



# Booth Centre

A community centre run with and for people affected by homelessness

**Annual Report 2020**

[boothcentre.org.uk](http://boothcentre.org.uk)

# Vision

Our vision is for everyone to have a secure home and the opportunity to have a good quality of life.

# Mission

Our mission is to bring about positive change in the lives of people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and help them plan for and realise a better future.

# Values

## Inclusive

We are welcoming and supportive. We provide the opportunity for people to socialise, share their experiences and learn from one another. We have an open door policy and all our services are provided free of charge. We don't judge people and we never give up on anyone.

## Empowering

We encourage people to take personal responsibility for making positive changes in their lives by providing opportunities, developing their talents, and helping to build their confidence and self esteem.

## Partnership

We recognise the importance of working collaboratively with people who come to the centre to design, deliver and evaluate our services. We work jointly with other organisations to achieve the best outcomes.

## Inspiring

We all inspire one another to discover our purpose and reach our full potential, celebrating our achievements and positive steps forward.

## Respectful

We respect each other and celebrate diversity so that everyone can give their best. We recognise the importance of providing a friendly environment where people can feel safe.

# A message from our CEO

Everyone needs a safe place to call home, positive relationships and a purpose in life. People who are homeless are no different, and this is what the Booth Centre helps people to achieve, as illustrated in this report.

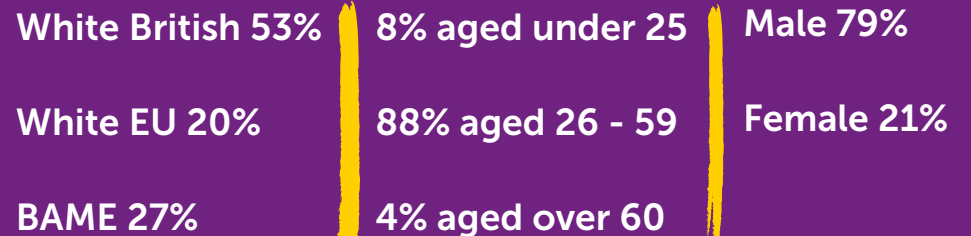
This year we have all been challenged by COVID-19. We remained open throughout, providing a vital emergency service ensuring people who were homeless could move into safe single room accommodation with support to move on to real homes.

We have now re-opened again as our community centre with a full range of creative and well-being activities, volunteering, training and help to get into employment. We provide wrap-around support and we are continuing to ensure that people who attend can apply their skills and experience to influence strategic change.



**Amanda Croome, MBE**  
Booth Centre CEO and Founder

# 1517 people visited for individual support



# Safe Homes

Because everyone should have a secure place to call home.

Last year at the Booth Centre...

41 people secured a permanent, rented home

309 people were supported into emergency or temporary accommodation

90 people were reconnected with friends or family who were able to provide a safe home

# Karl's story

"I'd been in a 5-year cycle of sofa surfing and rough sleeping."



"When I was introduced to Jason at the Booth Centre it felt like we already knew each other."

"My main goal was to get my own accommodation"



Jason shared my goal. So I believed it was possible."

"I joined in with activities at the Booth Centre."



"It was good to join in. I've made loads of new friends here."



"When you get into a cycle like mine, it's hard to get out of it on your own."



"The Booth Centre helped give me a bit of direction. You realise it's not as hard as you think."



"Now I live in shared accommodation."



"I've been painting and cooking.."



"I live with a close friend that I met here."

"...and I jog almost every day with my neighbour."



now I believe in MYSELF

"So when Jason told me there was a job I should apply for, I went for it..."



AND I'VE BEEN Shortlisted!

# Employment and Training

Support for every step of the employment journey, from job search to first payday. Last year at the Booth Centre...

96 people gained 175 nationally recognised qualifications

84 people who are homeless volunteered at the Booth Centre building experience and skills

133 people secured employment

# Piotr's Story



# Wellbeing, Creativity and Action

Positive relationships, meaningful activities and strategic change. Last year at the Booth Centre...

