

Welcome to St Paul's. Hope Starts Here.

ST PAUL'S SOCIAL VALUE PARTNERSHIP
SANCTUARY X ST PAUL'S HOSTEL



Founded in 1977 by the Worcester Council of Churches, St Pauls provide accommodation and intensive support for 44 adults, alongside resettlement flats and housing-led services for people with the most complex needs.

Of those referred:

- 100% are already homeless.
- 60% are rough sleeping at the point of referral.
- Almost all have experienced significant trauma

Nearly all of our residents have overlapping challenges: substance abuse, mental health needs, and trauma. Without sustained, specialist support, people become trapped in a cycle of rough sleeping, crisis interventions, and repeat homelessness.

We are not just a roof over people's heads. We are a community. A place of safety, and a pathway to recovery and independence.

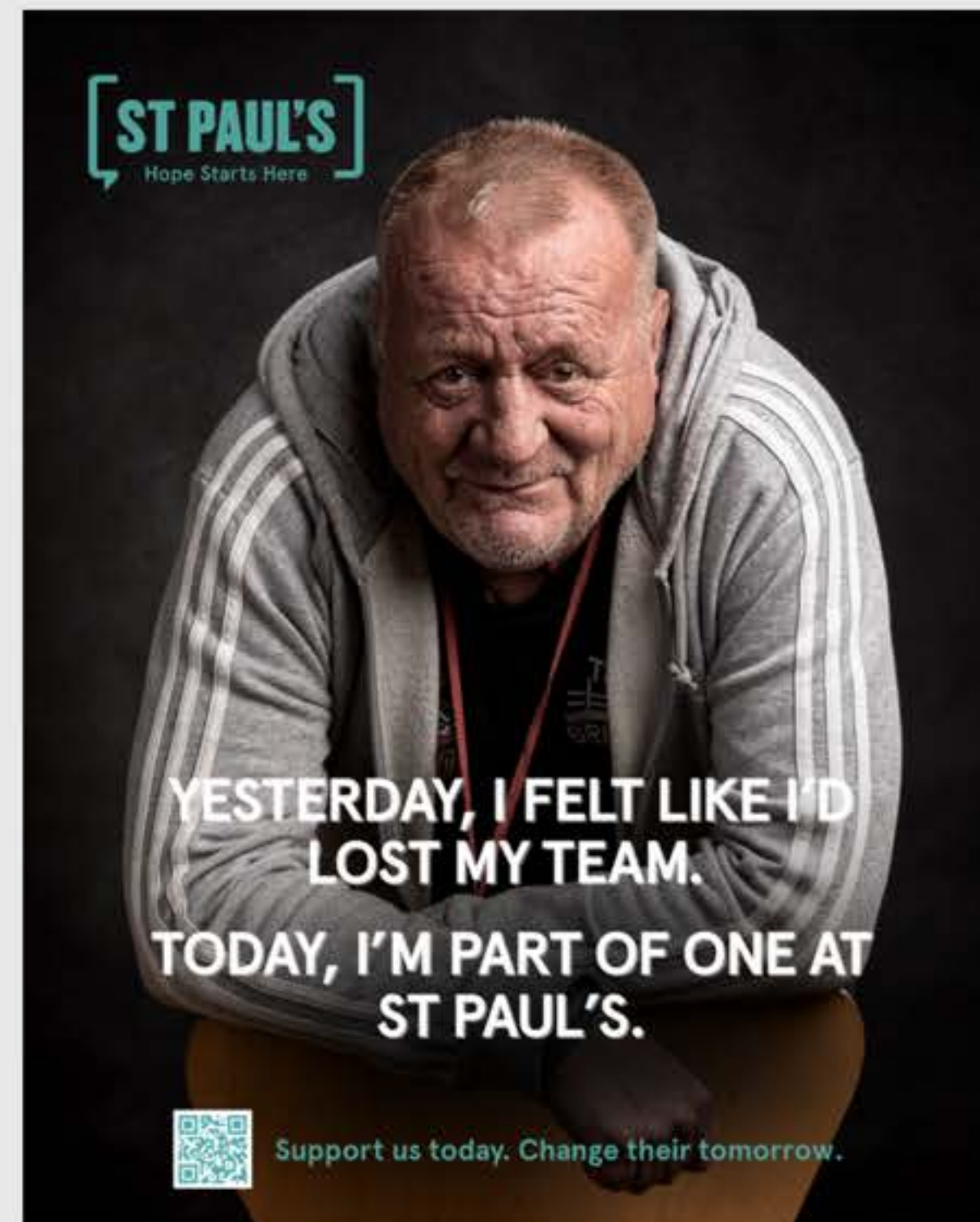
“We are not simply a roof over people’s heads. We are a community, a place of safety, and a pathway to recovery and independence.”

