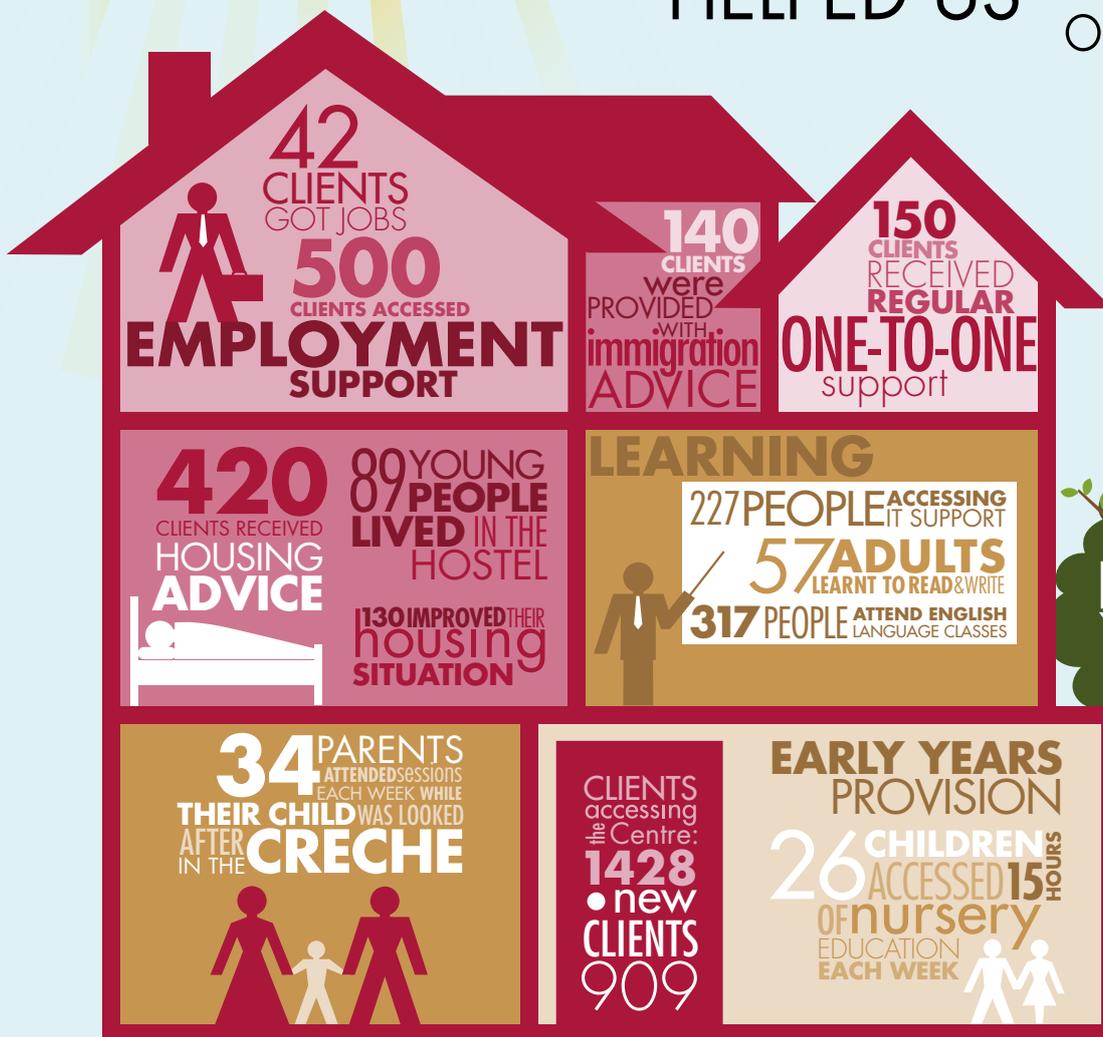


centre life

What your SUPPORT
HELPED US TO ACHIEVE IN
one year



136 volunteers **534** HOURS A WEEK

Welcome

The front page of the magazine is a wonderful representation of what your support helped us to achieve last year. One of the numbers that caught my eye was the 130 volunteers who work at the Centre each week. Their contribution is worth over £500,000 a year, though when you read the stories of the people they have helped, it's hard to put a price on their contribution.

Life is pretty tough already for the people they work with here at the Centre and it's about to get even tougher when Universal Credit is introduced next year. The welfare benefits system had to be reformed, it was complicated; unwieldy; wasteful and open to abuse. We are concerned, however, that the reforms will push more people over the edge into poverty.

