

Hi

We've been very busy indeed since moving to our new premises at the Salvation Army with numbers of people attending the drop in doubling and a significant leap in the numbers of clients coming forward who are destitute. Captains Christine and Adrian Lee and their team David and Sue have made us very welcome and we are building on the partnership by connecting up with their students on placement, with the National Citizenship Programme and plans for serious planting on their allotment very shortly. We welcome new staff members Shami Lyn, who is doing fundraising for us, and Ketina Shamu, our finance/admin officer who started just this week.

Almost every drop in people arrive unexpectedly with clothes, toys, household items and food, for which we are very grateful. Our resident chef, Rubin, and his kitchen team headed up by Merry produce amazing meals for tiny amounts of money and no matter how many people attend - 103 is the record - there always seems to be enough lunch. Rashad does a brilliant job as cashier, Idris and Chosen on reception are really welcoming and Kuda and Patrick are fantastic with managing the donations.

We are grateful to Meltham Mormon Church for their weekly support of the fresh fruit and veg scheme, Tesco for bakery goods through their Fareshare scheme and to Lindley Mormon Church for the provision of hygiene kits. We are also grateful to the Al Suffah Mosque for regular support with food parcels and take away lunches.

The Tudor Trust are supporting DASH for the next three years with funding for staff and running costs and the Brelms Trust are also contributing to staff costs over three years. There are worrying trends that the Home Office seem to be

refusing more cases, often without the right of appeal, but we are managing to challenge these. The struggle to find appointments with good solicitors is ongoing, but again we are managing this situation. A recent court case highlighted for us the importance of documenting mental health issues and we are trying to raise awareness of this within the local asylum agencies.

As always, thanks to all our client volunteers, volunteers and supporters: DASH is an amazing organisation and it is you who make it so.

Thank you.