OUR VISION

We believe everyone has a place where they belong. We're committed to breaking the cycle of homelessness - making it rare, brief, and non-recurring.

OUR MISSION

We work with kindness to bring a sense of immediacy & action to the causes, symptoms & effects of homelessness.



OUR VALUES

Action

We take responsibility, follow things through, and focus on practical action that makes people feel safer and more stable.

Fairness

We challenge unfair systems, indifference, and barriers—and advocate for change.

Partnership

We collaborate with residents, colleagues, and partner agencies, share decision-making, and recognise lived experience, to bring better outcomes.

Trust

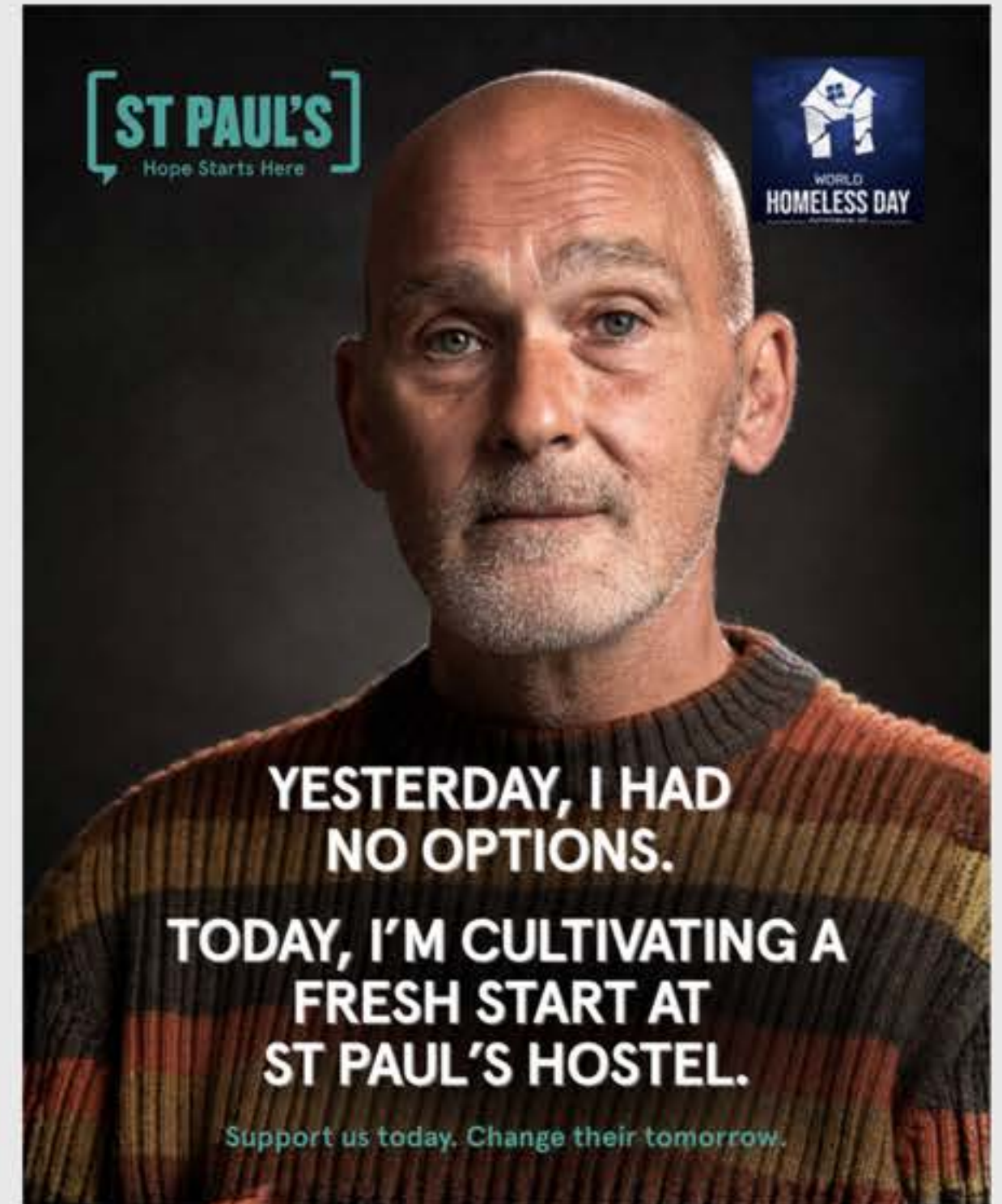
We walk alongside people with consistency, carefulness and respect. Listening and reliability are central to we work.

