

CROSSREACH

providing a caring future



Prayer Diary

June - September 2016



The Church of Scotland

Social Care Council

Operating as CrossReach, Scottish Charity No: SC011353

TAYSIDE SUPPORT SERVICES

A Housing Support service in Angus supporting those affected by substance misuse to maintain their own tenancies.

- Give thanks for the dedication and hard work of the staff as they continue to support people in the sometimes very chaotic lives they lead.
- Pray for the staff team, as they continue in their learning and development especially in the new Self Directed Support.
- Pray for our service users who sometimes are very lonely and have no family. Pray that they can heal some of the rifts that have been caused by their addictions.
- Remember anyone in our service who is struggling with life in general, those who are facing difficult decisions and those who are bereaved. May they all feel God's presence around them.
- Pray for the service as it looks ahead - listening and involving our service users in the changes and development, giving them the opportunity to have a say in how the service is delivered and how it affects them.
- Remember the staff of the project – Nan, Rogan, Lucy and Tracy, who work so hard to support people with their day to day lives without drugs or alcohol, enabling them to stay in their own homes.
- Pray for the good relationships with the other services in Angus who we all strive to make the lives of our service users better.

OVERSTEPS, DORNOCH

Oversteps provides residential care and support to 24 older people.

- We sing to the Lord with joyful voice for all the residents here at Oversteps. While we live, we will pray to God, who listens to our voices.

(Effie MacPherson, Service User)

- Bless all of the staff here in Oversteps each time they start their shift. With God's help we pray they would enjoy their work and continue their unfailing commitment to all the residents.

(Isobel, Jessie and Joey, Service Users)

- Give thanks for all the training that the staff here in Oversteps are able to participate in so that we are better able to look after the residents in our care.

(Kathleen McInnes, Care Worker)

- Give thanks for all those who support us and the work we do; our Friends' Group, relatives, visitors, local Churches, schools and external health professionals.

- Give me the grace to maintain my hope in God through all of life's changes, and to taste and see his goodness. Help us find joy in a renewed strength of spirit for you are our God, forever and ever.

(Ina MacPherson, Friends' Group)

- Pray for all the people in care homes that we would be inspired to visit them and remind them of their great worth. Pray for the staff and ask God to give them the strength and understanding to carry out their duties and to help the residents cherish each moment of their lives.

(Ina MacPherson, Friends' Group)

CROSSREACH COUNSELLING MORAY

A generic counselling service offering counselling for young people, adults and couples.

- Pray for our Inverness service which has recently employed a project worker and administrator. Pray for God's guidance and wisdom as they seek out suitable accommodation to ensure the smooth running of the service.
- Give thanks for all the work the volunteers have done in Inverness over the past years and for the financial gift that has allowed the project to expand.
- Give thanks for the privilege of working alongside individuals who in their brokenness place their trust in us. Pray for wisdom and discernment for the counsellors as they seek to journey with them. Pray that they may be able to provide a safe space for people to work through their issues.
- Give thanks for our service in Buckie which has now been running for over 10 years. We are thankful that God has provided much more than we could ever ask or imagine. Pray for his continued blessing over us, that those who come for counselling may experience a sense of Christ in our work.
- Give thanks for the invaluable support we have received over the years from past managers and other members of the bigger support network. We are indebted to them and know their input has taken us where we are today.

QUEENS BAY LODGE, EDINBURGH

Provides residential care for 28 older people situated on the east side of Edinburgh.

- Pray that God would be with all our residents who you have entrusted into our care and be with their families. Give the staff the strength to do the work you led us to do with love and compassion.
- Pray that God would open our hearts and our minds to all that he has in store for us; let us know that we are enfolded in his love and help us to draw strength from him every day.
- Pray for moral and spiritual courage, so that we would not be silent in the face of evil and adversity. Help us to look to God for guidance in all our ways.
- Pray for an improvement in the health of our residents who have been ill, that they may gradually gain strength and become stronger in their daily lives.
- Give thanks for the staff and the care and compassion shown to us, which is very much appreciated. (*Resident*)
- Praise God for his mercy and grace towards our residents and their families, and for the patience and kindness shown by staff. Help us to uphold each other in times of difficulty and bereavement.
- Give thanks to God for answers to our prayers which provided the minibus and volunteer drivers. This resource will enrich our lives as we go on outings and enable us to appreciate God's creation. (*Resident*)

THRESHOLD EDINBURGH

Threshold Edinburgh provides a housing support and care at home service to adults with learning disabilities. We also provide Day Opportunities within the service and the community.

