

TRANSFORMING NOTTS TOGETHER⁺

Summary Annual Review
2023

Inspiring, equipping & connecting
churches as they help people
break free from poverty



110 Projects supported



62 Places of Welcome

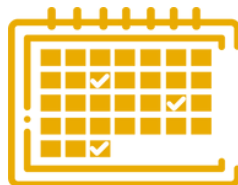


7 Networks coordinated

59 Churches supported



59 Network meetings facilitated



37 Workshops delivered



£107,835 received in grants, funding and donations this year- thank you!



11 Newsletters circulated

Please see <https://transformingnottstogether.org.uk/funding-partnerships>

A snapshot of some of our work

Wayfinder

This year has seen us rethink the way we deliver Wayfinder across the county. We have recognised that it is important to work alongside established organisations and charities to ensure that those at risk of, or affected by homelessness, have the best chance at breaking the cycle of homelessness.



Over the course of the year we have been working on developing partnerships to allow community hubs to provide a more specialist support service that invests in relationships. Our first partnership was with The Ark in Gedling, and people are now able to be referred and self-refer into the programme more easily and at a more local level. Once referred, service users are paired with volunteers (trained and supervised by Jemma) and encouraged to meet and build relationships, reconnecting with the local community and stepping out of social isolation. Volunteers are encouraged to meet their participants to help with practical tasks (form filling, etc) but more so, to provide friendship. We are always in need of more volunteers.

To find out more contact Jemma at jemma@transformingnottstogether.org.uk

Spotlight on Near Neighbours

Near Neighbours is a national charity funded by the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities. Around for over 10 years, it seeks to bring diverse ethnic and faith communities together so they can get to know one another better and build relationships of trust. This year we relaunched in Nottingham to specifically deliver small grants and diversify Places of Welcome and recruit grassroots leaders onto a Leadership for Effective Change programme.

Our launch event, held during interfaith week, gave organisations and churches a chance to network and hear more about Near Neighbours opportunities. In December, Samra (our Near Neighbours coordinator) was invited to Buckingham Palace to meet the King to talk about 'how faith communities come together despite current challenges'. King Charles joined each table to the hear challenges affecting faith communities, followed by a chance to discuss ways to overcome them, with the King's support.

The beginning part of 2024 brings some exciting plans! We are now looking forward to supporting over 10 grantees in Nottingham with Near Neighbours grant as well as setting up/ diversifying 10 Places of Welcome and delivering 2 events that bring diverse ethnic and faith communities together.



Left : HRH King Charles III speaking with delegates
Bottom picture: Samra (seated, first left)



Nottingham Churches' Response to the Housing Crisis

We were delighted to welcome 160 people at our housing conference on 22nd November! Bringing together those involved in housing provision (charities, churches, landlords, local authorities and others), there was a strong commitment from all concerned to establish stronger partnerships and find solutions together.

The daytime conference brought together stakeholders from the different sectors. Housing providers included Green Pastures www.greenpastures.co.uk Hope into Action www.hopeintoaction.org.uk, Yes Lets, Nottingham City Council, Pathway Housing Solutions and others.

The evening conference offered a chance to hear success stories from Hope Into Action and Allia Homes and brought together stakeholders (both personal investors and businesses), landlords and landowners (including churches with underused plots of land).

Since the conference, Nigel has been busy exploring what comes next, and working on further developments:

- Yes Letts has become a not-for-profit letting agency, and as a direct result of the conference, has new clients happy to let their house at an affordable rent.
- The idea of a Nottingham Investment Fund is being explored.
- Having been brought together at the conference, a church and local architect are discussing plans to develop accommodation on unused church land.
- Discussions are being had about the availability of redundant land around the City.

We are excited to see what God has in store in 2024!

For more information email nigel@transformingnottstogether.org.uk or visit the website: www.transformingnottstogether.org.uk



Bringing People Together



Places of Welcome

There are now 62 Places of Welcome with still some to sign up! It is wonderful to have growth in the city, with churches hosting places of welcome at Trinity Church and St Nic's. ATTFE (Academy Transformation Trust Further Education) have been a great support in opening a PoW in Sutton, while a social prescriber has supported a group starting in the Meadows based at the Salvation Army. As well as churches, libraries have proved to be great places to start PoW and there are now 12 across the county, with the hope of a city based PoW now that the new Central Library has opened.

Alongside offering companionship, some Places of Welcome have extended their provision and services. Julia Terry hosted a zoom for coordinators, looking at Refugees and how to support them across the network. It was great to have Adam from Refugee Roots share his expertise too. Queensbury Baptist and Foodcycle (St Mary's Sutton) have joined the network and also provide community meals, as well as Kettles On (Daybrook) which services fantastic breakfasts! If you want to learn Italian, then Sacred Heart PoW in Carlton is the place to go, or if clothe bargains is more your thing then the Vine Tree charity shop in Skegby PoW is for you!

