

Passing the Baton

As our local communities continue to disintegrate everybody suffers.

This is the age of self help books, telephone support lines, day time chat show hosts giving advice.

Sadly this is also the age in which people do not know their neighbours and many have no real friends to turn to.

Passing the Baton works with people who are struggling to settle into new areas. We need volunteers to introduce them to local groups and activities.



If you can help to make your community welcoming call
Gavin Lawson on (0131) 625 5318
Email: gavinlawson@bethanychristiantrust.com

Passing the Baton is facilitated by Bethany Christian Trust.
Reg. charity no. SC003783. 65 Bonnington Road Edinburgh EH6 5HD
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Passing The Baton

Preventing
homelessness by
helping people settle
in our communities.

“Two are better than one”

Help prevent a neighbour becoming homeless

Some people need help settling into communities and building up their own social networks.

When people get to know others and start to feel at home, they can develop meaningful relationships which prevent them becoming homeless.

We'd like you to introduce people to social activities that may be of interest and accompany them in situations they may find intimidating. Simple things like going out to a social group can make all the difference.

Could you be a buddy mentor?

(Time commitment of around 12 hours a month)

Finding new places to find friends can be difficult, even if you are confident and socially outgoing. Could you informally 'buddy' vulnerable people and accompany them to engagements and events?

Could you be a Community Representative?

(Time commitment of around 12 hours a month)

Could you help to make your community a welcoming place to live? We need you to coordinate a small team of volunteer buddy mentors and organise things like social events and social action 'hit squads' that can paint flats.

"Life dies inside a person when there are no others willing to befriend him. He gets filled with emptiness and a non-existent sense of self-worth".

Kurt Vonnegut

The difference you can make

Passing the Baton is a practical volunteering project, coordinated by trained staff and executed by the people that can really make the difference — the people in our communities.

Just one person can make a massive difference in people's lives.

The table below shows Dougie's friends and support networks before and after getting involved in Passing The Baton

Type of Relationship	Number of People	
	Before	After
Intimate and meaningful relationships	0	3
Friends (people you know well)	4	15
People you associate with	0	30
People paid to be in your life	4	2

"The step from a hostel with lots of people around, to moving in on your own in somewhere you don't know is scary and is a hard step. It is like moving from one extreme to the other. Passing the Baton really helped me make take that step and now I'm feeling more settled".

Colin