



WINTER SHELTER

CHARTER

We are a Christian organisation providing a service for people who are homeless. This charter has been put together to encourage an integration between best practice in the services we offer to homeless people and a confident expression of Christian ethos.

We acknowledge:

- The physical, mental and emotional vulnerability of many of those we serve through our work.
- The need for all services to be transparent and open in the way they operate and to avoid any 'hidden agenda' or 'strings attached' to the practical care we offer.
- The way that some work for homeless people undertaken by Christian organisations has been coercive e.g. insisting people listen to a talk or participate in a worship service before they can receive the practical help they are seeking. We reject this kind of practice as inappropriate and potentially harmful.

We affirm:

- That the Christian faith is at the heart of the ethos and motivations of our organisation and remains the central reason for why we offer the services we do.
- That being openly and positively Christian is not the same as being coercive or inappropriate.
- The validity and relevance of offering opportunities for those we serve to explore the Christian faith and the belief that this can be done in a transparent and non-coercive way.

We commit to:

- Providing an inclusive service to people affected by homelessness and associated issues.
- Serving and respecting all people regardless of their gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation, race, ethnic origin, religion, or physical and mental capability.
- Acknowledging the freedom of people of all faiths or none, to hold and to express their beliefs and convictions respectfully and freely, within the limits of UK law.
- Never imposing our Christian faith or belief on others.
- Developing partnerships with other churches, voluntary groups, statutory agencies and local government wherever appropriate in order to create an effective, integrated service for our clients.

CONTACT US:

Please do get in touch if you have any questions.

E-mail: office.dartfordwintershelter@gmail.com

Phone: 07340 982925