



Bethany  
Christian  
Trust



# I alone...

Annual report 2020

"I alone know the plans  
I have for you," declares  
the Lord, "plans to prosper  
you and not to harm you,  
plans to give you hope  
and a future."

Jeremiah 29:11

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## Dear friends,

It is my privilege to introduce to you this year's annual report, bursting with life and stories of hope. This year's theme reflects a verse from the Bible that has a huge depth of meaning and significance for us at Bethany. **'I alone'** reminds me that we are but carriers of grace and messengers of a living hope that the Lord alone gives. Giving people **'a hope and a future'** is our heart's desire as we seek to fulfil all that God has called us to across Scotland, and **'the plans I have for you'** are echoed throughout these pages in images and stories of restoration, new life, purpose and meaning.

We have known amazing blessing and growth this year despite the external challenges. Five new services were launched; the Care Shelter at the Old Waverley Hotel, Care Van Glasgow, Move On Support, Creative Expressions, and Anne Hope House. During the national lockdown the whole team went above and beyond to ensure all services remained open safely and added new layers of support including increased mobile digital access, emergency food, cleaning, toiletry and family activity packs, and innovative outreach to help support people in isolation.

We are deeply grateful for your incredible support. We have been overwhelmed by your generosity for the work this year and you have enabled us to sustain all our services and branch into new and exciting developments with confidence and sustainability.

Thank you sincerely for giving people a hope and a future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alasdair Bennett'.

Alasdair Bennett, Chief Executive

# Brian's story



**"Before I arrived at Bethany Christian Centre, my life was very sad and I suffered with depression. I had really lost all hope. I constantly battled feelings of fear and insecurity, but instead of trying to get help I found an escape in drink and drugs and shut myself away from others. Although I've had periods of recovery from time to time, I never felt that I could see a way out and become totally free."**

I came to Bethany Christian Centre to get help for my addiction. I was lost and had no direction or hope. Coming to the Centre has helped me see myself as God sees me; that I am fully loved and accepted. It hasn't been an easy programme for me but without the help of the staff, I don't think I would have made it. With their love and the love of God, I have found strength and confidence within me that I never thought I could have.

Now, I have more to look forward to, to work on and while I do not know what the future holds, I thank God for the people he has put in my life and for the new found love and security that I have."

**Bethany Christian Centre is an addiction recovery unit that aims, through a supported residential community, to assist individuals in their recovery from an addictive lifestyle.**

**"I have found strength and confidence within me that I never thought I could have"**

# Elizabeth's story

**"Growing up, I didn't have a lot of care and support. When I was 19, I entered into an abusive relationship. I had no one to turn to as I didn't have a loving family who could offer me protection.**

**I then met my ex-partner who offered for me to move in with his family in Edinburgh; they provided me a place of safety, care and love that I had never experienced before. Unfortunately, we split up and that meant I was no longer able to stay with his family. However, they helped me seek temporary accommodation and I was offered a space in Bethany House.**

I was absolutely terrified about the idea of moving into temporary accommodation as I had never been in this situation before. Initially, I never wanted to come out of my room. However, as time went on, I realised that things were actually not as bad as I thought.

Bethany House provided me a nice room, good food and the staff treated me with care and respect every day. I felt really comfortable and safe knowing that no matter who was on shift I always had someone that I could turn to. I found communal living difficult at times, but it was so much better than I had expected. I feel that I have come out of this situation stronger.

Recently, I was offered a move-on flat. I was desperate to have my own space but I was a bit daunted about leaving the support of Bethany House. However, I have been allocated a Bethany staff member to help me. Tom has been so helpful and encouraging!

Today, I am so grateful for this opportunity to start all over again and I'm feeling very hopeful for the future. I am back in a positive relationship with my partner but, this time, I feel more secure now that I have a place of my own."

