

The DOOR



Opening opportunities...

...Unlocking Potential

**Annual Report
Financial Year 2014/15**



£5
pays for food
for Saturday
Kitchen

£25
pays for a
family's needs
assessment

£500
Runs our
Drop-In centre
for a week

The Door is Open...

...SO every young person and their parents can feel **safe, happy and valued**,
with the best possible **opportunity to reach their potential**. At The Door, we believe in the potential of every person.

The Door is a Christian-based youth project, established in 1991 for the benefit of **all** young people **aged 11 to 25 and their families**. We pride ourselves on being a needs-led organisation, working closely with young people, parents, carers or whole families to offer the right support for them.

We are a **positive influence** in the lives of so many disaffected, despondent and disconnected people. Whether it be a parent who feels they are alone in the difficulties they are facing, an 18 year old finding it hard to get a job, or an 11 year old who can't cope in secondary school, we are able to make a difference.

We have long been regarded as **the leading service for young people and their families** across the district, and work closely with **statutory services and other voluntary organisations**.

£10
buys a 1-2-1
employability
session

£200
gives a parent
a Triple P
training course

£100
trains a
volunteer
mentor



A message from our Chair...

This year has seen a new Chief Executive, changes to core services and a new contract to supply Youthwork in Cam and Dursley.

Some difficult decisions have had to be made resulting in redundancies to staff that have been with The Door for many years. We want to thank you all for the energy and love that has changed many young people's lives and trust that God will bless you in whatever direction He leads you.

We say goodbye to two Trustees, Trisha and Barry, thank you for the investment of your time, energy and expertise in steering The Door through many phases of change. Without a strong board of Trustees, many Charities can falter. For this reason, we are looking to recruit new Trustees to support The Door to continue in its success. If you are experienced in fundraising, Human Resources or finance, then we want to hear from you.

The Door is a vital resource for young people and their families in Stroud and the surrounding districts; this is the time to celebrate the hard work of all the staff, for without them we would not have the successes we have.

Finally, Proverbs 3:6 tells us that if we acknowledge God in all our ways, He will direct our paths. At The Door, we will continue to make sure that we will seek direction through prayer and then share the many stories of the miracles of change.

Sean Corbett



A message from our CEO...

This has been my first year as Chief Exec, and it has been both exciting and challenging. We have continued to deliver excellent Youthwork to hundreds of young people across the Stroud District - offering them the sense of belonging that they are searching for, and the support which enables them to recognise and reach their potential.

Our Family Support Service has coped with the increased demand that has come from changes to statutory services, whilst for the same reasons Hope Training has seen a decline in referrals. This is one of the reasons why we made the painful decision to close the department at the end of the academic year.

Both our Youthwork and Family Support Services have continued to grow, with new activities happening in Dursley and Cam, and new programmes being developed to meet increasingly complex needs.

The greatest challenge we've faced is financial, as we've begun to move from an over-reliance of funding in some areas, to a broader, more sustainable approach. This strategy will take time, and we are therefore aware that we need to be careful stewards in the coming year. Above all, we recognise the faith that God has put into our work since 1991. He has never let us down, and continues to bless all that we turn our hands to.

May that blessing extend to you, too.

Barrie Voyce @VoyceOfTheDoor

Youthwork



*He gives me new strength.
He leads me on paths that are right
for the good of His
name.
Psalm 23:3*

A little about what we do...

At The Door, our Youthwork team work with young people aged 11 – 25 providing them with safe spaces to socialise and feel supported through a varied programme of services and activities. Our services are 'open access' to all young people aged 11-25. The team primarily operates from our central Stroud Drop-In Centre as well as in Cam and Dursley and via 'detached' work on the streets.

Their work is focused across the key themes of:

- ♦ Improving health and well-being
- ♦ Gaining employment, education and training
- ♦ Finding a positive role in the community
- ♦ Exploring their spirituality from a Christian perspective



Q & A with a Young person

Name: **Becky**

Age: **14**

Q1) What's the best thing about The Door?

Everyone is supportive and I love the Youthworkers!

Q2) What help have you got from the Youthworkers?

