

# #HOMELESS PASTORS

HOW TO TRAIN TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER & HOMELESS PASTOR





# INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Homeless Pastor. We work across the UK to get the homeless and rough sleepers off the streets, into community and equipped for life.

This document will explain everything you need to know about how to become a Homeless Pastor and what to expect from our training

# CONTENTS

<b>TRAINING OVERVIEW</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>LIGHT GROUPS</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>LEVEL ONE</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>LEVEL TWO</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>LEVEL THREE</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>LEVEL FOUR</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>LEVEL FOUR - LEEDS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>LEVEL FIVE - TWELVE STEPS RECOVERY</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>GRADUATION</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>GET IN TOUCH</b>	<b>11</b>



# TRAINING OVERVIEW



We break our training programme down into five stages, with each progression seeing the candidate take on more responsibility. When each stage is successfully passed, you will receive a coloured lanyard, indicating your stage of progression. Each stage takes roughly four weeks to complete and training will only commence once a DBS check has been completed and references received.



# LIGHT GROUPS

Light Groups are an integral part of The Homeless Pastors Outreach programme. It is a tried-and-tested model of community group that tackles isolation and gets people back into the community. They deal with the spiritual and emotional burdens that members may be facing by exploring issues such as forgiveness and thankfulness. They are a place where people can encounter the love of Jesus and respond to the good news of The Gospel.

## RECOVERY JOURNEY

In order to develop a strong faith in God, people need to build new foundations away from alcoholism and drug use. In addition, many people suffer from severe mental health related issues. The Light Group understands and appreciates these challenges and works with individuals to leave chaos behind and experience peace in supportive communities.

We use existing recovery resources and discussion points to help people maintain their journey but also consider rehabilitation and a life without drink and drugs.

We encourage people to further access church and work with local church leaders to develop constructive pathways.

**'COMING TO THE GROUP IS HELPING ME FIND PEACE OUT OF CHAOS. IN THE GROUP DISCUSSIONS, EVERYONE CONTRIBUTES HONESTLY AND THERE'S A REAL SENSE OF FAMILY. I'M JUST BEGINNING TO DISCOVER THAT GOD LOVES ME.'**

## HALIFAX LIGHT GROUP ATTENDEE





# LEVEL ONE

Level one lasts for four weeks and must be completed to graduate to the next level. Level one contains the following.

## **INTRODUCTION TO HOMELESS PASTORS**

This outlines our work with the homeless and a brief introduction to volunteering and outreach.

## **INTRODUCTION TO OUTREACH**

More detail about what to expect on outreach and includes scenarios training.

## **GOING ON OUTREACH**

Attend four outreaches in a four week period.

## **ATTEND LIGHT GROUPS**

Light Groups are conversational groups led by a Homeless Pastor. These groups help create community and have a different theme each week. Candidates are required to attend two Light Groups over the four week period. More details on page 3.

## **ONE-TO-ONE WITH HOMELESS PASTOR**

A one hour meeting over coffee to find out how you are doing and to feedback.

## **GRADUATION**

Once you have successfully completed these steps, you have graduated to level two.



# LEVEL TWO

Level Two of your training lasts four weeks and must be completed before graduating to the next level. Level Two contains the following.

## **GOOD BOUNDARIES TRAINING**

Having the right boundaries is essential, for both the homeless folks and yourself. This session will teach you how to build and maintain good boundaries.

## **GOING ON OUTREACH**

Attend four outreaches. Four will be critiqued by the team leader.

## **ATTEND LIGHT GROUPS**

Attend two Light Groups over a four week period.

## **SAFEGUARDING TRAINING**

Safeguarding is really important. Our priority is to keep the homeless folks and the team safe at all times. This session lasts 1.5 hours.

## **DRUG AWARENESS TRAINING**

Basic training in drug awareness, what to look out for and how to deal with drug use and the individual.

## **ONE-TO-ONE WITH HOMELESS PASTOR**

A one hour meeting over coffee to find out how you are doing and to feedback.



# LEVEL THREE

Level three of your training lasts four weeks and must be completed to graduate to the next level. Level three contains the following.

## **INTRODUCTION TO HOMELESSNESS SERVICES & NETWORKING**

It's important to help people off the streets, as quickly as possible. So knowing who can help and what services are available is essential.

