

September 2010

An appeal from Jonathan Swithinbank - head of fund-raising at Crisis Centre Ministries, based in St Paul's, Bristol

I represent Crisis Centre Ministries, a Christian run charity founded in the 1980's to provide food and support to homeless people in Bristol. We have been based for the past twenty years in St Pauls but have recently purchased a new building in Easton and so we are currently renovating that with a view to opening in two months time.

I am in charge of raising funds for the charity's move, and enabling it to continue running when we open in the new premises. Currently we serve in our current premises around 250 meals a day and in the region of 70,000 a year. Last year alone we helped 470 people into sheltered accommodation and 188 into rehab.

How do we do this? Through donations of people's time and money; we have around 140 volunteers from many different denominations and have received donations from the small to the large from various churches and individual donations (for instance 'The Secret Millionaire' donated £125K <http://www.thisisbristol.co.uk/news/Undercover-millionaire-volunteer-donates-thousands-Bristol-homeless-charity/article-1849810-detail/article.html>).

What I am interested in doing is first of all introducing myself and The Crisis Centre to the East Bristol Partnership because with the new premises opening in two months we are looking for more volunteers to help run the evening and day sessions, money to help finish the project (we have raised £300K but need another £125K to finish the entire premises), also we have a shop in Clevedon which sells second hand furniture we are also looking for any donations of second hand furniture as well.

I am available to come and talk to your church congregation or partnership meeting about the charity and what we have achieved, what we aim to achieve, and what we could achieve with your help! I can be contacted on the details below.

Take care, God bless

Jonathan Swithinbank.

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Crisis Centre Ministries is the trading name of Crisis Centre Limited, which is registered in England and Wales at the address above as a company limited by guarantee (number 2214814) and as a charity (number 298528).

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