Equity & Choice

We create the conditions for meaningful choice, often for the first time. Support is personalised, inclusive and promotes self-confidence.

Accountability

We value honesty and transparency. We are clear about what we can (and can't do), and communicate openly and consistently with residents, partners, and each other.



WHAT WE DO & WHY

St Paul's takes over 300 referrals each year, more than 65% from Worcester City Council, with over 90% having a local connection to Worcester. Of those referred, 100% are already homeless and 60% are rough sleeping.

Homelessness is not inevitable. However, it could be said that some are more susceptible, outcomes of life changing events such as; relationship breakdown, loss of employment, poor health are largely dependent on the support network available at a time of crisis. At St Pauls, almost all of our residents face overlapping challenges: substance use, mental health needs, and trauma. Without support, people become trapped in a cycle of rough sleeping, crisis interventions, and repeat homelessness.

We work to break that cycle through:

- **Accommodation** – safe, supported housing.
- **Recovery** – time, therapy, diagnosis, medical reviews, harm reduction.
- **Move-On Support** – preparing people for independence; financial management, domestic skills, pathways to employment and social enrichment.
- **Partnership** – working with local services, corporates, and the community to tackle root causes.

breaking the cycle of homelessness

crisis → **safety** → **recovery** → **independence**

MOVE ON

The "Move On" initiative at St. Paul's Hostel focuses on supporting residents as they transition from homelessness to inter-independent living. This program has helped 12 people in sustained moves since June 2025, 30% of whom are in employment.

The team support individuals to prepare for tenancy, secure their own homes and rebuild their lives with dignity and stability. They work tirelessly to provide practical assistance, emotional support, and resources, ensuring that residents are equipped to sustain their tenancies and thrive in their new environments. Recognized for their safeguarding and impactful work, the Move On team plays a crucial role in breaking the cycle of homelessness, bringing real choice and chance for richer lives.