As times get harder, we plan to adapt and extend our services. As many of you know, we are actively fundraising

to build five new starter flats on our site for homeless young people to help them gain independent living skills. Our new operational manager, Mark Foster, will be developing plans to take our advice services into the community and reach the most isolated - those who don't have a safety net or who simply don't know that help is available.

In the coming months we will also be working with other organisations, in the Caritas Social Action Network, to advocate that those people who can afford it the least are not asked to bear



"As times get harder, we plan to adapt and extend our services."

a very disproportionate burden in balancing the country's books.

Despite all the looming problems, as you will read, we will still be celebrating together at Christmas. I hope it is a special time for you and yours.

Cathy Corcoran, OBE

Guest Writer Anne-Charlotte Fauny

Twenty-six months ago, I was made redundant without due notice, and the money I was promised never materialised. Within a day both my mother and I were on the streets as accommodation was part of my employment. My principal aim until her death was to find a roof for the night and something to eat.

Downtrodden, desperate to escape a drunken, abusive flatmate two weeks after my mother's death, I stumbled on a telephone number a friend had given me two months earlier. The number was for the Cardinal Hume Centre.

It took all the courage I had left (I was ashamed and scared by my situation) to go to the Centre. My first port of call was the "Gateway", where I was greeted by a young lady with a gigantic smile, and was told they could help me. And help me they did. I was referred to a hostel and had a room that evening, I put my name down for their employment programme and

they invited me to their Christmas party. It was heaven. They made me feel special and more importantly they did not judge me and gave me hope.

The Cardinal Hume Centre is a saviour and everyone who I have spoken to in my situation thinks the same.



Anne-Charlotte Fauny

To thank them for all they have done for me and are still doing, I volunteer for them not only in the fundraising department two days a week, but also at the homework club. I also help in the Gateway when they need me to do translations and interpretations for the immigration

department as I speak French.

I can genuinely say that they have turned my life around in more ways than anyone could possibly imagine.

Thank you to all of you who support the Cardinal Hume Centre.

COME and VISIT US

The Cardinal Hume Centre is always open to anyone who would like to see the work we do first hand. If you would like to visit the Centre, please get in touch, as we are always delighted to show people around.

We also have an Open Evening on **Thursday 24th January 2013**. Open evenings are for supporters and members of the public to come and see what happens at the Centre. If you would like to come along, please email: aileenstirman@cardinalhumecentre.org.uk or call **020 7222 1602** and speak to a member of the fundraising team, so that we can make sure we have enough refreshments on hand.

CHRISTMAS at THE CENTRE

For most of us the festive season is a time to relax and enjoy being with our families. Yet for hundreds of thousands of people around the country, Christmas can be a lonely and difficult time.

It can be particularly hard for people who are homeless or struggling to make ends meet. As usual the Centre has lots of festive activities planned for everyone who comes to the Centre for help.

There will be parties for our students, and hostel residents, and a family drop in with all day activities, from films, to festive crafts.

This year it would be wonderful if you could get involved and make the Cardinal Hume Christmas really

special. Please send us a Christmas card so we can decorate the Family Centre. A simple 'Merry Christmas' or a Christmas prayer will let the people who come to the Centre know that someone is thinking of them this Christmas.

Please send to Aileen Stirman at the **Cardinal Hume Centre, 3-7 Arneway Street, London, SW1P 2BG**, or include a card with your Christmas donation.

Thank you.

Make someone's
Christmas
Send a card
Show you care

DATE for YOUR DIARY

Advent Carol Concert

Featuring the London Oratory School Chamber Choir

at the

Sacred Heart Chapel

Horseferry Road, SW10 2EF

on

**Monday 3rd December 2012
at 6.30pm**

A wonderful mixture of seasonal music followed by warm mince pies and mulled wine at the Cardinal Hume Centre (which is next door to the chapel).

Suggested donation £10 per ticket.



A CHANCE to READ



A CHANCE to REBUILD



NEW Online Shop in time for CHRISTMAS

Not sure what to buy friends and family for Christmas?

The Centre can help. Visit the Centre's online shop where you will be able to give friends and family the gift of turning someone's life around this Christmas. We will send them a gift card with a personal message from you which shows that you made a donation to the Centre on their behalf. Choose between giving someone the opportunity to learn how to read, a welcome pack of bedding and essentials when a young homeless person moves into our hostel, or the chance to help someone to find work.

