

FACT SHEET

Mention homeless charity' and for many, a soup kitchen feeding rough-sleeping older men is imagined. And whilst we do provide soup, Glasgow City Mission provides a much broader, more holistic service than simply this.

Did you know....

- Almost **250** men and women use our City Centre services each day. 90% are aged between 21 and 55.
- Many of our clients are victims of **broken relationships**, suffer addictions or have mental health issues
- We provide almost **30 different daytime activities** across the week including an art class, music studio, fitness gym, IT classes and employment support.
- We gave out **4,000 food parcels** to people in poverty last year.
- Our Child & Family Centre in Govan provides a **nursery, parent/toddler groups and playgroups** for 90 children.
- **Parenting classes** at our Child & Family Centre cover a wide range of topics from budgeting to healthy eating, personal hygiene to numeracy & literacy.
- Our older men's club offers **free haircuts** and showering facilities to about 50 men each week
- About 20 people attend our **Wednesday afternoon church service** whilst regular Alpha & Christianity Explored groups are also held for those wishing to explore the Christian faith.
- When asked how our clients feel at Glasgow City Mission, 96% replied "**safe**".
- Over **160 volunteers** regularly give up their time to serve our clients at Glasgow City Mission – from helping at our evening drop-in, to running cookery classes or office administration.
- Our project team provide focused time with individuals, providing emotional and spiritual **support** and encouragement.
- We receive **no Government funding** – all our income is generously donated by individual supporters, churches, businesses and charitable trusts.
- We work in **partnership** with the City of Glasgow College, Govan Law Centre, Citizens Advice, Jobs & Business Glasgow and others to provide further specialist support from within our centre.
- **£1** provides a hot meal to a homeless person at our evening drop-in service along with a listening ear and a place to get further help.

The context that we operate in is a difficult one. In Glasgow...

- Homelessness:
 - There were over 6,300 homelessness applications in Glasgow during 2014
 - Whilst most stay in temporary homeless hostels, around 50 are sleeping rough in any given night
 - The average age of death for a street homeless person is just 47; they are over nine times more likely to commit suicide and 13 times more likely to be a victim of violence.
 - Relationship breakdown in the number one cause. This can lead to or exacerbate mental health issues, substance misuse and financial poverty. Changes in the current economic situation have had an impact.
- Drugs & Alcohol:
 - Glasgow has Scotland's highest rate of alcohol-related hospital admissions
 - 60 alcohol-related deaths occurred in Glasgow in 2011
 - 1/3 of drug related deaths occur in Greater Glasgow
- Mental Health issues
 - 1 in 4 people will experience some kind of mental health issue this year
 - UK Self harm rates highest in Europe
 - 1 in 10 prisoners has no mental health issue
- Prostitution:
 - 1,400 women are involved in street prostitution
 - Human trafficking has become more prevalent recently, increasing the number of brothels operating within the city
 - Violence, experience of abuse, poverty and drugs are at the root of prostitution on Glasgow
 - Average age is 22 but can vary from 16 upwards
 - 9 out of 10 women surveyed would like to exit prostitution
- Foreign Nationals
 - We have seen a substantial increase in the numbers of foreign nationals requiring our support over recent years and have adapted and developed new services to best meet their needs including delivering more English classes and trauma counselling.

