

# DOORWAY SUPPORTERS NEWSLETTER

## DOORWAY'S MISSION STATEMENT

**Our mission is to assist young adults in their quest for safe, affordable accommodation and to work alongside agencies within our communities to raise awareness of and help alleviate the causes and effects of homelessness.**

## WELCOME

Welcome to the spring edition of Doorway's Supporters Newsletter.

We are sure you have all seen on the news in recent months the cuts the government are making and this means it going to be a very difficult time for Doorway in the future with the cuts already hitting hard and affecting the services of the voluntary sector.

Unfortunately funding for our key services is under threat, at a time when young people are even more vulnerable and at risk. We still await to hear the amount our funding is going to be cut. This is why we need as much support from the public as possible.

We are also sad to report that the future of the Connexions Service is also very uncertain at present as Government funding cuts have taken effect and many staff have been made redundant. We have worked closely in partnership with Connexions since we started and receive the majority of referrals from them as it is the first place young people go for advice.

However its not all doom and gloom. On a very positive note, we reported in our last newsletter that all our services were being audited by Warwickshire County Council Supporting People team and we were awaiting results. We are very proud to confirm that we achieved an outstanding result by gaining an overall "A". This is a very thorough audit of all of our services and something we worked hard to achieve.

Doorway is proud of the support it offers and the difference we make to the lives of the young people we work with. However, we are not complacent and we continue with our policy of continuous improvement, striving to achieve better results for our clients.

Other positive news is the amount of donations and other offers of support Doorway has received over the past 6 months, which is further mentioned on page 2 of our newsletter.

We would like to thank each and everyone of you for supporting our Charity and hope you will continue to do so in the future.

## Inside this issue:

Welcome	1	Our recently published Annual Report (available to view and download from our website at <a href="http://www.doorway.org.uk">www.doorway.org.uk</a> ) shows that in the period April 09—March 2010 our advice service had <b>481</b> new referrals from 16-25 year olds which equates to <b>40 referrals for help each month</b> . We also received 81 enquiries from other parts of the County.
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## DOORWAY STATISTICS

### 3 IN 4 SUCCESS RATE

We also supported a total of **79 young people** in their accommodation during the year. Of these more than 7 out of 10 moved on from the service successfully which means Doorway enabled the majority of our young people to make significant changes in their lifestyles and attitudes through a combination of being offered a stable living environment, relevant training and one-to-one key working. Almost three-quarters of them have

escaped the downwards spiral to which homelessness often leads, and progressed to better things. It's a positive result for them, for us and for the whole community.

We are currently supporting **51 young people** in both our private landlord accommodation as well as Local Authority Accommodation, in Nuneaton, Bedworth and North Warwickshire.



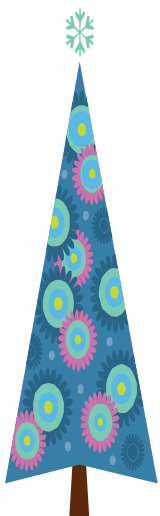
## Thank you for the harvest gifts

Once again our wonderful supporters in the congregation at St James Church and the parents of St James Church of England Junior School, both in Bulkington, have provided a magnificent range of non-perishable foods, toiletries and cleaning products from their harvest festival collections. We are able to use these gifts to provide basic food for clients in accommodation throughout the coming year. Thank you all for your generosity. Your efforts are much appreciated and we would like to thank you all for your help.

As well as harvest gifts we are hugely grateful to everyone who has supported us since our last newsletter including the individuals and organisations listed on this page.

St Nicolas PCC  
 Attleborough Baptist Church  
 Yorkshire Bank & Clydesdale Bank Foundation  
 EON  
 Mr & Mrs Cashmore  
 Mr & Mrs Anstey  
 Mr Mindham  
 Coniston Tavern  
 Staff at Learning & Skills Council, Coventry  
 Nuneaton Lions  
 Bedworth Round Table  
 Queen Elizabeth School, Atherstone

Staff at Higham Lane School, Nuneaton  
 Ms McBride & Ms Wood  
 Staff at HMRC Coventry  
 Staff & Domestic & General Bedworth and Head Office  
 Students and staff at North Warwickshire & Hinckley College  
 Young People's Funding Agency  
 The Student Community Ambassadors of Nicolas Chamberlain Technology College, Bedworth



## Christmas at Doorway

Many thanks to Bedworth Round Table, the staff at Higham Lane School, The Skills Funding Agency and the Young People's Funding Agency for their kind generosity. From the gifts and donations received we were able to give each young person supported through Doorway a Christmas Hamper comprising of items such as food, modest treats, decorations and a wrapped Christmas present. This made a huge difference for the young people who live on very minimal incomes as Christmas is an expensive time of year and some of these young people are unable to return to their families.