**Bethany House is our emergency resettlement unit located in Edinburgh that accommodates 24 men and 4 women in 6 cluster flats.**

# Louise's story

**"This time last year my life looked like it was over. I felt like I had no future and I had given up all hope. I stopped caring about myself and got involved in heavy drugs. My relationships with my family became complicated and harder to maintain. I put myself in dangerous situations and I ended up homeless. I really wanted to get clean and I believed I could do this myself, however I ended up in hospital. I then realised that I needed to ask for help.**

Bethany has played a massive part in my recovery by just being there for me. Through sharing my experience with the staff to putting a roof over my head at Anne Hope House, I've always felt that they genuinely wanted to help me and wanted the best for me. I couldn't be more grateful. Now I know that I have a future and I'm happy to be alive. For the first time in a long time, I am discovering things I enjoy that I never thought I could do! I am now in control of my drug addiction; I feel so much healthier. Today, I have an amazing support network around me, and I feel safe and peaceful for the first time in years.

My hope is that I can get completely clean so that I can have my own tenancy. I hope to play a bigger part in my family's life – to be a mum and a granny again."

**Anne Hope House is our therapeutic residential community for women coming out of a situation of homelessness who are seeking to make positive changes in their lives.**

# Jane's story

**"I was fleeing an abusive domestic situation and was housed by the local authority. I moved into my new accommodation with almost nothing, just some clothes, as I had to leave my family home in a hurry.**

I was referred to Gateway by my housing officer for a bed, sofa, microwave, a small fridge and a handful of Starter Packs. I was delighted to receive all of these items when my new tenancy began in February 2020. Gateway contacted me again in May offering emergency food and cleaning and toiletry packs as part of the response to COVID-19.

I had just lost one of my two jobs and I was barely able to pay my bills so that little extra help in that challenging moment was wonderful. I am still using most of the items that were delivered to me in February and I'm so grateful for all that Bethany has done for me. I couldn't have stayed in my new home if it wasn't for all that I was given."

**Gateway to Homes and Communities provides homeless families and individuals with essential household items on moving into their new tenancy.**



**“I had the biggest wakeup call of my life. At the Care Shelter I was made to feel welcome and at home”**

## Rezaul's story

**“I was living in London with my family where I was training as a motor mechanic by day and working as a waiter at night. My restaurant experience gave me the opportunity to come to Scotland to help in a restaurant of a family friend. I arrived in March and went to work. When COVID-19 struck, I lost my job and accommodation. I then got in with the wrong crowd who introduced me to drugs. They robbed me to feed their habits and when I hit rock bottom, I found myself penniless and homeless.**

Helpless, far away from home and feeling like I had no one to turn to; the police called the council's out of hours service for me. I explained to them that I had been sleeping on the streets and in doorways; they pointed me in the direction of the Bethany Care Shelter at the Old Waverley Hotel.

I had the biggest wakeup call of my life. At the Care Shelter I was made to feel welcome and at home. The staff were amazing and made me feel like I was no longer on my own. I was listened to and comforted, never rejected and I had all the support to help me get back to my family. From the support given to me by Bethany and partners, I was able to get a flat in London and make my way home.

I am going back home on my own two feet. I want to continue my mechanics training and because of my experience in the Care Shelter, I would love to help people the way I have been helped.

Thank you to all the Bethany staff at the hotel for giving me the motivation and support to go home and help others, especially young people in the same situation that I found myself in.”

**The Care Shelter provides people who are rough sleeping with a place to go for the night where they can find shelter, a hot meal, a warm, safe place to sleep and access to professional support.**

**This year we operated for 13 weeks of the 43 week service at the Old Waverley Hotel on Princes Street, Edinburgh.**



Photo of Kevin a Care Shelter Project Worker



**“Every morning, they would knock on my door and check I was okay and safe. I felt like this was home”**

## Dibor's story

**“Since I was seven, I never had love. I was lost in my life but since meeting Bethany Christian Trust I'm a new person. They are my family.**

**I was a refugee and living in temporary accommodation in Wales and one night when I was really struggling I was at a bus stop crying out to God. A Christian lady came to me and offered me some water and told me about the water that never runs dry. I was admitted to a mental health hospital and when I was discharged, I tried to find work and start a new life but it didn't work out.**

A friend called me and offered to let me move to Edinburgh and stay with her for a while. When she told me I couldn't live with her anymore, I was admitted to hospital again but this time the hospital rang Bethany Christian Trust.