These gifts are available on our website along with our range of Christmas cards:

www.cardinalhumecentre.org.uk/shop

or call **020 7222 1602** for more information.



A CHANCE to FIND WORK



An ARMY of Volunteers

“Sometimes it’s just that someone needs a little bit of help so that they can make a big change in their life. If no one is there to listen, they simply might not have the confidence to make a change. That’s what makes the Centre so special – there is always someone there to listen” Joseph, Centre Volunteer.

Volunteers are an integral part of the Centre’s person-centred approach. When someone comes to the Centre for help, they are not categorised as ‘homeless’ or ‘unemployed’, but as a unique individual. Taking the time to talk to people on a one to one basis, and to really listen to their worries and fears is what makes the Centre so special. Our volunteers who give their time to offer extra help and support, mean that the Centre has the flexibility to respond to each person’s needs, and help them to overcome the challenges they face.

There are more than 130 incredibly generous people, who give their time

to work alongside staff across all aspects of the Centre’s work, from English language teachers, to mentors and IT coaches. To offer the same kind of support with paid staff would cost at least an extra £500,000 a year. Without their help, we would simply not be able to help anywhere near as many people, so thank you, to all our volunteers!

Every day our dedicated team of volunteers, help to make such a difference to so many lives. If you would like to join them you can see our latest vacancies on our website www.cardinalhumecentre.org.uk or call 020 7222 1602 to find out more.

VOLUNTEERS make the CENTRE’S Jobs Club Possible

“He was a different person, he was not only employed but employed in something he felt was worthwhile - I found that quite rewarding” says Jobs Club volunteer Therese Raphael.

Every Wednesday, volunteers like Therese help in the Centre’s Jobs Club. They help people with job searches, writing CVs and covering letters. For people who are struggling to find work, this one to one support is vital in helping them take that next step.

When Therese first began volunteering she was shocked by how difficult securing a job was... *“The thing that surprised me most, was how hard it is to*

get an entry level job, I had the mistaken preconception that certain jobs would be available to anybody that wanted to work. The first time I did an application for a fast food chain it took two hours, and I realised that it wasn’t as easy as I had thought it would be”

In the current economic climate the competition for jobs is fierce. Volunteers help people with the long and difficult process of job applications.

Helping people to find work, against all the odds, can be incredibly rewarding, as Jobs Club volunteer Monica Hunt says:

ROBERT AND LIDIA

Lidia Figueroa has been meeting her volunteer English language teacher, Robert Nicholas, once a week for the past 12 months. One to one English language lessons run alongside group classes, to give extra support to those who need it, or to start teaching people when our group classes are full.

A lack of language skills is one of the greatest barriers to independent life. A poor grasp of English leads to difficulty in finding appropriate work and accommodation, a reliance on other people for the simplest of tasks, and often an inability to integrate into society, leaving people lonely and isolated.

Lidia is originally from Ecuador where she was a dressmaker and designer, but problems with communicating meant that she had to take a job as a cleaner. Without language skills, even the simplest of tasks were difficult:

“My employer would ask me to do certain things, and I felt embarrassed as I didn’t want her to think I was stupid, or being awkward. I really wished I could understand what she was saying. I couldn’t go to the shops by myself, or the bank,” said Lidia.



“There have been many moments when I felt I made a real difference; my measure of success is when I manage to help someone to achieve his or her objective during the session. There is often a sense of accomplishment for them and a big smile for me - that is special.”



Lidia’s friend was studying English at the Centre, and suggested that Lidia should come along too. It is almost a year now since Lidia’s first visit to the Centre.

“I was happy when I came to the Centre, the staff were so kind. One lady said: “I promise that I will find you a teacher”. I didn’t quite believe it when she rang me and said “I have found a lovely teacher for you,” said Lidia.

Lidia was matched with Robert who was determined to help her progress as quickly as possible.

“In the first lesson, I felt that we established a great working rapport, clarified goals and set targets for achieving them,” said Robert.

This goal setting is an important aspect of one-to-one help, as it helps students and teachers to track progress, and celebrate achievements. Robert’s lessons are also all tailored to Lidia’s specific needs and interests.

“I try to make my lessons relevant, so we talk about dressmaking and clothes,

and when we are studying the past tense we talk about her life in Ecuador. It is so important to listen to the needs of each student, and gear lessons towards them,” said Robert.

