

## About Bethany Christian Trust

Bethany provides a variety of services that can work together or separately. Each one meets homeless people where they are, and helps them move forwards towards independent living:

### **Street Work**

Nightly food, blankets and clothing (Care Van)  
Basic accommodation, hot meals and advice from Nov - March (Care Shelter)  
Drop-ins providing basic support, addiction and housing advice

### **Emergency Accommodation**

Resettlement hostel (Bethany House)

### **Specialist Units**

Residential addictions unit for men (Bethany Christian Centre)  
Resettlement hostel for young men (Matthew House)  
Supported hostel for young women and children (Martha House)

### **Supported Housing**

Supporting vulnerable people in Bethany managed and other accommodation

### **Social Furniture provision**

Social Furniture project for people on low income (Homemaker)

### **Community Education**

Bridging the gap between homeless services and formal education  
Supporting vulnerable people through formal education  
Facilitating volunteering and employment opportunities

### **Community Integration**

Providing networks and skills to prevent homelessness (Passing The Baton)  
Employment, apprenticeships and volunteering placements

To find out more about Passing The Baton contact  
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# Passing The Baton

Preventing  
homelessness by  
helping people settle  
in our communities.

A guide for support workers

## Passing the Baton ...The Next Step

As Support workers we invest so much time, effort and energy into helping vulnerable people address their issues. Finding a new home and moving out ought to be such a positive experience but often we cannot help but wonder what will happen next.

So often vulnerable people move into unsuitable areas with no support. In a third of instances this leads to people losing their home again. **Similarly, people can stay in busy communities but be very isolated and at risk of homelessness.**

Positive relationships hold the key to preventing homelessness and Passing The Baton is a scheme that makes the most of this.

## Passing The Baton ... The Difference

98% of people who have engaged with Passing The Baton have succeeded in keeping their home. This is because of the supportive relationships developed. This chart shows Dougie's friends and support networks before and after getting involved.

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

## Passing the Baton ... How it Works

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.

Passing The Baton works across Scotland and helps people in danger of becoming homeless to settle into communities and build 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 introduce people to social activities that may be of interest and accompany them in situations they may find intimidating.

## Passing The Baton... And You

If you are supporting an adult **who is moving out of a hostel or is already in their accommodation and at risk of homelessness** due to isolation, then get in touch and 'pass the baton' on to us.

We work with people to build up a network of supportive relationships, people who understand. This support will prevent them becoming homeless.

Though service users of Passing The Baton are vulnerable, we cannot work with chaotic, antisocial individuals, who may be a danger to others.

*"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*