



Community Chaplaincy-Norfolk

Quarterly Report for our Supporters

QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE 2025

COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY NORFOLK - CCN

CCN is a Christian charity which works alongside people leaving prison (clients), offering mentoring and holistic support within prison, at and through the prison gate and in the wider community. The service is open to clients of any faith or none. CCN supports clients towards changes in attitude and behaviour, to enable desistance from crime, reducing the likelihood of returning to prison and improving their chances of reintegration into the community.

CCN trains and supports volunteer mentors to meet regularly with clients and support them to engage with positive activities, reducing the likelihood of addictive or anti-social behaviours by identifying and encouraging personal interests, and working towards education, training or employment.

CLIENT WORK JANUARY – MARCH 2025

We received 11 referrals this quarter. Referrals have come from the Resettlement Team at HMP Norwich (4), Change Grow Live (1), Shaw Trust CFO Evolution (1), Bereavement Support in HMP Norwich (2), In2Out Community Chaplaincy (1), New Life (1), and Self-Referral (1). Of these referrals, 3 are engaging with Mentors, 1 is awaiting a suitable mentor, 1 declined support, 1 was released out of area and signposted to a local Community Chaplaincy, 2 were declined due to lack of capacity to support, 2 were released before they could be assessed, and 1 was paused until nearer release due to transferring to a prison out of area.

A total of 29 Clients were open cases in this period, with 25 on our database as of 30th June. The age range of current clients is 23 – 73 years. We closed 3 cases this quarter due to disengagement, and 1 due to moving out of area. We are currently supporting 5 clients in HMP Norwich, 1 in HMP Wayland, 1 in HMP Five Wells, and 18 in the community. One client reoffended and returned to prison this quarter.

16 mentors are currently actively engaging with clients. This quarter, along with ongoing emotional support and encouragement, mentors have supported clients to apply for ID, build support networks by participating in faith communities, attend probation and mental health appointments, enroll in NSFT wellbeing courses, participate in positive social activities, and much more. Mentors and staff met 4 prison leavers at the gate this quarter and provided day one support to attend probation and other appointments.

In May, we ran a Client Forum and Social, where our clients had the opportunity to share their views on their experience with CCN and their mentors – as well as enjoying pizza, games, and chat! We plan to make these forums a regular part of our calendar, and to work respond meaningfully to their suggestions, and further embed lived experience and service user involvement in everything we do.

Here's some great feedback we received from our clients:

"(I) know they are always there if and when I need them. I feel comfortable enough to be able to talk about anything and always receive the best advice."

"Since I left prison, CCN have helped me build a relationship with my kids."

"Now I have a place to stay (...) and time to heal and prepare for the future, thanks to my mentor."

FUNDING NEWS

We were grateful to receive grants from Norwich Charitable Trust and the Love Norfolk fund at Norfolk Community Foundation this quarter. We are also thankful for the generous support of the individuals and groups who donate to us on a regular or one-off basis.

We are awaiting decisions on several grants that we have applied for this quarter. We are also implementing a new fundraising strategy, aiming to diversify our funding and reducing reliance on grants by increasing community, donor, and corporate fundraising. We are also offering training on working with prison leavers for voluntary organisations – if your organization or one that you know of would be interested in finding out more about this, please get in touch.

GOVERNANCE

We are pleased to welcome two new Trustees, Guy Poyner and Amy Harrold, to our board. Guy brings to CCN his extensive leadership experience in the military and charitable sector. Amy brings extensive experience in housing and the criminal justice system. We are thrilled to have them on board.

We will also say goodbye to our longest serving Trustee, Paulo Mussi, when he retires in July. Paulo has served on our board for 6 years, and we are so grateful for his leadership, resilience and kind, supportive presence as he helped guide us through our early years as a charity.



The CCN team at this year's Volunteer Extravaganza



Beautiful weather for the Spring Client Forum at St Stephen's Church



Celebrating our volunteers with tea and cake!

EVENTS AND SERVICE NEWS

In April, our mentors attended training delivered by Amy Harrold from A for Advocacy, on supporting clients with homelessness applications when they leave prison. The session was incredibly empowering and useful for all of us, especially given the biggest challenge most prison leavers we support face on release is lack of housing.

We hosted the quarterly meeting of the Caring for Prison Leavers Network, which was attended by colleagues from across the charitable and statutory sector in Norfolk, including Probation, the Matthew Project, Norwich Foodbank, and the Jobcentre. The network continues to be a valuable space for organisations to connect and share news and best practice in supporting people leaving prison.

In May, we ran a mentor training course, and are pleased to welcome 5 fantastic new mentors as a result. We are working on getting all our new mentors up and running with clients once they have completed their induction.

We were also invited to speak at the Fakenham Mothers' Union about our work. We received a warm welcome, and are grateful to the group for the opportunity to spread the word about CCN, and for their generous donations. We continue to seek opportunities to present about our work to a range of different faith and community groups.

In June, we celebrated Volunteers' Week by hosting an afternoon tea to say thank you to our amazing volunteer mentors. Without volunteers, CCN would simply not be able to do the work that we do, so we

are hugely appreciative of each and every one of the people who choose to give their time to helping prison leavers rebuild their lives.

We also attended the Volunteer Extravaganza at the Forum, supported by several of our mentors and clients, which was a great opportunity to raise our profile, network with other charities, and recruit new volunteers.

We are currently recruiting for our next course at the end of August. We currently have 5 people who have expressed an interest in attending, with a great range of professional and life experience.

Thank you to all our funders, donors, volunteers, and supporters – our work would not be possible without you.

If you are interested in making a donation to support us, please find out more here:

