

Building Together

2016 - 2020



Imagine Norfolk Together

Imagine Norfolk Together is a partnership between the Diocese of Norwich and the Church Urban Fund. It was established in 2016 to tackle poverty and social exclusion through the work of local churches in partnership with organisations and individuals from all faiths, cultures and backgrounds who seek the common good.

Development Workers

We have two development workers, Anna Heydon in Great Yarmouth and Andrew Frere-Smith in King's Lynn.

Our key themes

Homelessness

Imagine Norfolk Together supports projects that help people who are experiencing homelessness. These include night shelters and drop-ins that provide relief for immediate needs such as food, clothing and healthcare. We also signpost additional support for those wanting to access benefits, financial advice and employment.

Mental Health and Loneliness

Working with Linking Lives, we develop befriending services that are delivered by churches. We also support church drop-ins and Places of Welcome where people can make friends, socialise and relax.

Financial Resilience

Partnering with Christians Against Poverty we support those wishing to free themselves from financial debt.

Food Security

Imagine Norfolk Together works with a variety of partners to tackle food poverty with projects from holiday clubs to food banks.

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

In partnership with the Clewer Initiative, our work focuses on equipping churches, individuals, and communities to recognise human trafficking and know how to respond.

8

church denominations supported

81

projects created through partnership

241538

£ raised for local projects



Stories of hope



Bill

"I retired and moved to King's Lynn. I didn't know anyone, so most days I just stayed at home and watched television. I started to get depressed, and it was affecting my relationships. My wife read about Men's Shed in the paper. She suggested I went along, and I haven't looked back! I've made friends, found things to do and people who can help me solve practical problems at home. On guy is an electrician and he sorted something for me in minutes. I'm so grateful that Men's Shed started, so is my wife!"



John

"I've been coming to the night shelter since November. It has helped me in every way I can think of. It even got me off amphetamines. The regular food, shelter and care made all the difference. People listened. They helped me with my medical needs and my physical needs. They helped me get about, with my scooter, my bags, things like that. If it wasn't for the shelter, I wouldn't be where I am now. I would probably be on the street, dead. I feel fantastic now - I sincerely mean it."



Tamsin

Tamsin came to the Living Room winter night shelter having been evicted from her previous accommodation. She stayed for two months. During that time, she was supported through a court appearance and was helped to find permanent work in a nearby guest house. Tamsin has maintained this work and now has permanent rented accommodation in the town. She said that without the Living Room she would not be alive today.

Rick

Rick attended an 'Unfold' group that was set up to support people with mental health difficulties. He spent time with volunteers talking, participating in craft activities and being led through guided meditation. At the end of six weeks, his health improved and he was comfortable mixing in small groups and developing friendships. Rick said he had really enjoyed the group and was feeling much better emotionally.

Imagine Norfolk Together is one of 15 Core members in the Together Network, all of them linked by faith and driven by the desire to tackle social inequality across England.





Outcomes

"You should be very proud of all you do to help the churches work so effectively together. It is a very special thing and is bearing so much fruit."

Jenny Seal, Network Norwich



5 charities created



14 churches supported



78 new projects started



40 existing projects helped



132 workshops and presentations delivered



£241,538 of funding secured for churches and charities

Imagine Norfolk Together charity No.1166382