When I came out of hospital, I was allowed to stay at Bethany House for a night, which turned into 11 months. My life changed. I made friends. They gave me clothes

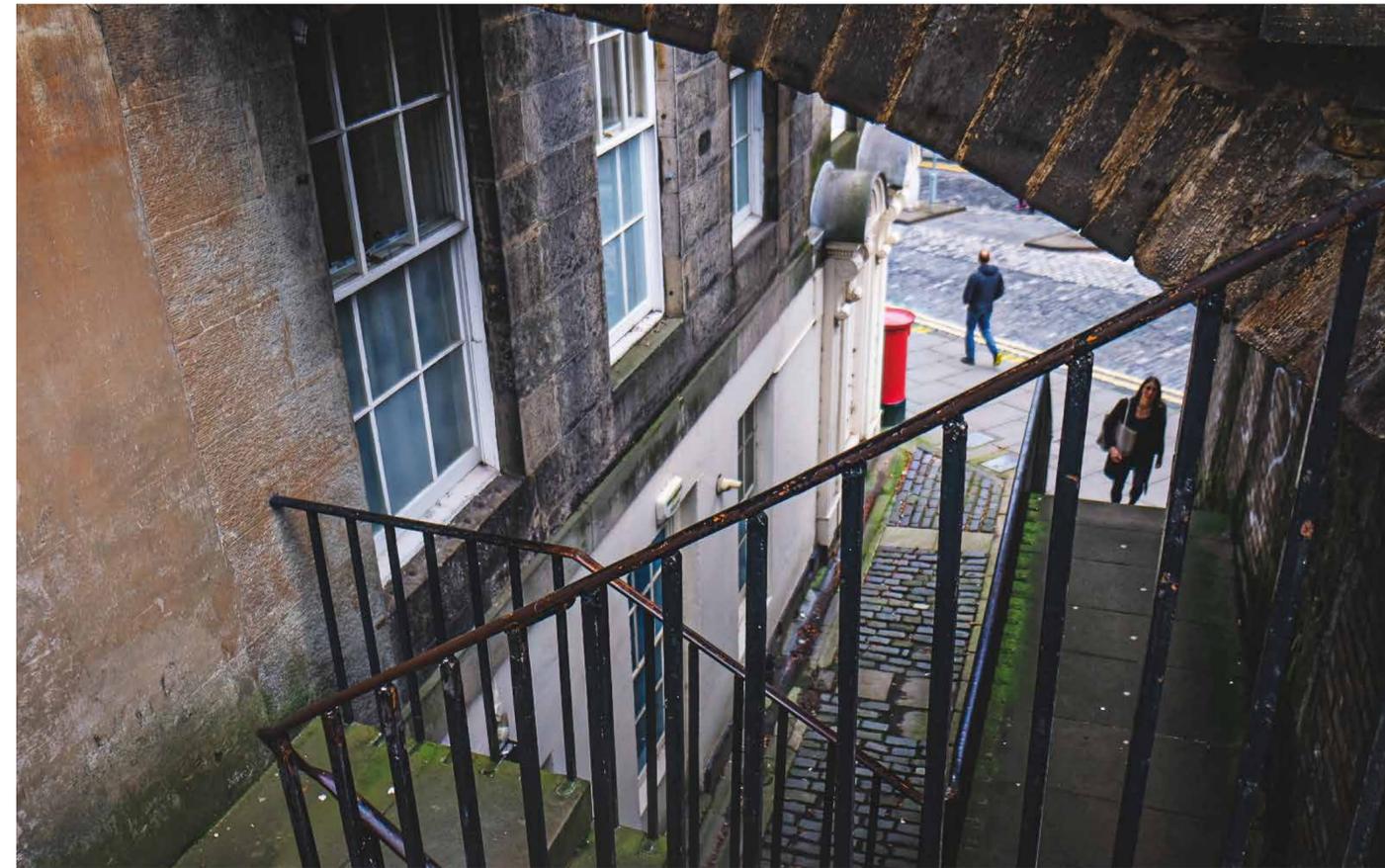
and every month we could go on trips to places like the zoo and cinema. Every morning, they would knock on my door and check I was okay and safe. I felt like this was home.