I have learned new skills and learned new communication skills

Q3) How has the future changed because of The Door?

I have changed who I hang around with and what I choose to do in my spare time.



Youthwork in numbers

736

Young people
accessed our Stroud
Drop-In Centre

195

Hours of sports
activities delivered

45

Young People were helped
with
Employability Support



Case Study

Jess, aged 17, has been coming to the Drop-in now for four years. She has always been really approachable and is a keen golfer! Over that time we have been really encouraged to see her develop as a young woman, and recognise that she is becoming a positive influence on other young people. In order to help her develop further, we asked her to consider training as a Peer Youthworker with us. She has agreed and we believe she will become a positive role model for other young people.

“

The Door is welcoming, safe, and I feel listened to. - Jess

”



Looking forwards...

Youth work delivery ages 11-17

In the coming year, our primary focus will be providing early intervention Youthwork programmes for young people aged 11-17. We will provide support and activities promoting appropriate adolescent development enabling young people to mature from adolescence to adulthood safely.

Youth work delivery ages 16-25

Young people in this age bracket are halfway through their adolescence and are beginning to access more opportunities due to age and socioeconomic development. We are aware that this group is not as dependent on us as the younger group but they do need access to semi-structured Youthwork services which offer opportunities to create, produce, achieve and contribute. Primarily, we will assist with education and employment. We will help this group become positive role models making a significant contribution at The Door and in the local community.





After the success in 2013/14 of our detached Youthwork in Stroud Town Centre, we have, thanks to funding from the Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner, replicated the model in Dursley. This work is particularly relevant to those that are on the fringes of society, disadvantaged and at risk. Detached Youthwork aims to provide diversionary activities that are empowering and enabling, therefore helping to develop positive attitudes and actions in all young people. The team has been really pleased with how this work has developed over the last 12 months.

As the Youthworkers built relationships with young people, opportunities to deliver more services in the Dursley & Cam area appeared, and the team provided a weekly session at The Vibe Youth Centre. The success of this pilot project has led to The Door securing a two year contact with Dursley Town and Cam Parish Councils to deliver four sessions of youth work in Dursley and two sessions in Cam starting in September 2015.

“

We now have contact with 60 new young people in the area which is great! - James, Youthwork Manager

”

Looking forwards...

Transfer more of our successful Stroud services into Cam & Dursley:

- ♦ Deliver an Education and Employment service for young people who are classed as NEET.
- ♦ Support local schools with young people looking for employment, placements or needing support with constructing CVs and interview preparation.

Over the course of the year we will investigate other communities which could benefit from our Youthwork services.





A little about what we do...

Hope Training provides alternative education to young people who find mainstream school or college difficult - whether that be because of emotional or behavioural issues. Our curriculum provides a mixture of vocational skills such as gardening, woodwork, art, music, media, cooking, with employability skills and Functional Skills English and Maths. We also provide 'softer skills' through our PHSE programme. Students are referred to us from their school, via CYPS or self-refer directly. We offer them qualifications at Entry Level 3, Level 1 and Level 2, taught in very small groups with specialist teaching staff.

Case Study

Dean's mum approached The Door because her eldest son had benefitted from a mentor in the past. Dean has complex special needs, including Asperger's, and found mainstream school very stressful and upsetting. His mum had made the decision to home school him, but with him starting year 11 she wanted him to get some qualifications and be able to go to college at age 16. Dean spent a couple of days a week in Hope Training, learning how to be part of a group and engage with lessons again. He progressed well both academically and socially, and gained a Level 1 Woodwork Award and Functional Skills English. He's enrolled on a fulltime course at college for September.

Looking forwards...

In May, we decided that the current academic year would be the last for Hope Training. This decision was made in part due to the lack of referrals made into the service, and in part to ensure activities of The Door were in line with our vision and strategy.

We will continue to support young people who find education difficult through our Youthwork and Family Services, providing in-school and extra-curricular help and through early-intervention programmes, including an programme targeted at year six students as they move to secondary school. We will also be using our workshops and facilities within the Youthwork service, and making them available to local schools.





A little about what we do...