## **ATTEND OUTREACHES**

Attend four outreaches, one will be critiqued by the team leader.

## **FINAL OUTREACH WORKSHOP**

In this workshop we will discuss what has worked over the last twelve weeks and look at real life scenarios of homelessness.

## **ATTEND LIGHT GROUPS**

Attend four Light Groups over a four week period.

## **DROP-IN SESSION**

Attend two drop in sessions at a local organisation helping the homeless, accompanying a homeless pastor.

## **FIRST AID TRAINING**

Having knowledge of first aid is sometimes needed. This session is essential to keep people safe.

## **SUICIDE AWARENESS TRAINING**

Knowing when people are struggling and suicidal will help save lives. This session lasts 2 hours.

## **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TRAINING**

Understanding the stigma behind mental health and being able to support people suffering with their mental health.

## **ADVANCED DRUG AWARENESS TRAINING**

A more detailed look at drug use and training with Naloxone can save lives.

## **ONE-TO-ONE WITH SENIOR MANAGER**

A one hour meeting over coffee to find out how you are doing and to feedback.

## **ASSESSMENT**

All candidates are required to complete an hour long oral assessment, in order to graduate to level four.



# LEVEL FOUR

Level four of training lasts ten months and adds the spiritual and pastoral element of the training, with some of the practical skills to develop your own locality for homeless outreach and delivering Light Groups. Completion of this level will graduate you into becoming a Homeless Pastor

## LEEDS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Attend Leeds School of Theology “Ministry in the Margins” course. (One evening per month for 10 months). Details on the following page.

## LIGHT GROUPS

Lead two Light Group sessions (feedback given).

## OUTREACH

Lead four outreaches with feedback given.

## DROP-IN SESSIONS

Attend two drop-in sessions and give advice to the homeless.

## SOCIAL MEDIA, BRAND & MARKETING

We will support you and help you to understand social media, the Homeless Pastors brand and how to promote and market it.

## FUNDRAISING & EVENTS

In order to make the homeless pastors sustainable, we organise fundraising events. Learn to develop your own local fundraising events using our tried and tested tips and knowledge.



# LEVEL FOUR - LEEDS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Having a robust understanding of The Gospel and to clearly articulate it is central to what we do. The Leeds School of Theology provide sound theological training that inspires and equips you to engage with those on the margins in a way that looks and loves like Jesus. The course, will include passionate teaching which fuses together Biblical studies, theological reflection, interviews with people with lived experience, cultural analysis, historical case studies and cutting edge research on addiction and trauma to inspire and equip the church to engage with those on the margins. Topics include...

**BUILDING COMMUNITY**

**LEADING ACCESSIBLE WORSHIP FOR**

**VULNERABLE ADULTS**

**WHY THE HELL DO BAD THINGS HAPPEN?**

**ADDICTION AND RECOVERY**

**HELPING WITHOUT HURTING**

**TRAUMA: HOPE FOR HEALING**

**VISION AND VALUES OF HEALTHY THEOLOGY**

**MISSIONAL THEOLOGY FOR THE MARGINS**

**JUSTICE AND THE HEART OF GOD**

**THE IMAGE OF GOD**

# LEVEL FIVE (OPTIONAL)

## 12 STEPS LIFE RECOVERY TRAINING (2 DAY COURSE)

Twelve steps training in how to deliver groups with the Life Recovery model.

## UNDERTAKE 12 STEPS PERSONALLY

## DELIVER 12 STEPS GROUPS IN A LOCAL CHURCH OR COMMUNITY SPACE



# GRADUATION

After graduation we will develop your role in your local area, supporting you as you continue as a Homeless Pastor.

## ONE-TO-ONE WITH SENIOR MANAGER

A one hour meeting over coffee to find out how you are doing and to feedback.

## REGULAR NETWORKING WITH OTHER HOMELESS PASTORS

A chance to connect and network with other Homeless Pastors sharing experiences, and best practice advice and support.

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Additional training will be provided throughout your time as a Homeless Pastor to ensure the advice you are giving is up-to-date.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Every year we will meet together as a team to share encouragement, fellowship, pray and eat together.





# GET IN TOUCH

We hope that having read through this document, you are inspired to get involved with our life-transforming work. If you have any questions or would like to discuss further with us - get in touch.

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