I started volunteering for Bethany's Reception team and I'm with people who love me and understand me. I've never met anyone like Dianne and Louise. Through Bethany's Passing the Baton befriending team, I met my befriender, Regina. She's my friend, she's very kind to me and shows me love and respect.

I also really enjoy The Bugle creative writing group. Sam keeps in touch with me and Monique makes me feel welcome; they both help by listening to me. All the staff at Bethany are amazing. I've never seen this kind of organisation in my life.”

**Bethany know the huge importance of the creative arts and how important these are to sharing experiences, reflecting on life and increasing self-esteem. Creative Expressions exists to work in communities across Scotland with all demographics and through a variety of creative media. Ongoing projects in Edinburgh include our weekly community choirs which give people an opportunity to sing together for fun and The Bugle magazine through which contributors gain skills whilst expressing themselves creatively through art, storytelling, journalism and poetry.**

# Clare's story



**“My role is to support families in Whiteinch in Glasgow. While there are affluent areas nearby, there is a pocket of deprivation where my work is based. Life is especially tough for families in this area as there are multiple barriers preventing them from reaching their potential. A huge part of my role is to bring them hope.**

I have the privilege of meeting with parents and children regularly. Lockdown has been a challenging time for many families that I support. Some have found home-schooling particularly difficult, so I've been suggesting a few simple ideas for routines. For some children we have been able to open up the school. This has made the world of difference for mums and has created a positive impact on home life.

I'm also helping families access their school work from home, while providing reassurance to parents and carers as they adjust to this new 'normal'.

During the COVID-19 crisis, we are fortunate to have great community partnerships in place; we've been working together every week to support families who have been affected by the crisis. Although people's practical needs are being met during this difficult time, I'm still concerned about the knock-on effect this will have on their mental and emotional health. I think this winter will be especially tough for people, however I have faith that we will pull together as a community.”

**With regional teams based in the West of Scotland, our Community Support and Development projects are tailored to local needs and work in partnership with churches to empower people to strengthen their communities to prevent homelessness.**

**“I think this winter will be especially tough for people, however I have faith that we will pull together”**

# Finances

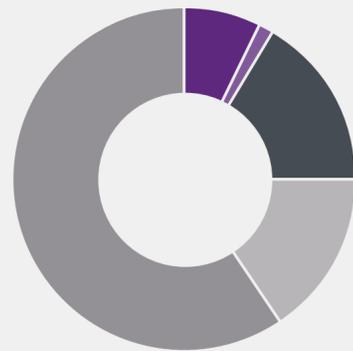
With so much of our income coming from your fundraising activities, donations and prayers, we feel it is important to show you how it is being spent. You can access our most recent Consolidated Accounts by visiting our website; [bethanychristiantrust.com/about](http://bethanychristiantrust.com/about)

**Please note:** These figures are pending Year End Audit. Restricted Trust donations to purchase Anne Hope House are included in the total income.



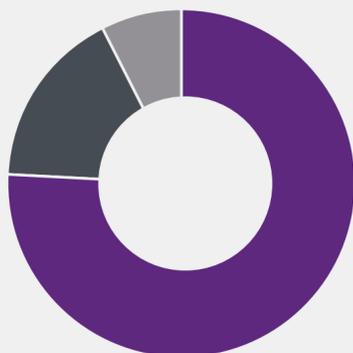
## Income

- Fundraising:** £2,945,592.00 (41.4%)
- Retail:** £1,505,039.00 (21.2%)
- Statutory:** £2,660,562.00 (37.4%)
- Total:** £7,111,193.00



## Expenditure

- Fundraising:** £441,298.00 (7.5%)
- Governance:** £73,594.00 (1.2%)
- Retail:** £970,374.00 (16.5%)
- Supporting Activities:** £904,727.00 (15.4%)
- Support:** £3,492,826.00 (59.4%)
- Total:** £5,882,819.00



## For every £1 you give us

- 76p** goes towards ending homelessness in Scotland
- 16.5p** develops charity shop income
- 7.5p** goes towards raising the next £1