Light at The Door offers a range of services designed to support everyone, whether it be the young person, their parent or carer, or the whole family. Following an initial consultation to understand their specific situation and needs, parents and young people are offered support in the form of:

- ♦ Attending Triple P parenting teens programme
- ♦ 1:1 dedicated mentoring support
- ♦ Attendance at the parent support group
- ♦ Family Face Time - engaging the whole family in meaningful and safe dialogue
- ♦ Signposting and support to access specialist services

Support is offered on an ongoing basis for as long as the parent/carers feels they need



“

The relationship with my daughter has massively improved and she has matured emotionally too.
Rachel (A parent)

”

Case Study

Deborah describes that life at home before getting help from The Door was like a war zone. She had problems with her two children, including bad tempers, moods and eating habits. Her son was being bullied at school and his education was suffering. Deborah and her partner also both struggle with poor health, so maintaining energy to parent well was difficult. Deborah attended the Triple P parenting Teens course and Parent Support Group. She explains that it helped her to meet other parents who were also struggling so that she didn't feel so alone. Both her children are now both being mentored by volunteers, attending the Drop-in and are making great progress! Deborah finds it comforting and helpful to know she can pick up the phone and ask for help at any time of day. She says “The Door is a fantastic charity! They not only support you but also your children – everything is confidential and you can speak openly. They do not judge you.”

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future”
Jeremiah 29:11

Light at The Door in numbers

169

Young people and
parents supported

871

Hours spent
mentoring young
people and parents

360

progress steps made by
young people in local
secondary schools

Mentoring

A little about what we do...

Our mentoring scheme matches volunteers with young people who want some intensive 1:1 support. We are also commissioned to provide mentoring by schools. The mentor and mentee meet each week and work together to create a bespoke action plan which helps the young person achieve their own personal goals. This year we ran two recruitment and training programmes and we received Referrals from Social Care, schools, Children and Young People Services, and families. We introduced the PAUSE process: Preparation And Understand Supporting Exercises. These are working extremely well and our drop-out rate has reduced.

Contract Mentoring

We have a team of trained mentors who work in three local secondary schools offering dedicated support to young people. Typically, a mentor will have a case load of up to six young people. Whilst being mindful of the needs expressed by the school, mentors work with the needs of the young person within their educational setting. Key to the success of the mentoring relationship is the contract of confidentiality with the mentor. General themes and outcomes are shared with the contracting school on an annual basis; however individual's conversations and issues are not discussed.

PAUSE II

Preparation And Understanding Support Exercises - For Mentoring

“

Mentoring is the single most moving and rewarding thing I have ever done!
- a current mentor

”

Q & A with a mentee

Name: **Abbey**

Age: **23**

Q1) How long have you had a mentor?

Just over a year

Q2) How has mentoring helped you?

Without mentoring, my anxiety would have got the better of me. I am more confident and able to talk to people.

Q3) How is life different for you now after being mentored?

I am now doing some voluntary work and doing some college courses!



Case Study

Jason, aged 14, was referred to us in August '14 by Social Care. His parents had recently split and the family needed support. Jason was getting into trouble at school and his relationship with his mother was deteriorating. Jason began to understand his own behaviour and the impact it had on his mother, himself and his sister. As a result of help from his mentor Tom, his behaviour started to change at school and he felt more motivated to improve! We closed this mentoring case in July. Jason told us all his grades at school have improved, he had no detentions, and on his school report his teachers say he is a “pleasure to work with.”





A little about what we do...

Tranzform serves the local community by providing great value second hand goods in a pleasant, friendly environment which doesn't look (or smell) like a traditional 'charity shop'! Over the last financial year, it also provided much needed volunteering opportunities for many, including young people who were looking for help with employability and training, providing work experience and references to help them move on to paid employment.



We want your donations...

We always need:

- Adults and children's clothes
- Jewellery
- Bags
- Shoes
- Toys
- Crockery and other bric-a-brac
- Small furniture
- Linen and soft furnishings
- DVDs, CDs and computer games



Tranzform in numbers

5232

bags of goods
donated

1246

hours worked
by Volunteers

£56,000

Income raised
in sales

Fundraising

A little about what we do...

