

An Introduction to Emmaus



Emmaus offers a home

Emmaus offers homeless people a place where they can feel safe and secure, where they can enjoy companionship and the support of a community. Each person has his or her own comfortable room and their own space, whilst living and working within the Community.

At Emmaus everyone is accepted for who they are now, not judged on what they might have done in the past. Emmaus is not a religious organisation and men and women of all faiths, or none, are welcomed. There are no conditions as to length of stay, so a person may stay for a few days or indefinitely. Above all, Emmaus is a way out of the humiliation of homelessness; a way that offers hope, care, and a future.

Emmaus offers work

Everyone living in an Emmaus Community must sign off primary benefits to work full-time within the Community. Each Community has its own money making business and aims to become financially self-supporting. Any profits are donated to those in greater need or used to help set up new Communities. People once considered by society as worthless and a drain on resources can support themselves and, through their own hard work, help others in need.

Emmaus Communities earn their living by the collection and resale of donated furniture and household goods. Some items are refurbished in Community workshops. Emmaus takes a pride in its 'green' credentials, helping to save waste that would otherwise go to landfill. Companions, as residents are called, are involved in every aspect of the business, driving the van, working in the shop and workshop, and recycling projects such as salvaging valuable metals.

Emmaus offers hope

Emmaus offers a way out of the loneliness and rejection of living rough on the street. By living and working in Emmaus, people recover their self-respect, discovering for themselves how to take responsibility for their own lives as well as helping others less fortunate than themselves. Emmaus Companions use the surplus profits generated by their hard work to help others in need, for example, by supporting the local night shelter or providing furniture for those who cannot afford to pay for it.



Find out more about Emmaus on www.emmaus.org.uk or contact Emmaus UK

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