# Outputs & Outcomes

April 2019 To March 2020

## Homelessness prevention

### Community Support & Development West

243 People supported  
240 Received Upstream support

### Connect to Community

100 People supported  
80% Successfully reintegrated

### Inspiring Leith

150 People linking monthly  
8 Regular community activities

### Passing the Baton

36 People befriended  
100% Improved connections

### Community Support & Development East

1,108 Individuals supported  
709 CSD sessions facilitated



## Crisis intervention

### Care Van Edinburgh

23,394 Presentations  
8,740 Lunches provided

### Winter Care Shelter

12,047 Bed spaces provided  
53 People on average nightly

### Bethany House

44 People moved on positively  
100% Satisfied with support

### Bethany Christian Centre

78% Improved accommodation  
620 Recovery group sessions

### Gateway to Homes and Communities

1,009 Households furnished  
8,471 Starter packs



## Housing and support

### Kharis Court

20 Young people supported  
77% Successful moves on

### Bethany Homes

62 Supported flats in total  
22 New tenancies

### Housing First Edinburgh

15 People supported  
100% Tenancies sustained

### Housing Support Fife

1,115 Attendances at pop in  
83 People sustained tenancies

### Supported Housing Dumfries

90% Moved to stable housing  
1,868 Drop-in attendances

### Move-On Support

26 People supported  
92% Tenancies sustained



Every year, thanks to people like you, we are supporting nearly **7,000 people in Scotland.**



**“I couldn't have stayed in my new home if it wasn't for all that I was given”**

Bethany Service User



# Bethany's story





**"I was a really anxious person when I first came across Bethany. My time receiving visiting support was drawing to a close, but I knew I still needed support to help me recover from a very difficult period in my life and to manage my mental health problems.**

**Pall from Bethany initially visited me at home with a befriender called Richard; it was agreed that I would meet up with Richard every two weeks, either at my home or a coffee shop. I've found these catch ups to be very helpful; they provide structure to my week and also an opportunity to talk to someone about things that I don't even speak about with my closest family. During the COVID-19 situation, in particular, Richard and I were able to stay in contact over the phone which I really appreciated.**

I was also able to access Bethany's computer drop-in sessions where I was encouraged to create my own website to showcase my photography work. Although I graduated from Art College many years ago I never managed to build a website partly due to my dyslexia. With help from Bethany it was not nearly as difficult as I was expecting, and now I feel confident to maintain and update my website. I even have a number of friends remark at how professional it looks! Bethany's drop-in was always a safe and welcoming space; I always felt like I could ask for help and I've even made new friendships in the group. My support worker, Greg, and the other volunteers were always encouraging and supportive.

I am very grateful that I was referred to Bethany. They have helped me increase in confidence and self-esteem. Today, I am proud to connect with other people and share my photography with them."

Passing the Baton reaches out to people in the local community who feel socially isolated and excluded.

# John's story



Photo of one of our partner workers

**"I am very grateful that I was referred to Bethany. They have helped me increase in confidence and self-esteem"**



# Gordon's story

**"I grew up in a loving household and had a great childhood. But all that shattered when my Mum left when I was 16. I ended up staying with my Dad who was a drug dealer and an addict.**

**While I was living there, I saw my Dad injecting so many times. I learned what to do and got into injecting heroin; my dad was a terrible father but a great using partner.**

From that moment on, I was injecting heroin daily and going in and out of hostels. At one point, I was injecting cocaine daily, taking Valium and not eating properly; I ended up with septicaemia in a coma for 3 and ½ weeks. I should have died in that coma but I believe that God intervened. I spent months in the hospital; when I got out I sought help for my addiction. That's when I first came across Bethany.

Throughout all this, Bethany was there for me, arranging for me to go to rehab. I jumped at the opportunity and thrived in that recovery environment. I was told by some of the staff there that I was the only person they've ever seen laugh his way through a detox!

Today, I'm in my own flat in Glasgow and things are looking up. I recently passed my driving test and I want to go to college in the autumn. I should also have been getting married this summer but that has had to be delayed.

One of the most important life lessons I've learned is this: if life ever seems hopeless and you can't see any way out, ask God to help you and He will. He might not give you what you want, but He'll give you everything you need."