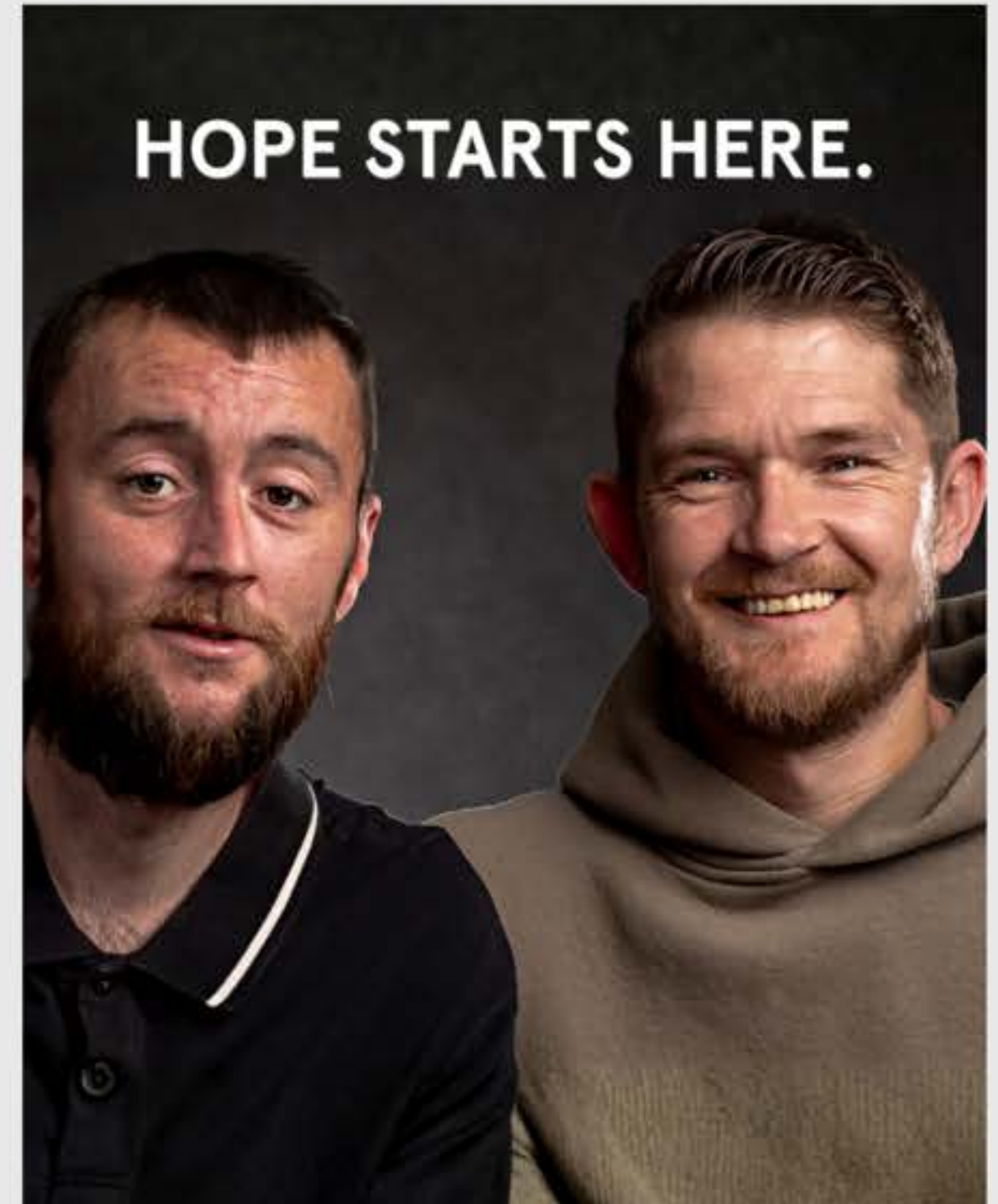
We work to break that cycle through:

Accommodation - safe, supported and temporary.

Recovery - time, therapy, diagnosis, medical reviews, harm reduction.

Move-On support - preparing people for independence; financial management, domestic skills, pathways to employment and social enrichment.

Partnership - working with local services, corporates, and the community to tackle root causes.



MOVE ON - CASE STUDY #1

Stephen moved into St. Paul's Hostel on April 2025 after rough sleeping in Worcester city centre. Following the tragic loss of his wife and daughter to COVID complications in 2024, Stephen, a veteran, struggled with PTSD, depression, and health issues, including a heart attack. After a suicide attempt, he received mental health support before arriving at the hostel, where he was grateful to have a safe place to stay.

At St. Paul's, staff supported Stephen in accessing medical care, which led to a life-saving pacemaker fitting. He participated in activities, including presenting an award on Veteran's Day at a Worcester City match, a moment that made him feel proud. With the team's help, Stephen accessed Adult Social Care and moved into Meadow Court on November 2025, where he found a supportive community and new friends.

Reflecting on his journey, Stephen shared, "I feel like a King."

Steve is a regular visitor to the hostel, and we all really enjoy his company.

RESIDENT - STEPHEN



MOVE ON - CASE STUDY #2

Sam has been connected with St Paul's Hostel since 2018, living there on and off over the years. After a period of private renting, Sam returned to the hostel when he faced homelessness due to falling behind on household bills.

Determined to regain his independence, Sam worked closely with his Move-On Support Worker to find a permanent home. He actively placed weekly bids on properties and, through persistence and dedication, was eventually offered a tenancy with Platform Housing Association. In September, Sam successfully signed his tenancy agreement and moved into his new home.

With ongoing support from his Move-On Worker, Sam is in the process of turning his new house into a home. Continued support will be available as he works toward his long-term goal of living independently.