The sacks ready for delivery!

**Also from the donations we have been able to invite all young people supported by Doorway out for a Christmas Meal/New Year meal. A total of 15 young people came along but some were camera shy!!**



## FUNDRAISING

**WANTED!**

### Become a Fundraising Volunteer

Doorway is searching for fundraising volunteers to support us with fundraising events.

Whether it's a pub quiz, dance or rock concert, jumble sale or helping us bag pack near Christmas we want to hear from you!

Perhaps you're taking part in an event such as the London Marathon or Great North Run and would consider Doorway as your beneficiary.


Do you have any unwanted CD's, DVD's, books or old PC games you don't ever listen to, watch, read or play? Can you donate them to Doorway? Please bring them into the office in Bedworth.

We also require any unwanted presents or items you may have which are suitable for tombola's and raffles


### Make a Donation

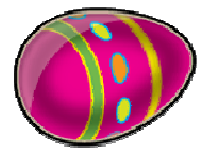
If you are unable to participate in or organize your own event for Doorway why not consider making a small financial donation? Every penny donated to Doorway is used to improve the lives of those affected by homelessness. Whether its purchasing some household items for a young person moving into their first independent accommodation—your money will help to heal the emotional wounds of homelessness.

You can make a donation in a number of ways:

 **By Post** : Send a cheque payable to Doorway to 20 High Street, Bedworth Warwickshire, CV12 8NF.

 **Donate On-line**  
This only takes a few seconds and is completely secure. Make your donation today at: [www.doorway.org.uk](http://www.doorway.org.uk) and click on the donate today icon on our website, this will talk you through what you need to do and is very simple.

 **Payroll Giving**  
Donate to Doorway through your company's payroll giving scheme. A donation will come from your salary every month before tax. For people on basic rate tax for every £10 Doorway receives you will only have to pay £8 direct from your salary. More information is available by visiting the HMRC website.



### DONATIONS FOR EASTER RAFFLE REQUIRED

**Are you able to donate an Easter prize for our tombola in mid-April? We require anything with an Easter theme for our tombola, preferably chocolate!! If you have, please drop it in to the office.**

### Make Doorway your Charity of the Year

Doorway is keen to work with local businesses and communities to achieve mutual benefits. Studies show that a consumer is more likely to buy a product or use services which at the same time help charities.

Whether you participate in a Doorway event or organize your own, you will help to build valuable partnerships that will support and improve the lives of homeless young people and help motivate employees, boost staff morale and encourage team building through fundraising events as well as provide good publicity for your business and community. [Please contact us if you are interested.](#)

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### EASYFUNDRAISING

**Enclosed in this newsletter is a flyer for Easyfundraising**

Help Doorway raise money, just by shopping online. It's very easy - use Easyfundraising to shop with over 2000 well known retailers like Amazon, Argos, M&S, E'Bay, John Lewis and many more and whenever you buy something, the retailer donates money to us. Yes - it really is that simple.

It's completely free and your shopping won't cost you a penny more which is a way you can support Doorway for free if you shop on-line. You simply register with [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and find Doorway and register us as your chosen charity

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**



#### DOORWAY'S ANNUAL FUN RUN/ WALK

We are holding our annual fun run at Bedworth Miners Welfare Park, Bedworth on **Sunday 3rd July 2011** at 10 am. Please email us (address at top) for a sponsorship pack, or call into the office. Everyone welcome including the dog!!!!



### CHARITY FASHION SHOW

Come a grab a bargain!! - Clothing for sale at a fraction of High Street or Catalogue prices. There's various high street stores such as H&M, River Island, M&S, Top Shop, Monsoon amongst others.

To be held at Weddington Social Club, Weddington Road, Nuneaton on Tuesday 19th April 2011. Tickets are available by calling in to our offices in Bedworth or you can purchase on the door on the night

Tickets are £4.00 and all proceeds go to Doorway.



### **Youth Development News**

We were successful in a grant application to Warwickshire County Council's Community Development Fund and are now running a Lifewise Independent Living Skills Course aimed at equipping disadvantaged young people with the skills and knowledge necessary to empower them to negotiate and manage everyday challenges.

By encouraging young people to develop life skills, this will help them to resist negative influences and have the confidence to make informed choices.

These skills can have a major influence on their long-term outcomes by empowering them to make

the key choices that will enable them to move forward in their lives successfully in their transitions into adulthood.

The course has been devised by Centrepont who we have been in partnership with for the past five years. The course is accredited by the Assessment & Qualification Alliance (AQA) and relevant staff have been trained to deliver this.

Also staff at Yorkshire Bank at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry offered Doorway clients the chance to go along and attend an interview skills day and also have a tour around the Ricoh Arena.