**With regional teams based in the West of Scotland, our Community Support and Development projects are tailored to local needs and work in partnership with churches to empower people to strengthen their communities.**



# Fraser's story

**"I had a chaotic childhood, my family was fractured and had little contact with my father growing up. I became known to the police, courts and social services at an early age and was taken into care when my petty criminal behaviour could no longer be set aside. When I eventually returned to my home I was introduced to heroin by a family member. I went on to develop a dependency on heroin and crack cocaine, funding my habit through various criminal activities that ultimately led to prison sentences.**

I came to Bethany in June 2019 and was provided with a temporary flat and a support worker that I developed a good relationship with. She encouraged me to engage with drug and alcohol services and after a while I began to distance myself from my past associates within the drug scene and focused on recovery and making a new life for myself. During this period I joined a local evangelical church in Dumfries and my baptism was attended by my mum and stepdad with whom I continue to have a positive relationship.

I moved into a newly refurbished flat in March 2020 with members of my church gifting many practical items to turn it into my permanent home. I'm happy here and looking at engaging with voluntary work as a first step to gaining future employment."

**Our Supported Housing Service in Dumfries has been in operation since 2002 and helps people to address issues that undermine the ability to live independently within the community.**



# Stuart's story

**"I started getting support from Bethany about a year ago when I was struggling with depression and alcohol. I had a flat but I got so much hassle that I mostly sofa surfed with friends nearby. Last year things got so bad that I made three suicide attempts, thankfully none of them worked. My support worker started to increase his support, he would sometimes even come to my house at 8am to help me attend a doctor's appointment.**

He encouraged me to attend local social cafes and at one of them I met someone who was able to offer me a quiet private let. This has made a big difference to me. I also met the local Foodbank co-ordinators who were very supportive and introduced me to an Alpha course. I have now been free of alcohol for about nine months and among the books I read that help keep me calm is 'daily bible readings' given to me by my support worker."

**The Housing Support Fife team offers support to vulnerable adults living in Fife, enabling them to develop their own ability to live independently in the community. We also provide a community drop-in service called The Bethany Pop-In that provides on the spot support and advice.**

# Alex's story

**"I have been in and out of homelessness since the age of 16, due in part to my suffering from anxiety. I'm now in my early 30's and until recently had my own flat in Edinburgh, however I was being harassed by my neighbour – he financially abused and threatened me. I eventually had to leave my home and ended up in a bed-and-breakfast. It was at this point that I was referred to Bethany's Move-On Support Service and I was offered a supported flat.**

Because I enjoy interacting with people, my support worker encouraged me to volunteer in Bethany's new bookshop on Leith Walk. I was also encouraged to access the Stafford Centre, a mental health service. I now host a weekly radio show there!

Because of my history of homelessness, my support worker also referred me to Bethany's Housing First Project for more support and long term housing. I meet with my Bethany Housing First support worker twice weekly. He helps me with things like maintaining my tenancy, budgeting, work and volunteering opportunities, attending community groups and emotional support. The support and help I get now is fantastic."

**The Move-On Support team helps vulnerable people that are in temporary supported accommodation, enabling them to secure permanent housing status and live independently in their own homes. We offer Move-On flats, advice and practical support on things like budgeting, addiction relapse prevention, independent living skills, benefits, household management and developing social skills.**

**The Housing First team supports homeless people with complex needs and a history of entrenched or recurring homelessness. There are no conditions around 'housing readiness' before we provide someone with a home as housing is viewed as a stable platform from which other issues can be addressed.**

**“I have gone from living a life of hatred to living a life of God’s love”**

## Colin’s story

**“I can’t remember any happiness growing up, I only remember negative memories. My Dad was an alcoholic and he was in and out of my life. I grew up witnessing domestic abuse from my Dad towards my Mum, both verbally and physically.**

I had no contact from my Dad until I was 12 or 13 years old when he passed away. When I was 15, my Mum left to go to London, and I was left with my sister who was 18. This is when I started drinking and using drugs to numb my pain. I got involved in gangs in Glasgow’s East end, and I eventually served a prison sentence for two and a half years for knife crimes.

When I got out the jail, I got a girlfriend but I also started to drink more. Alcohol numbed everything I was feeling. I had my oldest daughter when I was 23, but I drank all throughout her upbringing. I thought I was a good Dad because I worked hard and was always there, but looking back, I was never sober through any one of her birthdays. My addiction eventually cost me my job.

