

Hello!

This summer Bethany Christian Trust is reaching out to churches across Scotland, as we urgently need more Christian volunteers across our services.

In various streams of our work, we are reliant upon the generosity of committed volunteers and, in some services, we require volunteers to have an active Christian faith so that they can truly reflect God's love to the people that we work with. These are the volunteer positions where we have the greatest need, and it is particularly in these roles where we are facing a volunteering crisis.

Our ask today is: **could you please share these volunteering opportunities with your congregation?**

All volunteering positions come with training from the Bethany Team, and if you would like a Bethany staff member to visit your church and explain more to your congregation, please get in touch with **Rachael** to arrange this!

Anne Hope House (Edinburgh)

Supporting women towards a brighter future and independence.

We are looking for women to be sleepover volunteers who support the Anne Hope House staff team in giving quality support to residents in the evening and overnight. Anne Hope House works with women who are leaving homelessness and challenging circumstances, supporting them on their journey to recovery and independent lives. Although one night per week is the preferred time commitment here, there is flexibility and fortnightly or another schedule can also be suitable. To find out more about being a sleepover volunteer please see the **role description** on our website.



Passing the Baton (Edinburgh)

Helping transform lives and prevent homelessness through befriending.

We need volunteers to join our befriending service ‘Passing the Baton’. Befriending gives you an opportunity to offer support and encouragement to someone who has been affected by homelessness in Edinburgh. You’ll meet with them regularly to help them connect with their community, discover their strengths, and grow in confidence. Volunteers are usually in touch with their befriendee around 1.5-2 hours every week or fortnight, over a period of 6-12 months.

Our next training event for interested befrienders in Edinburgh will be held on Wednesday 6th November, 10am- 2.30pm at our office at 65 Bonnington Road, EH6 5JQ, as part of Befriending Week 2024.

We are also offering 1-2-1 training for people interested outside of that date to help volunteers get started as soon as possible. For anyone that is interested, please contact our **Befriending Coordinators Pall and Sophie.**



Bridge to Freedom (Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Inverness and Dundee)

Supporting individuals through community-based recovery, with Christ at the centre of the process.

'Bridge to Freedom' is our Christian community-based recovery group for people experiencing life-controlling issues with drugs and alcohol, with a desire to find freedom and attain abstinence. We are looking for volunteers to support the running of these groups across various locations. We run weekly 2-hour groups in Edinburgh, Dundee, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Inverness. Volunteers help at the group by providing a listening ear and encouragement, as well as practically helping at the venue with setting up rooms and providing refreshments.

To find out more about being a Bridge to Freedom volunteer please see the role description on our website - **Glasgow** / **Rest of Scotland**



General (Across Scotland)

Outwith these specific roles, we also need volunteers for other roles such as volunteer mentors with Connect to Community, sorting donations in our charity shops or assisting with community drop-ins. These roles can all be **viewed and filtered by location on our website.**

There is also an upcoming training event for Connect to Community volunteer mentors to be held in Glenrothes, on Saturday 31st August. For more details and to sign up, please visit the **event page here.**

Materials

We have created a **poster (Edinburgh / Scotland wide)** and **slide (Edinburgh / Scotland wide)** to make it as easy as possible to share this with your church, however, if you would like a printed copy of this poster, we are able to provide these up to A1 size.

We would also love to provide some **leaflets** for your congregation to read more, so please let us know the best postal address and we can send them to you.

Email Rachael to request printed materials.

Thank you for your partnership in our work towards ending homelessness in Scotland!

With every blessing,



Rachael Gilfillan, Churches and Community Fundraiser

More About Volunteering **Read our Annual Report**

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