Lidia would love to set up her own clothing alterations business once she has improved her language skills, and Robert is determined to help where he can. Being able to use her skills would do wonders for her self esteem, and mean a much better income. In the mean time Lidia’s life has already improved:

“I am so much more confident now. I can go to the bank by myself. I even filled in all the forms needed to open a savings account. Even my job is so much easier now,” said Lidia.

As Robert says, *“it’s so good to hear about the difference in Lidia’s life, the Centre really is a wonderful place”.*



FAMILY trip TO VAUXHALL CITY FARM

As part of the Centre’s summer programme children and parents from the Centre had a great day out at Vauxhall City Farm. They were accompanied by volunteers from HSBC Global Asset Management.

This was a great opportunity for children who may never have encountered more than a dog or cat to get close to more unusual animals, and they enjoyed every minute. It was also an opportunity for isolated parents to build their confidence and have fun with their children and other parents. *“It was a great day out, we both really enjoyed it and it made me feel confident about taking my son somewhere like that,”* said Khlood Marthy, one of the parents.

A big thanks to Vauxhall City Farm and the volunteers from HSBC Global Asset Management for making the trip possible. If you think your company would like to get involved in helping the people at the Centre, we’d love to hear from you. Contact Patricia Marron, for some ideas on 020 7222 1602

patriciamarron@cardinalhumecentre.org.uk

English Students CELEBRATE Exam Success

In July this year, Elviro and 12 of his fellow students passed their Entry 3 Speaking and Listening exams. The exams were the final step in a year of hard work and dedication by the students and their volunteer teachers.

“Sean is the best teacher I ever had” said Elviro Morales who attended English Language classes at the Centre.

The Centre delivers over 30 hours of English language lessons a week. This is only possible because Sean and 16 other dedicated volunteer teachers give their time and expertise.

Learning English means so much more than being able to communicate. It gives people the confidence to search for work and become part of their local community. As one student Faiza Khan said: **“After this course I feel more**

confident, this will help me in the future”.

In September an awards ceremony was held for the students to celebrate the achievements of both the students and the teachers. There were smiles all round as Corin Pilling, the Centre’s Manager of Learning Development and Employment, handed out certificates and congratulated them on their success.

The certificate ceremony was followed by a small party where students chatted confidently in English demonstrating how far they had come during the year. Their achievement would not have been possible without the dedication of the Centre’s volunteers, as Amira Nasredew said: **“I am so proud to be here, thank you Sean – you work so hard for us”.**



IN MY OWN WORDS

“ I am delighted to have been appointed to the Cardinal Hume Centre as the Director of Advice and Assessment. It is a particularly challenging time for people who are most vulnerable in our society, with a whole raft of policy changes being implemented which will have a significant impact on lives.

Not least of these is the proposed changes to the benefits system proposed by the introduction of the Universal Credit and further envisaged restrictions in people being eligible for legal aid. I hope I can make a real difference in helping the Centre

Mark Foster explains what it means for him to join the Centre at this time of need.

develop effective services for families, children, young people and vulnerable homeless people to improve their lives within a context of reducing resources and restrictions to entitlement.

Before coming to the Centre I worked as a Strategic Commissioning Manager at Lambeth Council, responsible for children’s, youth and early intervention commissioned services and strategic lead for young peoples’ targeted commissioned services (0 – 19).

Previously, I was Chair of the London Homeless and Refugee Families Network, leading on policy for the

sector in London on vulnerable children, families and refugees in temporary/poor accommodation. I have also worked at the Blackfriars Advice Centre, and the Citizens Advice bureau in Coventry and a further four years in Uxbridge in both policy and advice roles.

I am hoping my combined experience within both the statutory and voluntary sector will greatly assist the Centre in moving towards developing a package of services that will demonstrate an effective and sustained impact on the lives of the most vulnerable. ”



VOLUNTEERS!

Our volunteer coordinators Flora and Emily are always looking for new volunteers. If you would like to join the team you can see our latest vacancies on the website www.cardinalhumecentre.org.uk, or call **020 7222 1602** to find out more.



Emily Hynes and Flora Swartland

Fundraising NEWS

ON YOUR BIKE for the CENTRE

The Cardinal Hume Centre held its first ever sponsored bike ride on Friday 21st September. Twenty bleary eyed cyclists arrived at the Centre at 7.30am for a much needed breakfast, before braving the 85 mile route to Cherwell in Oxfordshire.