Sam remains an important part of the St Paul's community. He contributes by working in the kitchen, assisting with cleaning, and regularly taking part in hostel trips and activities. Even as he begins this new chapter, Sam continues to be a valued member of the St Paul's family.

RESIDENT - SAM



HOW A SOCIAL VALUE PARTNERSHIP WITH YOU COULD WORK

A social value investment partnership between St Paul's Hostel and Sanctuary Housing is a brilliant and obvious corporate alignment bringing together Sanctuary's strategic commitment to sustainable communities and pathways to independence with St Paul's work to support people out of homelessness.

St Paul's is a local and impactful partner, providing a platform for Sanctuary to reinvest in community resilience; creating spaces where people can thrive and maintain secure, long-term tenancies, with support, community connections, and initiatives that help individuals overcome barriers to financial and social inclusion.

This partnership would:

This shared social purpose directly supports the UK government's homelessness strategy, which prioritises sustainable exits from homelessness. Together we can deliver measurable social impact — reducing the risk of repeat homelessness, strengthening communities, and ensuring that people who need support the most can build independence and dignity through stable housing.

HOW A SOCIAL VALUE PARTNERSHIP WITH YOU COULD WORK

Driving a culture for change

- Sanctuary could work to help bring change by sharing knowledge to improve outcomes where their services mirror trauma-informed practice
- Access to L&D which embed TI into practice and helps bring a motivated, confident and happy workforce and client group
- Partner with St Paul's in the provision of funds for our dedicated Move On Team and Transition team.
- Allocate specific properties to build a community which celebrates life beyond homelessness.

Helping us raise awareness through your channels, and how together in partnerships, we are breaking the cycle of homelessness

- Give St Paul's a voice at forums and meetings - work with the hostel to build agreed successes
- Piggybacking marketing - internally and externally
- Access to funds directly and indirectly, which support the objectives of St Paul's.
- Activation of volunteers.

Other Asks

- **Funding for property personalisation in move on**
Funding for training and access to the emerging leaders initiative
- Access to centralised training resources - online and in person
- An ambition to launch a partnership which can be noticed and awarded.

What do we need financial help with:

Transition Worker - £40k Sustaining the tenancy and preventing reoccurrence of homelessness.

This role is geared specifically to preventing:

- Eviction
- Exploitation
- Crisis escalation
- Repeat homelessness

Mental Health and Wellbeing - £62k per year

Recovery and therapeutic services are provided for those in the hostel, people at risk of homelessness and those who have moved on. This means that for those that need it most, they can access qualified counsellors and therapists free of charge and without waiting until it is too late.

Together, [Sanctuary Housing](#) and [St Paul's](#) share a deep commitment to building sustainable futures and transforming lives. By combining Sanctuary's expertise and St Paul's dedication to empowering individuals out of homelessness, this partnership offers the opportunity to deliver real, lasting change for vulnerable people across Worcestershire.

What do we need financial help with:

3 unfunded roles

Stability and Recovery - Substance Misuse Worker £40k per year

St Paul's has a high prevalence of residents with co-occurring substance and mental health needs. In the absence of external services meeting the need of St Paul's, we are recruiting a Substance Misuse Worker - Leading to harm reduction, crisis de-escalation, overdose prevention and pathways into detox/rehab, reduced drug-related deaths, acute health episodes and emergency service demand.

Support and Development Worker £40k - Building tenancy readiness and removing barriers.

Working to support residents to develop confidence to consider and plan for move on.

Address barriers that prevent progression, including, income instability, Mental health conditions and trauma-related behaviours, Social isolation and low resilience.

Create pathways into volunteering, training and employability, Support residents to experience value, purpose and contribution, Strengthen positive peer and community connections.

Primary outcome: Residents become psychologically and practically ready to sustain independent accommodation – not just eligible for it.

Together, Sanctuary Housing and St Paul's Hostel share a deep commitment to building sustainable futures and transforming lives. By combining Sanctuary's expertise in providing quality construction and St Paul's dedication to empowering individuals out of homelessness, this partnership offers the opportunity to deliver real, lasting change for vulnerable people across Worcestershire.

ARE YOU READY TO JOIN US TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF HOMELESSNESS?

ERICA BURLACE, CEO

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