- Pray for the customers and staff at Threshold Edinburgh, that they would have wisdom to meet the daily challenges that arise.
- Pray that: "Whatever happens, that we conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ." (*Philippians 1:27*)



- Pray that all the customers using the day opportunities would enjoy the new interests that are on offer to them.
- Give thanks for Gail Prentice for unselfishly giving her time and effort to raise funds by walking the Rob Roy Way.
- Pray for the smooth transition of the new senior team within Threshold Edinburgh.
- Pray for all staff who are ill at the present time. May they have a speedy recovery.
- Give thanks that in 2016 we will be celebrating Threshold Edinburgh's 20 year anniversary.

SOUTH BEACH HOUSE, ARDROSSAN

A residential home for 40 older people in Ayrshire with beautiful views across to the hills of Arran.

- Pray for all CrossReach staff and especially those who work at South Beach House. Give us guidance and support and help us through our work days.
- Pray for the health and wellbeing of our residents that we might make each new day special to them and bring some happiness into their lives.
- Pray for safe travel for families and visitors to and from this place and that their visit would be a happy one.
- Training is at the centre of our work and we ask that God would guide us in all our teachings and help us to put our learning into practice.
- Activities are important to both our residents and staff, so pray that these are happy occasions with lots of fun and entertainment for all.
- Pray for the wider world in these days of war and fighting. We ask that God would guide those in Government to make this a safer world for all of us who live in it.
- Pray for God's help for each of us as we go about our business; be with us all the days of our lives.

OASIS BANKFOOT AND THE TRYST, PITLOCHRY

Day care and activities for older people in Perthshire.

- Pray for all of the new staff joining CrossReach that they may care for service users and customers with love, compassion and dignity.
- Give thanks for all of our bus, car drivers and escorts who give their time freely to help our work.



- Give thanks for the beautiful surroundings in which we are fortunate to deliver our service.
- Give thanks for our volunteers who help us on a daily basis.
- Pray that we would all work together to ensure the well-being of our service users.
- Remember our service users and pray that they would continue to enjoy good health.

THRESHOLD SUPPORT SERVICES, HAMILTON

Provides support to people with learning disabilities and people on the autistic spectrum across Lanarkshire.

- Pray for the new 'Leading Lives' day opportunities service that it may continue to grow and develop. Give thanks that the people attending have begun to develop new friendships through shared interests and experiences.
- Pray for the Community Support service – for guidance and wisdom for the management team as they seek to implement a raft of changes to the way support packages are funded and delivered.
- Pray for the Short Breaks service, offering holidays in the UK and abroad to service users and respite to their parents and carers. Pray that service users have a fun and fulfilling holiday.
- Pray for the housing support/care at home service, providing care and support to people in their own homes and community. Pray for some individuals who are struggling with poor mental health at this time and struggling to make sense of the world around them.
- Pray for the residential service – providing support to people in 3 small residential care homes. Give thanks that money has been made available to do some refurbishment to the houses, and pray that this is done in such a way that it causes the least disruption and anxiety to the residents.

WALTER & JOAN GRAY HOME, SHETLAND ISLANDS

A 16 bed residential care home for older people. We also have a Day Centre which can have up to 10 clients per day with various activities.

- Give thanks to God for the great generosity and support shown to us by the local community and local businesses in Shetland. Pray for these strong links to be maintained.
- Give thanks for the appointment of a new Service Manager. Pray that God will give them wisdom in their new post.
- Pray that we can fill our care worker vacancies as response to adverts has been low. But we also praise God for the vacancies which have been filled.
- Our day centre has an increasingly diverse client group. Pray for the staff as they plan activities and try to meet various needs.
- Pray for members of the Friends' Group who are a great support to residents, clients and staff.
- Pray for our residents and clients with their individual needs and health issues which they live with on a daily basis.
- Give thanks to God for our dedicated staff team. Pray that they will be encouraged, knowing that their hard work makes such a difference to the lives of those they are caring for.