To join the Place of Welcome network, you need to meet weekly, offer a free drink and biscuit, be open to everyone and encourage participation. To find out more contact Julia at julia@transformingnottstogether.org.uk

"There are many things to celebrate about being a PoW. In a busy world, it's such a blessing to have a quiet time every week to just sit down and build relationships with people in the community, to share stories, laugh and listen to each other. It's been lovely to welcome a diverse range of people, from young families with newborns and toddlers, to people from the nearby care home, who love to have a sing-along."



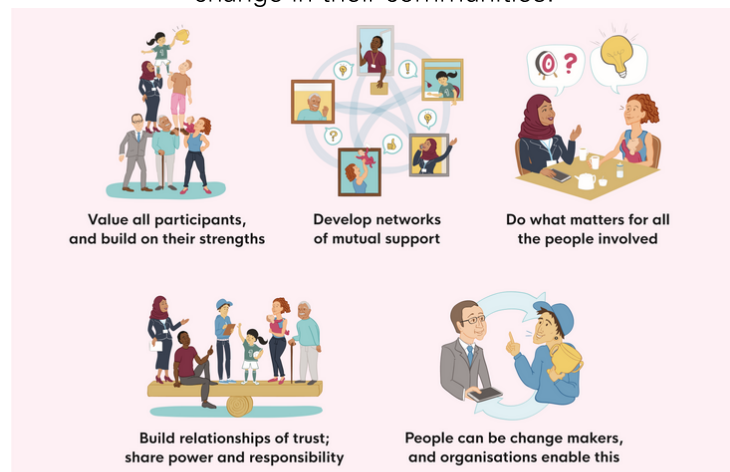
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Co-production

As part of our mission to "inspire, equip and connect churches as they help people break free from poverty" TNT has always worked in partnership with other organisations; but with a change in Chief Officer, the Trustees have taken the opportunity to pivot the way we are working in the city and the county, to give a particular focus on working closer in partnership with the public sector and wider voluntary sector.

We have recently reshaped our Theory of Change (a tool for mapping out how and why a desired change is expected to happen in a particular context) to give a particular focus for us as an organisation based on proactively seeking out opportunities for co-production.

So what is coproduction? – It is an approach to working with public services that deliberately seeks to enable the people providing, and the people receiving the service, to share power and responsibility. Looking to work together in equal, reciprocal and caring relationships. If we think about the way Jesus acted, he always asked people questions – he not only enabled people to access support, but valued them, gave them confidence and contributed to social change. These five pictures show how the coproduction process could work if we brought people together to work for change in their communities:



TNT is building partnerships with the Community and Voluntary Sector, Nottinghamshire County Council, the District Councils, Nottingham City Council and Integrated Care Board's Place Based Partnerships. TNT is also seeking funding from these groups to: work with our faith action networks and local churches / faith organisations at a local level to: connect public sector and faith where these opportunities exist; equip people with the skills they need (through our development work); and inspire the co-design and co-delivery of services people want and need in tier area.

We are excited to see what God has in store in 2024!

www.transformingnottstogether.org.uk

Transforming Notts Together (TNT) is a registered UK charity, limited by guarantee and registered in England (Company No.8399842 & Registered Charity No.1152870)

Networks

Transforming Notts Together coordinates a number of networks around Nottinghamshire to bring together church and project leaders, build relationships and promote joined up working. They are:

Christian Action Nottingham

- 133 members representing 85 organisations, with 51 further members linked into a subgroup area

Faith Action Mansfield

- 39 members representing 32 organisations

Faith Action Newark & Sherwood

- 24 members representing 17 organisations

Faith Action Support Ashfield

- 39 members representing 34 organisations

Places of Welcome

- 66 venues with more already planned for 2024

Grief Café Coordinators

- 18 members representing 13 organisations

If you would like to connect with your local network, or partner with us to set one up in your area, then get in touch.

Our 7 Network Subgroups:

- Children & Families
- Housing & Homelessness
- Prisons & Supporting Ex-offenders
- Food & Community
- Mental health & Wellbeing
- Social Enterprise & Employability
- Refugees, Asylum Seekers & Migrants

Transforming Notts Together is a Joint Venture between the Church Urban Fund (CUF) and the Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham and is one of 15 joint ventures in the **Together Network** all of them linked by faith and driven by the desire to tackle social inequality across England.



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Personnel Changes in 2023

We said goodbye to...

We said hello to...



Sue Buckby

Operations
Lead



Leanne Harwood



Elissa Hartley

Assistant
Development
Worker

Near Neighbours
Coordinator

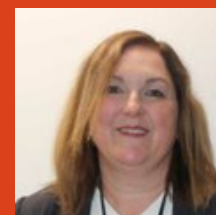


Samra Kanwal



Kat Osbourne

Trustee



Rebecca Bowes

Trustee

Our TNT 2023
Impact Report
would not have
been possible
without each
and every one.
Thank you!

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