33 people from the Centre took part in strategic work with the Council and other partners to bring about positive change in homelessness strategies, policies and services

516 people have taken part in activity sessions including gardening, art, drama, ESOL and sewing

170 people regularly saw a visiting health professional

# Julie's Story



JULIE IS A BOOTH CENTRE VOLUNTEER.



SHE LIVES IN A SHARED RECOVERY HOUSE.



... AND HAS BEEN CLEAN FOR 22 MONTHS.

I HAVE BEEN Homeless  
I'VE DONE Drugs  
now i do something different  
I MAKE FOR PEOPLE



BEFORE COVID-19, JULIE WAS A WELCOME VOLUNTEER



THE TRUST WE PLACED IN JULIE HAS BOOSTED HER



"If you're sat around all day, you feel depressed."

"THE BOOTH CENTRE ISN'T JUST A PLACE TO GET A SHOWER AND FOOD."



IT SUPPORTS PEOPLE WITH...  
THEIR MENTAL HEALTH



# 2019-2020

## Finances

### Total Income:

**£979,520**

- Donations & Gift Aid: **64%**
- Local Authority Grants: **17%**
- Income from Trusts, Foundations and Other Grants: **17%**
- Interest & Student Fees: **2%**

### Total Spending:

**£906,961**

- Direct Charitable Expenditure: **87%**
- Fundraising and Governance: **13%**

The above are draft figures subject to an independent financial inspection.

As an independent charity, the Booth Centre is only able to continue to help people thanks to the generosity of our many supporters, volunteers, trustees, funders and partner organisations.

### Thank you to our grant funders

- Barnabas Trust
- Big Change Manchester
- Booth Charities
- Chiesi
- Comic Relief
- Dickanson's Charity
- Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund
- The Edward Holt Trust

- Gertrude Mackennal Trust
- Greater Manchester Local Authorities
- Greater Manchester Mayor's Charity
- Groundwork UK
- Homeless Link
- Joseph Cox Charity
- JTI
- Manchester City Council
- Manchester Wellbeing Fund
- Neighbourly Fund
- Relief in Need
- The Charity Service
- The J P S and A K Sahni Trust
- Think Charitable Foundation.

### Thank you to our partners for working alongside us

- Andy Burnham (Mayor of Greater Manchester) and his team
- arthur & martha CIC
- Business in the Community
- Centreport
- CGL
- Coffee 4 Craig
- Cornerstone / Caritas
- The Edward Holt Trust
- Equality FC
- FareShare Greater Manchester
- Fighting Fit Gym
- Forgotten Feet
- Greater Manchester Combined and Local Authorities
- Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit
- Greater Together Manchester
- Homeless Link
- Homeless Mental Health Team
- IAPT Team Manchester
- Khizra Mosque
- MASH
- Manchester City Council
- Manchester Homelessness Partnership
- Manchester Museum
- Migrant Help
- On The Out
- Revive Dental Practice
- Riverside Housing
- Sanctuary Supported Living
- Shelter
- Supporting People In Need
- Stop Start Go
- Street Paws
- Street Support Manchester
- Streetwise Opera
- Stitched Up
- The Edge Theatre and Arts Centre
- The Growth Company
- The Men's Room
- The Mustard Tree
- Urban Village Medical Practice
- Vincentian Volunteers
- With1Voice
- The hostels, day centres and support services that work alongside us.

**Thank you to everyone who offers support for our work including vital funds, volunteer time, specialist services and essential donated items such as food and toiletries.**

**Our building at Pimblett Street is owned by The Edward Holt Trust, who purchased this to provide a home for the Booth Centre. This is provided at a nominal rent.**

# How YOU can get involved

## DONATE...



63% OF OUR INCOME LAST YEAR CAME FROM KIND PEOPLE LIKE YOU!



ONLINE



BY POST

(our address is at the bottom of this page!)

We also love corporate partnerships!

## MANCHESTER SLEEPOUT



Get sponsored to sleep outside for a night and learn directly from people who've had to do this.



## SIGN UP TO HEAR MORE



@Booth Centre



www.BoothCentre.org.uk/newsLetter

All of the drawings in this report were created by Sketchnotes UK. Each story is real and illustrated from videos of people from the Booth Centre.



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