WHITEINCH MOVE ON SERVICE, GLASGOW

Supports adults in recovery to sustain a lifestyle free from substance misuse, including alcohol and drugs. We help our service users to become active members of society by providing temporary furnished accommodation and support.

- Pray for the continued building of our team's relationships with one another as well as with our client group and all the agencies and partners we work with.
- Pray that our service would maintain and improve the quality of the care we provide in Christ's name.
- Pray for the health of our service users as many of them have chronic long term illnesses that require quite specialist care.
- Pray for the provision of property for our service users to move on to at the completion of their programme into a successful life in recovery.
- Pray for our service users and their previous life hurts. Many of them come to us as broken people who need to rebuild a lot of their lives before they can move on successfully.
- Pray for continued high standards of work with our clients, and that, through dialogue, to we would seek to improve standards even more.
- Pray for the continued provision of God in both finances and the support network of people that we have around us to assist in carrying out the work of this service.

WELL HALL, HAMILTON

Well Hall is a residential home for older people, able to care for 38 residents at a time.

- Pray for Etta who recently took over as manager that she will have the support and help from her staff group. Pray that she will be given the ability to cope with everything that comes her way and that she will enjoy her new role.
- Pray for our residents who at this time in their lives deserve the love, care and respect from others as they put their trust in the staff and visitors of the home.
- Remember the dedicated staff group who work hard to provide daily care and attention for the residents. Give thanks for their continued hard work and dedication to the service. We ask for strength and grace to face the challenges that are different each day and we pray that we can reflect Christ to people we come into contact with.
- Give thanks for our Friends' Group who are encouraging and helpful as they fundraise for the residents. They have welcomed some of the residents into their meetings. Pray that friendships will grow as they continue to meet together.
- Pray for the families of the residents who worry about their loved ones that they would know that they are being well looked after and that communication would be two-way.
- Pray for the new minister at Hillhouse Parish Church, Rev. Christopher Rankine, and that his congregation will be blessed, and by this we in turn will feel blessed to have their continued support and fellowship.

RESIDENTIAL CARE & EDUCATION

A range of care and education services in the West of Scotland for young people.

- Pray for the children who left the service at the end of the summer term, and that the future will hold good things for them.
- Give thanks for our new community house in East Dunbartonshire. Pray that it will provide a happy home to many children and young people.
- Uphold the staff in the care and education teams who provide such vital support to the children in our care.
- Pray that a new education site will be settled on soon.
- Give thanks for positive nurturing relationships which sustain us all and help us to thrive.
- Give thanks for all of the work which has gone into the preparation of the full implementation of the Children and Young People's Act and pray that it delivers positive change for care experienced children.
- Remember the senior staff team as they have worked through an enormous process of change to a new model of service delivery and give thanks for their patience, commitment and time.

WILLIAMWOOD HOUSE, GIFFNOCK, GLASGOW

A specialist care home for older people living with dementia.

- Remember loved ones lost to us and to pray for them on a regular basis.
- Remember other people experiencing dementia in poorer, less developed countries who don't have access to the care services that we do in Scotland.
- Pray for our residents, that we get good weather in the summer months for their holiday, and day trips in the minibus.
- Pray for our residents and their families, to give them strength and courage throughout their journey.
- Pray for every service within CrossReach, and for the staff who deliver the care to the service users. Give thanks for their knowledge, skills and continual commitment.



- Pray for all residents, families and staff at Williamwood House. Help us to work together in peace and harmony, supporting one another to deliver the best loving care to all of our residents.

CONFIDENTIAL CONVERSATIONS

An Employee Assistance Programme providing counselling services designed to meet the needs of organisations and businesses that, by the nature of the services they provide, demonstrate a high prevalence of work-related stress.

- Pray that the employers and employees who provide vital services to our communities will find the mental and emotional support they need through this new programme.
- Pray for the staff and counsellors at CrossReach Counselling: Lothians that God would help them hear and understand the needs of the individuals and their employers and to respond with care and wisdom.
- Pray for those who will use the service, that they would experience a safe environment where they can tenderly explore distressing issues and that the process would be helpful to support their wellbeing.
- Pray that this new service will flourish and can support the expansion of adult and young people's counselling services to meet the ever increasing mental health needs of the community.
- Pray that the delivery of counselling services through Confidential Conversations helps to facilitate an experience of God's unconditional love, mercy and restoration.
- Give thanks for our volunteer and staff counsellors whose dedication and time make the services of CrossReach Counselling both possible and accessible to those who critically need emotional support.