Funds for our work came from a variety of sources, but mainly from grants and donations from individuals, businesses or trusts. To supplement this, we organised a number of events including:

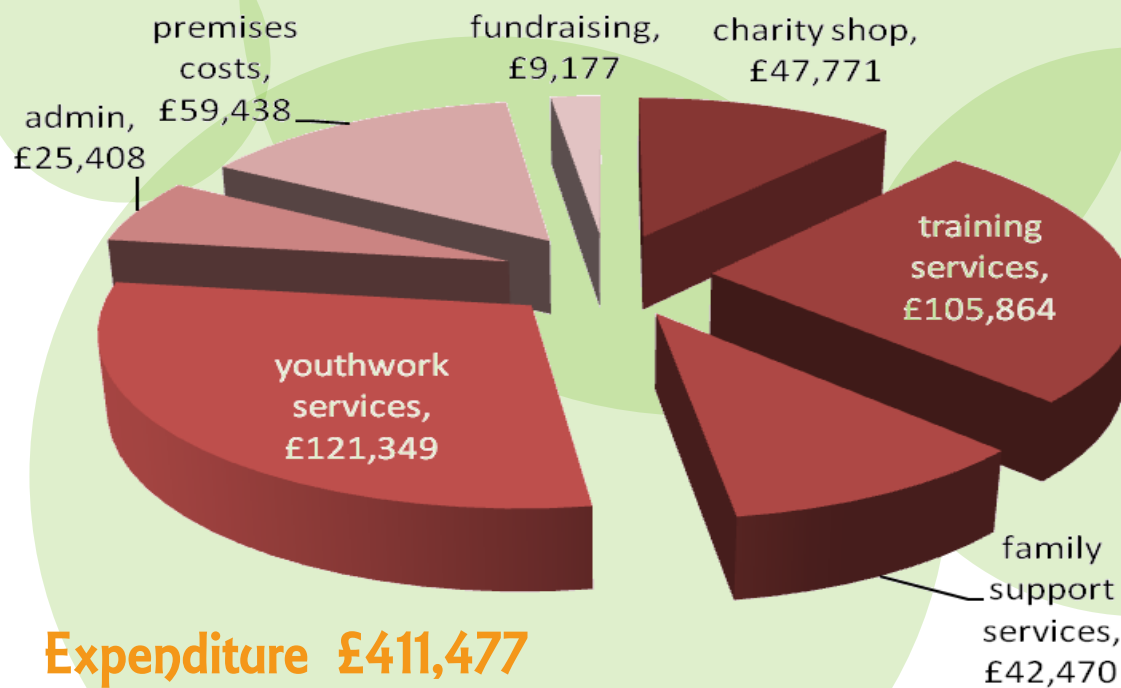
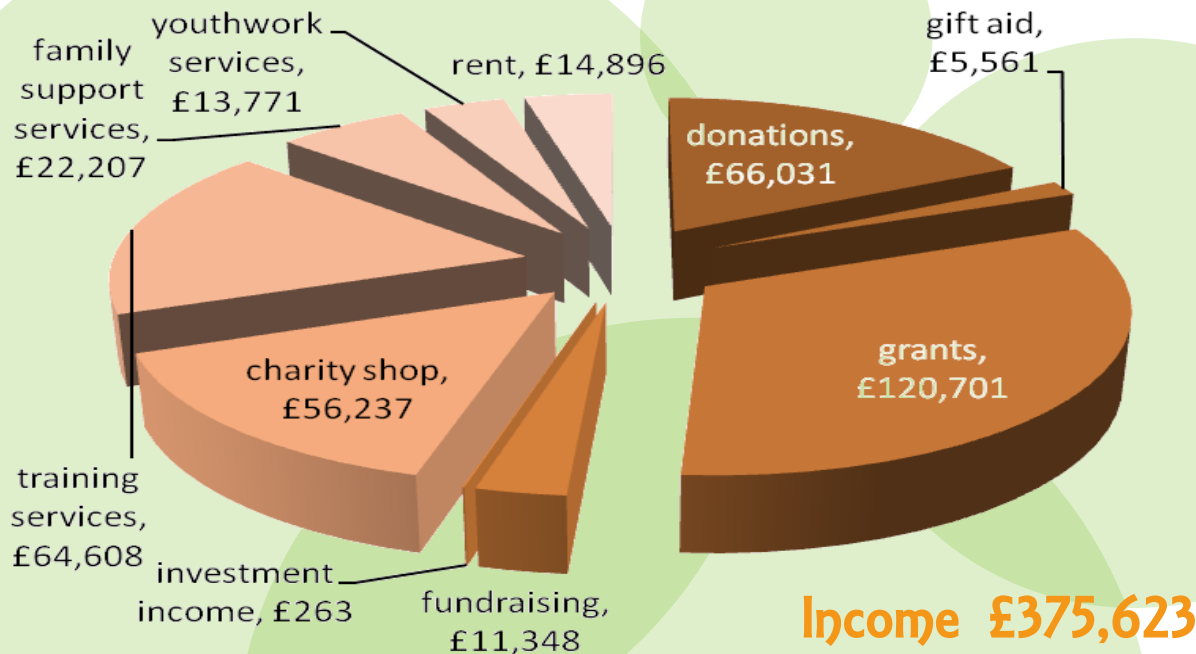
- 2 street collections in the town centre
- Race4All at Woodchester Mansion and Park
- Christmas Presence
- Soul Town
- Fantasy Football
- Stroud Half Marathon