My youngest daughter was born 5 years ago and I thought I wouldn’t repeat the same mistakes, but alcohol became my master. I lost my relationship with my girlfriend and ended up becoming homeless.

I first heard about Bethany when I started going to church at Parkhead Nazarene. At that time, I was homeless and seeking help with my alcohol addiction. The pastor put me in touch with Shona and Kent from Bethany Homes. I then went through the interview process and they set me up in a supported flat. Every week I would meet up with Shona who helped me connect with the other tenants who were also being supported by Bethany Homes. A wee bond was formed between all of us and it gave me a sense of community. Shona also put on cooking classes, game nights and one-to-one sessions. Not only did I get the support I needed to maintain my flat but I also felt like I always had someone to talk to if I needed help.

Bethany has given me a safe base to go about my recovery and build my faith. They’ve also given me a safe space where I can build family and my relationships with my two daughters; my youngest sometimes stays with me on the weekends and my oldest enjoys dropping by and spending time with me here too.”

**Bethany Homes provides flats in supported accommodation across Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dumfries to individuals and families at risk or with a history of homelessness.**



# Thank you

**A warm and heartfelt thank you to all of the volunteers, supporters and donors who have supported Bethany Christian Trust this year with their time, talent, prayers and donations. It's your generosity that makes our work possible.**

## How to get involved

### Pray

We believe that prayer grounds all the work that Bethany does. We invite you to join with the staff, volunteers and supporters in using the prayer diary and online resources to pray for the services and challenges in overcoming homelessness across Scotland.

### Give

Giving ensures that we are able to plan ahead and empower vulnerable people with long-term, practical care – thanks to the generosity of people across Scotland and beyond, our work continues to benefit more and more people every year. Every donation counts and we have a dedicated team that support you in supporting us!

### Volunteer

Every day across Scotland, our volunteers scatter seeds of hope and kindness to people accessing Bethany's services. Our volunteering opportunities are diverse and flexible to ensure that you benefit too. Please get in touch today to chat about how you can join our team!

### #BCTheroes

**For more information please contact: [volunteers@bethanychristiantrust.com](mailto:volunteers@bethanychristiantrust.com) or call us on 0131 561 8965**

## Trusts & Funders

Alexander Moncur Trust  
Aviagen Charities Committee  
Challenge Trust  
Charnwood Trust  
Cruden Foundation Ltd  
Corra Foundation  
Donald and Christine MacDonald  
Dr Guthrie's Association  
Edinburgh Bar Association Benevolent Trust  
Edinburgh Integration Joint Board  
Foundation Scotland  
Inchcape Foundation  
Jennie S Gordon Memorial Foundation  
JK Young Endowment Fund  
Leith Benevolent Association  
Mirdel Bequest Charitable Trust  
New Park Educational Trust  
Pret Foundation Trust  
Queensberry House Trust  
R Miller  
Scott Thomson Charitable Trust  
Scottish Enterprise Staff Charity Fund  
St Andrews Links Trust  
T. Mitchell  
The Alfred Haines Charitable Trust  
The AMW Charitable Trust  
The Anber Fund  
The Glendalough Trust  
The Graham Trust  
The Hanley Trust (1987)  
The Hugh Fraser Foundation  
The Hugh Stenhouse Foundation  
The James and Jessie Shaw Charitable Trust  
The James Inglis Testamentary Trust  
The James Sim Trust  
The James Wood Bequest Fund  
The Mackie Foundation  
The Lady Marian Gibson Trust  
The Martin Connell Charitable Trust  
The Miss A M Pilkington Charitable Trust  
The Mugdock Children's Trust  
The Nancie Massey Charitable Trust  
The Netherdale Trust  
The Peter Vardy Foundation  
The Pettigrew Charitable Trust  
The Pret Foundation  
The R J Larg Family Trust  
The Riada Trust  
The Robertson Trust  
The Society for the Relief of the Destitute Sick  
Scottish Government  
The Tay Charitable Trust  
The Standard Life Aberdeen Charitable Foundation  
The Trusted Executive Charitable Foundation  
The Verden Sykes Trust  
The Volvox Trust  
The W O Street Charitable Foundation  
Tulip Charitable Trust  
Wilson Family Trust

