

# Community Chaplaincy-Norfolk Quarterly Report for our Supporters

QUARTER ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 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 JULY - SEPTEMBER 2025

We received 13 referrals this quarter. Referrals have come from the Resettlement Team at HMP Norwich (8), Bereavement Support in HMP Norwich (1), Ormiston Families (2), and Probation (2). Of these referrals, 4 are engaging with Mentors, 3 are in the process of being assessed, 1 is awaiting a suitable mentor, 2 declined support, 1 was released out of area and signposted to a local Community Chaplaincy, 1 was released before they could be assessed, and 2 were declined due to lack of capacity to support.

We are currently having to turn away most referrals for clients with sexual offence histories, due to a shortage of volunteers who are willing and able to work with this client base. We plan to run further training in the new year to increase our capacity for work with this group, as the demand for support is high.

A total of 30 Clients were open cases in this period, with 30 on our database as of 30th September. The age range of current clients is 23 - 73 years. We are currently supporting 2 clients in HMP Norwich, 2 in HMP Wayland, 1 in HMP Hollesley Bay, and 25 in the community.

18 mentors are currently actively engaging with clients. This quarter, along with ongoing emotional support and encouragement, we worked with other agents to support 3 clients into long-term accommodation. We helped a further client secure grant funding to pay deposit and first month's rent on a privately rented flat. Other clients were supported with probation appointments, applying for ID and accessing documents to prove right to work, emergency supermarket vouchers, and engaging with drug and alcohol support services. Mentors and staff met 7 prison leavers at the gate this quarter and provided day one support to attend probation and other appointments.

## FUNDING NEWS

We were grateful to receive grants this quarter from the National Lottery, the 29<sup>th</sup> May 1961 Trust, the Souter Trust, and the Winter Hardship Fund at Norfolk Community Foundation. A huge thank you to Ipswich Road United Reformed Church, Norwich who raised funds for us as their charity of the month in July, and to East Church, Norwich who have selected us as one of their charities to support in 2025 and 2026. We are also thankful to all the individuals who donate to us, both on a one-off and monthly basis.

We are awaiting decisions on several other grants that we have applied for this quarter. We are also currently selling CCN Christmas cards. Staff, mentors and clients are planning to walk the Marriot's Way in March 2026 to raise funds for CCN – please check our website and Facebook page if you are interested in sponsoring us.

## GOVERNANCE

We said a fond farewell to Paulo Mussi in July as he retired from our board after 6 years as a trustee. We are grateful to have welcomed 4 wonderful new trustees this year, leaving us with a total of 5 active and engaged trustees. Our aim now is to increase the number of trustees on our board, in order to build our resilience and expertise. If you are interested in joining us, or know someone who might be, please get in touch. We are particularly interested in applicants with an understanding of finance, fundraising, and/or criminal justice.



Celebrating at our annual Summer Picnic



Trainees at our most recent Mentor Training Course



One of our clients at his church, where the gardens he helps tend were featured on Songs of Praise

## EVENTS AND SERVICE NEWS

In July, we hosted our annual summer picnic in Chapelfield Gardens, which brought together our community of volunteer mentors, clients, staff, and trustees for food, games, and conversation.

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, Julian Support, 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. Members are currently collaborating on sourcing a guarantor scheme for prison leavers seeking privately rented housing.

In September, we ran a mentor training course, and are pleased to welcome 3 fantastic new mentors as a result, with other attendees planning to become mentors after completing further training. 2 of the new mentors are already up and running working with clients and helping with gate meets, and the other is currently being paired with their first client.

We are currently recruiting for our next course in January 2026. We also have firm plans and funding secured to run a training course in Kings Lynn in March 2026, in order to increase our capacity to support prison leavers in the West Norfolk area.

Our Annual Meeting will take place on 6<sup>th</sup> November at St Stephens Church, Norwich, 17:30 – 19:00. We would love to see you there. RSVP to [info@norfolkchaplaincy.org.uk](mailto:info@norfolkchaplaincy.org.uk)

**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:**