Looking forwards...

The coming year brings with it another financial challenge, as we look to raise £122,000 in new income. We're delighted that organisations like the Painswick Midsummer Ball, Sainsbury's Stroud, Panacea Copiers, Severn Vale Rotary, and Stroud Half Marathon are supporting us, but we will need to find more organisations, new trust funds, and increase our individual donor base to reach our target.

2014 - 2015 Finances



Last year we were unable to repeat the record income of the previous year, with overall income down 8.9% at £375,623. Expenditure however rose to £411,477, leaving us with a substantial funding gap. One of the key contributing factors to this was the Training Department operating at a significant loss, so regrettably the decision was taken to close it at the end of August 2015. Otherwise we have continued to do well in maintaining and enhancing our services amidst a challenging climate for both grant and service income. We are really grateful to all our donors and funders who have enabled us to do this – thank you so much for all your support. I also need to say two more ‘thank you’s - to Barry Upward, who is stepping down from the role of Treasurer due to increased work commitments, and to my predecessor Heather Conboy for her 11 years of service to The Door, and for all her help with the handover.

Graham Gill

Finance & HR Manager

Our full financial report is available on request

Our Supporters

We would like to acknowledge the following supporters of The Door and thank them for the vital financial help that we have received over the past financial year.

Trusts

The Sedbury Trust
 PSALMS
 Langtree Trust
 Sylvanus Lysons
 The Percy Bilton Charity
 CHK Charities Ltd
 Greggs Foundation
 Pike Lock Trust
 Gloucester Community Foundation
 Garfield Weston Foundation
 R F Trustee Co Ltd
 The Elmgrant Trust
 Beatrice Laing Trust
 The Sydney Black Charitable Trust
 The Hedley Foundation
 Souter Charitable Trust
 The Charles Irving Charitable Trust
 Marsh Christian Trust
 BBC Children in Need
 Midcounties Co-operative Fund
 The Rowlands Trust
 The David Brooke Charity
 The Fulmer Charitable Trust
 The Alchemy Foundation

Corporate

Nailsworth Dramatic Society
 Sport England
 Stroud Christian Centre
 Rodborough Friendly Circle
 Stroud Rose Croix
 First Base Employment
 Ebley Fireworks
 Schlumberger Oilfield
 Starbucks
 Provident Financial
 Minchinhampton Mothers Union

Churches

Stroud Christian Fellowship
 Minchinhampton Baptist Church
 Stroud Methodist Church
 Immaculate Conception, Beeches Green
 St Mary's Church, Woodchester
 Christchurch, Abbeydale
 Stroud Baptist Church
 Brimscombe Parochial Church Council
 Minchinhampton with Box Parochial Church Council
 Chalford Hill Methodist Church
 Churches Together in Wotton
 Brimscombe Methodist Church

Local Authorities

Stroud Town Council
 G.C.C - Learning Disabilities Team
 Stroud District Council
 Dursley Town Council
 Gloucestershire County Council
 Gloucestershire Police & Crime Commissioner
 Rodborough Parish Council



How can YOU be involved?!