THE ELMS CARE HOME, EDINBURGH

A specialist dementia service for 40 older people. The care package includes a variety of activities and stimulation whilst also providing the residents with enjoyment and highest quality of life.

- Pray for the families and friends of residents past and present; may they find strength and peace in difficult circumstances.
- Pray for an understanding of dementia so that our residents can get the best quality of life possible.
- Pray that God would support the staff team through a time of change at The Elms. Thank God for the 26 years' service given by our previous service manager Margaret Tait and for blessing us with her skills, wisdom and support over this period. Pray that staff can continue to carry her vision forward.
- Pray for the staff team who work in unity during the day and at night providing a high standard of care to all our residents and work together to realise our vision of excellence in all we do.
- Pray that God would support staff to continue to provide care and compassion to our residents, families and each other in our important and individual roles at The Elms.
- Lord, as we stand at the beginning of a new day, bless us with the vision to see the best of things to come and let us feel precious in your sight.
- Lord, forgive us when we stray from the path of your commandments and help us back onto the righteous path.

MORVEN DAY SERVICES, KILMARNOCK

Morven Day Services offers support to adults with mental health problems living in East Ayrshire.

- Pray that in days when the warmth of care seems lacking that staff would provide the light and life our service users need for that day. That they would gain understanding and peace experiencing growth and change for the better not just for the worse.
- Pray for those who use Morven, who cling onto what they have and are unwilling to move out into what lies ahead, fearing the new in case they lose the old. Give them courage and help them find security in the support given to move into the next stage of their life, and recovery.
- Pray about the factors leading to mental health issues; those who live in abusive homes, those who suffer relationship breakdowns, those who become addicted to drugs and alcohol. Where there is abuse, pray for justice; where there is sorrow, pray for comfort; where there is addiction, pray for freedom.
- Remember people who think themselves valueless, let them regain that value as they use the support of Morven Day Services. To realise that, in a seemingly uncaring world, someone cares and that, with support, they can regain their self-value and purpose in their lives.
- Give thanks that Morven Day Services is a haven for those in East Ayrshire who have mental health issues. Thank God for the friendships people have gained, the support, the direction and the listening ears that have helped them bear their burdens.

OASIS, GARELOCHHEAD

A day care service whose aim is to support people to continue to live in their own homes, promoting independence, health and wellbeing. We offer support to the people who use our service to establish and maintain friendships.

- Give thanks for our purpose-built service and for its beautiful surroundings.
- Pray for our staff who face challenging decisions every day, and to keep them motivated through Christ's name.
- Pray for all CrossReach services that we may continue to encourage and support each other through both good and difficult times.
- Pray for guidance for the people who use our service and to keep them as independent and in their own homes for as long as possible.
- Remember our friends who have moved on from our service and wish them a peaceful journey on the remainder of their lives.
- Pray for those who are in poor health - may they not be suffering. Pray too for their families and friends at this difficult time.
- Pray for the families of the people who use our service that they might continue to benefit from resources like The Oasis, to offer respite to ease both parties in their daily lives.

CrossReach (Church of Scotland Social Care) was launched in June 2005 and continues the Kirk's long tradition of providing care and support. In fact, this work started back in 1869, so we have been offering care and support for nearly 150 years.

We employ 2,000 staff in 70 care and support services stretching from Shetland to Ayrshire, making us one of the largest social care agencies in Scotland. Our services help thousands of people in need every day of the year. Our work is split into 8 main areas:

- **Children and Family**
- **Counselling and Support**
- **Criminal Justice**
- **Homeless People**
- **Learning Disabilities**
- **Mental Health**
- **Older People**
- **Substance Misuse**

The Church of Scotland Social Care Council (operating as CrossReach) reports every year to the General Assembly and has the following remit:

- To offer services in Christ's name to people in need as part of the Church's mission.
- To provide specialist resources to further the caring work of the Church.
- To identify existing and emerging areas of need, to guide the Church in pioneering new approaches to relevant problems and to make responses on issues arising within the areas of the Council's concern through appropriate channels such as the Church & Society Council, the Scottish Executive and others.

Thank you for taking time to pray for our work.

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