duvets with separate sleeping areas for men and women. There are also clean clothes donated for those who need it. Some Churches have also shower facilities.

**Why** - The Churches Nightshelter work in close partnership with Cardiff Council's outreach team which also has shelters up and running during the winter months. The Churches Nightshelter offers extra places as well as two cooked meals. This service is offered out of a desire to help and bring the hospitality of Christ to all who need it. It is an opportunity for people who follow Christ to give something back that can make a difference as well as fulfilling the commands of our gospels.



**Who** - Each hosting church has three teams (evening, night and morning) which are staffed entirely by volunteers. The evening shift has about 6-8 helpers, the evening shift has 3plus and the morning shift has about 5plus helpers. Church run night shelters have been going a long time in England and came to Newport a number of years ago. Pastor Dave Pritchard started the Cardiff Churches Nightshelter and remains deeply committed to his original vision to do all that we can to help and rescue those who are deeply vulnerable because of homelessness and the causes of homelessness.

**When** - The Nightshelter nights start on 18 December and go on until the end of March. We normally welcome people around 7pm although the team arrive before this at 6pm to set up. Other activities are cooking, serving, spending time with the guests, and so on, and runs through to 10pm. The Night shift starts at around 9:30pm and runs through to 7am. This is the easiest and quietest shift as the guests are in bed with the lights out, but it is the longest shift. The morning shift is from 6:30am to 9am. This is the shortest shift but it can be the busiest as breakfast needs cooked, guests encouraged to get out of bed, and the beds have to be put away, rooms hoovered, toilets and kitchen cleaned etc.

**Where** - The Churches currently hosting the Nightshelter are: Seventh Day Adventist Church, Grangetown Baptist Church, Capel Salem, St Mary's RC Church, Calvary Baptist Church, St Peter's RC Church, St German's and St Saviour's.

**How** - To get involved please contact any of the Churches. To help out with the St German's Nightshelter please complete a volunteer form and we will inform you of the next training night which will look more closely at our policies and good practice honed over the last seven years the Nightshelter has been running. How much you want to help is down to each individual. Our hope is to have enough volunteers that people only need to help out around once every three weeks.

**More** - We really need as much help as possible. To find out more you can contact the Rev'd Phelim O'Hare, priest in charge at St German's and St Saviour's Church, on 02922 411229 or by email on [phelimohare@gmail.com](mailto:phelimohare@gmail.com). For this form and other documents please visit [www.saintgermanwithsaintsaviour.org](http://www.saintgermanwithsaintsaviour.org) and click on our Nightshelter page.