## Corporates

Baillie Gifford & Co  
Castlehill Primary School  
Craigie's Farm  
Dishoom Edinburgh  
Edinburgh Revelation Rock-Gospel Choir  
Fife College  
Glendoick Garden centre  
Hamilton College  
Haven Joiners and Builders Ltd  
J Smart & Co (Contractors) plc  
John Lewis Partnership  
Scott Moncrieff  
Stand4Socks  
The Balmoral Hotel  
Union of Genius  
Whitespace  
William Purves Funeral Directors  
Winton Castle

We would also like to thank the many churches across Scotland who partner with us. Due to the scale of your support we cannot acknowledge every generous act, but each and every one is greatly appreciated.

## Our Partners across Scotland

Operating in a total of 15 Scottish local authority areas, we are very grateful for our formal partnership with over 25 voluntary sector organisations across the breadth of Scotland, all working towards the aim of Ending Homelessness.

## A Lasting Legacy

Every year, we are blessed with the thoughtfulness of our supporters who remember Bethany Christian Trust in their Will. These legacies are an extraordinary help in our work across Scotland, and reflect the often longstanding connection that people have had with Bethany. Their generosity now makes a lasting impact beyond their lifetime.

We would like to acknowledge the following legacies left to us since our last Annual Report;

Brenda M Johns  
Sheena A Bowman

We would also like to pay tribute to all whose lives have prompted generous donations in their memory through the year:

Colin Jackson  
Margot MacInnes  
Ronnie McAlister  
Elizabeth Watson  
Gladys Williamson

## A Shared Celebration

At an occasion of great joy such as a wedding or significant milestone, it's good to share our happiness with others. These events can also prompt us to take stock and think about those less fortunate than ourselves.

We are delighted to thank everyone who has used celebrations to raise funds for us this year. Whether asking for donations as wedding presents, taking part in sponsored events, or setting up Facebook fundraisers, your generosity has been amazing.

If you would like to talk to us about sharing your celebration, leaving a legacy or making a donation in the memory of someone important to you, please call Mary on 0131 561 8927 or email [maryclayton@bethanychristiantrust.com](mailto:maryclayton@bethanychristiantrust.com)

## Chair of the board's final address – 2020

I hope you have found encouragement in the stories of people whose lives have been changed for the better thanks to the caring support of a variety of Bethany services over another challenging yet energising year in which we have relied on God's direction and have marvelled at his faithfulness.

This report gives but a glimpse of the hope and a future brought to men and women at their time of need – day and night across much of Scotland – by a hugely skilful and devoted Bethany workforce supported by an inspired and inspiring leadership team.

I was privileged to become a Bethany Trustee in 2005 and have seen the Trust experience a range of significant advances (with a few setbacks) over 15 years. This year, for instance, has brought the realisation of a longstanding ambition to open a residential unit for women in Edinburgh. It has, in recent months seen a remarkable response to the COVID-19 pandemic with all services able to continue with appropriate safeguards and precautions.

All that has been achieved is possible thanks to the energy and imagination of staff, to the dedicated and selfless commitment of over 2,000 volunteers and the amazing support of an increasing number of generous donors. We take none of that for granted and I offer, on behalf of the Board, heartfelt thanks to all.

As my term as Chair ends I leave with the hope and prayer that Bethany Christian Trust will continue to go from strength to strength effectively tackling homelessness and the causes of homelessness for years to come.



**Robert Gordon, Former Chairman  
Bethany Christian Trust**





**Bethany  
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Alasdair Bennett

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**Trustees**

Robert Gordon CB (Chairman Until 19th June 2020)  
Ruth Walker (Chairman From 19th June 2020)  
Angela Stormont (Deputy Chairman)  
Mark Hesketh (Treasurer)  
Jeremy Balfour (Until 19th June 2020)  
Colin Mason  
James Campbell  
Sonia MacCallum  
John Craig  
Jo Ratter  
Sofie Gillespie

**Design**

The Creative Beings Collective

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