

# Jericho Road Project

Newsletter - Issue 32

Spring 2017

## Project Manager's Report

I am so thankful for all The Lord is doing here at Jericho and the amazing staff team and volunteers, who ensure that His work through us continues to be a blessing, support and encouragement to very vulnerable women here in Nottingham.

I'm really excited that thanks to an Awards for All Grant we will be updating and improving our IT, which will make our office work so much more reliable and usable. Thanks also to some talented volunteers, we are also re-designing our publicity leaflets and website! As well as a cosmetic change, this will ensure that we are relevant and appropriately resourced as we look to developing our work, in particular the chaplaincy work.

Our women really enjoyed the short course run by NTU students - it was great to see everyone chatting, laughing and learning together. If anyone has any talents, skills or interests they would like to share, please get in touch so we can broaden the opportunities we can provide - we will provide a meal if you need an incentive!

It was great to see some of you at the film night; it was good to be able to discuss some of the difficult topics it raised and to pray about them and how it impacts the women we work with. Look out for more film dates as well as training sessions and hopefully a summer event to celebrate all our volunteers.

Finally, speaking of films, we have made a film 'A Day in the Life of a Jericho Volunteer', highlighting all the opportunities to serve here...while perhaps not up to an Oscar nomination it would be lovely to show it at your churches, small groups or to friends, so please do get in touch!

With love, Julia **Project Manager** 

#### **OUTREACH**

We have been seeing between 25-30 different women out every month on street outreach. Over Easter we took Easter eggs on the van to give out to the women. Our team had some great conversations recently including a lady recounting the Easter story to them! We always offer food & drink, as well as a listening ear, a safe break from a working evening and relevant information for the women. Street outreach is often the first contact we have with the women; we have been hearing in women's testimonies how they first met us on the van, and how we were there to pray with them,

offer food and warmth and start a relationship of support. If you would like to bake flapjack to be given out, drive the van or be an outreach worker then get in touch via email! Dear Supporters,

It has been an exciting few months here at Jericho and we are so grateful for all the kind and generous donations both monetary and material. We have been

receiving many toiletry and clothing donations and can always use more clothes size 6-8!

This spring and Easter time I have been reminded of Jesus' hope and how He really does make things new. I am encouraged by what He is doing in the lives of our volunteers and the women we work with. It has now been a year since I started and I have learned a lot from being part of this amazing project.

Once again, thank you for all the wonderful ways you have supported Jericho; each person plays a vital role as we work together with God to love and serve these women, making Him known.

Abigail,

Volunteer Manager

### Praise and Prayer Day

At the beginning of April we held a **prayer event** in St Andrew's church next door to JRP. It was an incredibly **encouraging** time of sung **worship**, **creative prayer** and focus on the different project areas. Spending intentional time in prayer throughout the day reminded us of the importance of grounding all we do in prayer. Some specific Scripture was highlighted during the day such as **Isaiah 41** & **58**, and **Psalm 104**. Words about being **well-watered gardens**, an **oasis** in the desert and being **filled up** in order to give out again were especially prevalent. **Bookmarks** were coloured in and **prayers written** on the back to give to the women we are befriending. Colouring books have become a new craze recently as a relaxing and **therapeutic activity**, which the women will be able to do at the base. There was a prayer line to pin up prayers, a **prayer chain** for off-street with prayers such as Jesus' yoke being easy and His burden light. We spent time praying on the van and writing prayers on a paper-doll chain representing the 25-30 women we see each month on outreach.







#### **OFF-STREET VISITING**



In the days leading up to Easter, Faye and her team delivered chocolate Easter bunnies to the off-street venues. We thank God that recently the off-street team has had some really encouraging visits to different venues. The team has now gained some new members as a group of ladies recently completed their training to join the team. The more volunteers for the team the more venues we will be able to reach as a project. Do get in touch if this is something you feel you are called to be a part of!

#### PRISON VISITING

Gill has now been regularly visiting women in Foston Hall prison every other Tuesday and seeing about 5 women on average each time. Two new volunteers will be vetted to be able to go regularly with Gill on these visits. Gill has been having positive meetings with women, who are interested in rehabilitation and moving forward to different accommodation. We were very encouraged to receive a phone-call from a lady, who we have supported in the past and is currently in prison. It's phone-calls like these that remind us that what we are doing is worthwhile and to keep it up!



#### Spotlight on a lady

#### How did you first come into contact with Jericho Road?

"On the van, on the street. I got a bag with an Easter egg in it. I'd say it was about 8 or 9 years ago."

#### What sort of support has Jericho given you up until now?

"Lots of support. Help with housing, clothing, food, somewhere to come and get warm when it's cold. Help with getting into hostels or with housing with other charities and to get the bits and bobs that you need. It's been ongoing support, good support. Jericho has helped me as much as I have wanted to be helped. For as much as I need the support, the support is here. It's me accessing it that makes the difference."

#### Where do you feel you are at now?

"I feel like I'm in a good place in my life and I want it to stay like that. I've been given a chance coming out of prison into a property that is plenty suitable for me. I'm getting more access to my kids. It's lovely."

#### What would you say to someone who is in a similar situation to you?

"Access the support you can get from here to get out of your situation because it can work. I also want to say thanks to everybody that supports Jericho Road with clothing, toiletries, food...It's appreciated and it's needed."

Life Centre **FUNDRAISING** 

A few days before Easter, Sharon hosted a breakfast with a full fry-up, hot cross buns and chocolate eggs! A kind supporter came in to wash, cut and dry the ladies hair, who



wanted to have their hair done. It was a joyful time and we are grateful to have been able to share in it with a few of the women. Life Centre has been a lot busier recently, so if you would like to come and help out you would be most welcome. Get in touch to

apply as a volunteer!







We are currently in the middle of our clothes challenge: 'A Dress A Day In May'. As a staff team we have committed to wearing a dress every day of the month of May! If you would like to donate then please follow this link below:



On May 1st, one of our volunteers, Delphine Walker, ran a half marathon to raise money for Jericho Road. Delphine completed the run and has managed to raise £157 so far! Thank you, Delphine and a big well done!



A Dress a Day in May

Por the Jericho Road Project

A big thank you to those who do support JRP financially. We need £7,000 a month just to cover our basic bills and really appreciate the support of those who stand with us in this.

#### PRAISE & PRAYER POINTS

- Praise God for his continued provision of volunteers, donations and funds.
- Praise God for the Easter breakfast and the joyful time had by all.
- Praise God for the positive conversations and encounters we have had with the women in off-street venues.
- Pray for Gods continued provision of volunteers so we can continue to serve the women and expand our capacity for outreach.
- Pray for the summer months, for the Jericho Road team to be sensitive to God's guidance, what He is doing and how to be accessible to the women.
- Pray for chains to be broken and women to be able to move forward. Also for their children and families and for them to know Jesus' love and hope.

Ways to give to Jericho Road Project:

www.give.net/20137970, via the website, where there are also Standing Order and Gift Aid forms, or direct into our account: Account No.: 00012979, Sort Code 40-52-40. A cheque in the post is great too!

#### We need you!

If you are interested in volunteering, have a heart for God and the work we do please get in contact at: admin@jerichoroad.org.uk

#### Contact us...

1a Chestnut Grove, Nottingham, NG3 5AD 0115 845 3691



Jericho Road Project

admin@jerichoroad.org.uk www.jerichoroad.org.uk

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