



SPRING 2024

CHESS HOMELESS
OPENING DOORS TO INDEPENDENCE

THE FACTS

CHESS is actively tackling the underlying reasons behind homelessness amongst single adults. By offering a clear pathway, we empower them to transition toward a more promising and hopeful future.

CHESS currently provides housing for up to 64 individuals across 11 properties. However, there is an urgent need for additional bed spaces to meet the growing demand.

CNN Official Data

Homelessness in England at 25 Yr High

1 in 5 charities at risk of closure increasing lack of affordable housing

CRISIS

Homeless people are over 9 times more likely to take their own life

More than 1 in 3 rough sleepers have suffered some form of violence

SHELTER

At least 271,000 people are homeless in England today, including 123,000 children

CHESS OUTCOMES 2022/23

- 153 PEOPLE OFFERED HOUSING & SUPPORT
- 64% MOVED INTO OWN ACCOMMODATION
- 149 PEOPLE PREVENTED FROM BECOMING STREET HOMELESS

TOTAL SOCIAL VALUE OF CHESS ACTIVITIES
£5.649M

This is the current reality faced by numerous adults in our communities. These individuals desire to break free from the cycle of homelessness, yet they simply require someone to walk alongside them, providing the necessary support to help them regain their footing.



THE CHESS IMPACT - Steve's Story

"About 6 years ago CHESS helped me, not just by giving me a place to stay, but also by supporting me mentally. I was on the verge of not knowing whether or not I would be about from one day to the next."

"I was on the edge both physically and mentally. I wanted to kill myself – if I'm honest I didn't want it no more - I wanted the pain to stop. I didn't want to die but I wanted the pain to stop and I thought the only way that's gonna happen is to end it. One of the most touching moments I had at CHESS was one Christmastime from a local school. I came back to the shelter and found 3 bags on my bed all full of Christmas stuff from a local school. "

"And at that point I was probably at my lowest point. I was thinking about my kids, what the future holds, do I want to carry on? But them 3 bags, with toothpaste, shower gel, socks – as much as I didn't need them things, I needed to know someone cared. And that gave me that lift to go on. It hasn't got to be like this – there are good people out there."

"CHESS took me in and gave me the chance to rebuild my life again and that's what I did. I'm now married, I got custody of my son, I went back into education and gained my social studies diploma and enrolled into a degree studying special needs."

"For nearly 3 years now I have worked in a special needs school whilst also holding down a second job as a youth and family support worker. Life has never been so good and it's all thanks to CHESS for giving me the help that I needed."

"I now use my experiences, which I don't hide. I share them with the young people I work with, not for sympathy but to show them how their lives can change so quickly and how just because life may be pretty crap at times, it doesn't have to be that way forever. With the right support and hard work anything is possible. As I say to my kids 'don't let your yesterdays control your todays.'"



"I needed to know someone cared – and that gave me that lift. It hasn't gotta be like this – there are good people out there."

STEVE, FORMER CHESS SERVICE USER



Upcoming EVENTS



15 September 2024

London To Brighton Cycle



21/22 September 2024

Tough Mudder 2024

Join our teams and make a difference

WWW.CHESSHOMELESS.ORG



Exciting NEWS

CHESS Homeless has a remarkable opportunity to expand bedspaces at one of our existing sites, increasing the capacity from 9 to 24.

Our plan involves replacing the current units with 24 self-contained modular homes, significantly enhancing the living conditions for homeless adults. These homes will be equipped with on-site support and life skills resources.

While we've secured funding of just over £2.5 million toward our £2.7 million goal, we still require an additional £164,000 to bring this project to fruition. Every contribution counts!

If you would like to be a part of this story you can find out more at:
www.chesshomeless.org/turning-point



CHESS aims to provide comprehensive support for individuals experiencing homelessness, empowering them to progress purposefully and maintain good health.

If you'd like to contribute to our cause, you can easily donate by scanning the QR code or visiting chesshomeless.org/donate.



You can find out more about anything in the newsletter on our new website - www.chesshomeless.org



WWW.CHESSHOMELSS.ORG