Ben Warren, a volunteer at the Centre, who first thought of the idea said: **“To do a challenge like this is great fun; you make new friends and journey through the countryside seeing things you’d never notice in a car, even on foot; but to be doing it to raise money for homeless young people makes it doubly worthwhile!”**

The weather was great until the last 14 miles, when the heavens opened. Tired, and struggling up hills in the pouring rain was exhausting, but the bicycles bells still rang out as the group passed the sign for Oxford!

After 10 hours out on their bikes, the saddle-sore cyclists finally arrived at the Cherwell boathouse, for a well deserved barbecue.

Thank you to all the cyclists who have helped to raise over £10,000 for the Centre!

If you are interested in getting on your bike for the Centre, why not take part in our next challenge – Nightrider! Or, if you have a great fundraising idea like Ben, we would love to hear from you.

SAINSBURY’S PIMLICO CHARITY of the YEAR!

The Cardinal Hume Centre is delighted to have been voted by customers of Sainsbury’s Pimlico to be their Charity Partner of the Year.

Sainsbury’s

Sainsbury’s Pimlico have kindly contributed to the catering costs of our sponsored bike ride, and are helping us to raise funds and awareness in the local area throughout the year, including hosting a bag packing and collection event on 7th December 2012.



NIGHTRIDER 8th - 9th June 2013



A unique 100km moonlit ride past London’s iconic landmarks including Tower Bridge, a deserted City of London, Canary Wharf, London Zoo, Piccadilly Circus, British Museum, London Eye, Houses of Parliament, Trafalgar Square and more...

Contact Aileen Stirman to find out more: aileenstirman@cardinalhumecentre.org.uk or call **020 7222 1602**.

MEMORIES of Cardinal Hume

Carmel-Anne Wright (now Carmel Hayes) got ‘hands on’ with Cardinal Hume while he was recovering from a hip operation. While studying physiotherapy in London she became involved with the Young Adult Pilgrims programme, organised by Cardinal Hume.

Those of you who knew Cardinal Hume may be amused to know

that rather than call Carmel-Anne a physiotherapist, his nickname for her was the ‘physio-terrorist!’

Do you have a memory of Cardinal Hume that you’d like to share? If so, we would love to hear from you. You can send your memories to Aileen Stirman. aileenstirman@cardinalhumecentre.org.uk or call **020 7222 1602**.



Our Person Focused Approach: How we TURN LIVES around

We hold true to our founder's belief that no human life is ever redundant. Everyone who comes to the Cardinal Hume Centre is treated as an individual and the first question we ask is 'what do you want to accomplish?'

By taking this approach we are able to move away from simply categorising someone as homeless, a single parent, unemployed or an asylum seeker.

Our ultimate goal is to help people turn their lives around.

Want to FIND OUT more?

Visit our website

www.cardinalhumecentre.org.uk

or contact us:

Email: fundraising@cardinalhumecentre.org.uk

Call: **020 7222 1602**

Address: **3-7 Arneway Street, London, SW1P 2BG**

Charity Number: 1090836

- WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACCOMPLISH?**
- Get a job
 - Sort my finances out
 - A better life for my family
 - Become part of the community

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACCOMPLISH?

WHAT STOPS YOU?

- Lack of education
- Lack of income
- Lack of housing
- Unconfirmed legal status

ACHIEVING GOALS

HOW CAN WE HELP?

- Gain employment
- Money management
- Improved housing
- Legally working

- Adult learning including English, IT and literacy
- Jobs club and one-to-one employment support
- 32 bed hostel for 16-21 year olds
- Specialist advice and advocacy on immigration, housing, and money management

TOP 5 ways to GET INVOLVED

1 SUPPORT Us: Every little really does help. Five pounds can buy toys for the children in our family centre, £20 can buy bedding and food for a new hostel resident, and £100 can help someone get a qualification such as a food hygiene certificate.

2 SPREAD the Word: Join our Facebook page and invite all your friends to do the same or follow us on Twitter. If the internet is not your thing, we can send you leaflets to hand out to friends and family.

3 Become a MEMBER: The George Basil Hume Foundation is for those who want to set up a regular gift. You can join online or by filling in the form attached to this magazine.

4 Volunteer: We are always looking for volunteers. Without their dedication the Centre would not be able to help so many people to change their lives. For current volunteer vacancies visit our website or call and ask for Emily Hynes.

5 Hold an event: Organise a Big Cheese cheese and wine party and raise money for the Centre. If you would like to find out how visit our website or call the Centre and ask for Sandra Deeble on: **020 7222 1602** or email: sandradeeble@cardinalhumecentre.org.uk