To celebrate 25 years of The Door in Stroud, and to look forward to the future, we are launching **'25 and Counting'**. We are asking local individuals, churches, organisations and businesses to stand up and be counted with The Door; to stand alongside us, helping young people and their families in the Stroud District.

The Door will be recruiting **250 Individuals, 25 Churches, 25 Businesses and 25 Organisations** (charities, social enterprises, schools, statutory organisations) to join our Wall of Fame and show that they are committed to stand up and be counted with The Door. This will involve extensive publicity around '25 and Counting' and the work of The Door.

During 2016, which marks The Door's official 25th anniversary, we will be engaging these amazing supporters in a host of great opportunities, including a celebration of '25 and Counting' during May.



Businesses

- ♦ Consider having The Door as your 'Charity of the Year'
- ♦ Encourage staff members to fundraise for The Door or become volunteers
- ♦ Offer us a 'donation in kind' of time/equipment/expertise
- ♦ Sponsor an event such as our Christmas Presence concert
- ♦ Have a collection or Cash4Coins box in your place of work

Organisations

- ♦ Run a fundraising event for The Door – maybe in partnership with you
- ♦ Talk to our team about how your organisation might work closer with ours
- ♦ Offer us a 'donation in kind' of time/equipment/expertise
- ♦ Help out at one of our events
- ♦ Have a collection or Cash4Coins box in your organisation

Churches

- ♦ Invite a member of The Door team to come and talk in church
- ♦ Take up a collection or offering for the work of The Door
- ♦ Consider volunteering opportunities
- ♦ Tap into our knowledge and expertise in youthwork
- ♦ Partner with us in your community to meet the needs of young people

Individuals

- ♦ Become a DOORnator, giving £5 or more each month via standing order
- ♦ Join our volunteer team as a mentor, shop assistant or help out at events
- ♦ Advocate for The Door with friends, family and colleagues
- ♦ Take part in one of our sponsored events throughout the year

How can YOU be involved?!

Charity Shop Volunteer

We are always looking for new people to volunteer and help in the shop especially those that can use the till. You will gain new skills as well as helping support the work of The Door! If you can spare a morning or afternoon each week to come and help out, please let us know!

Pray

Nothing that The Door has achieved over the past 25 years would have been possible without the power of prayer. We meet every morning to pray for individuals, the team and finances, and distribute a weekly prayer email to those who stand with us in prayer. Could you join the team?

Donate your time

We are always on the look out for people to volunteer at our events! If you could help out at The Door's official fundraising events such as Race4All and Soultown, please get in touch! We hold regular collections in Stroud town centre where you could help us by shaking collection buckets. Please get in touch with the team to register your interest.



Mentoring

Mentors are trained volunteers who support young people through difficult times. This could mean practical help with a specific situation like finding a house or just someone to talk to about the ups and downs. Giving a young person this kind of positive role model and intensive one to one support that they have never had before can turn their lives around.

Youthwork

Hanging out with groups of young people isn't everyone's cup of tea, but for some it can be an amazing way to serve! Our Stroud, Dursley and Cam Youthwork teams are looking for that special someone with grace, patience and the ability to come alongside disengaged young people to give us a helping hand.

Fundraising


Creative ideas for fundraising are always welcome at The Door. If you think you could help us by running an event, doing a sponsored challenge, or come up with an entirely different way to raise money, then we'd love to hear from you!





How to contact us


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 facebook.com/thedooryouthprojectstroud

 @thedoorstroud #onlyatthedoor

I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

John 10:9-10



Annual Report printed
with the kind support of



MDL Kelex Ltd, Unit 16, Stroudwater Business Park
Stonehouse, Glos, GL10 3SX