

URBAN OUTREACH (BOLTON)

Company Number: 3019108
Registered Charity Number 1044203
232-236 St George's Road, BL1 2PH. 01204 385848

Newsletter

Spring 2026

We have moved!

We are delighted to share that, after many months of preparation, we finally and successfully moved office premises on **the 23rd February 2026** to **232-236 St George's Rd, Bolton, BL1 2PH**. This is a spacious and modern working environment situated close to our Amber Centre building. We thank God for His faithful provision and all the individuals and agencies that have supported us through the move.

Food Team

Asda collection Day
April 2026



Thank you so much to all who supported and donated to our appeal at Asda Astley Bridge on Easter Saturday. We are grateful for our partnership with Asda and to the volunteers that help make it happen.

In total, **40 trays** of food and some financial donations were made, helping to ensure the Food Hub is supplied with items to support our community in Bolton.



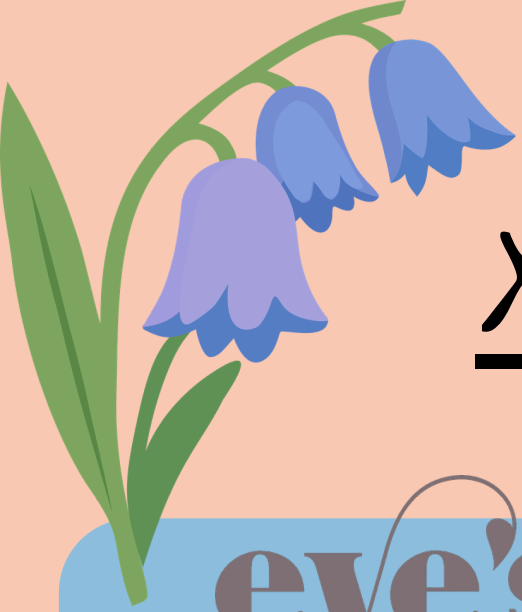
Christmas Dinner on Jesus 2025

At Christmas, we remember that even in darkness, God's light brings hope. This year, on 23rd December 2025, we delivered **1,315 Christmas Dinner on Jesus hampers** across Bolton, supporting **4,346 people**. Each parcel was a small act of kindness, offering comfort and hope to those in need.

This effort was made possible by an incredible community. From generous donations of festive essentials to volunteers giving their time to pack and deliver, every contribution mattered.

We've received heartfelt messages from recipients, reminding us how meaningful these hampers are. Thank you to everyone who supported CDOJ, your kindness has made a real difference this Christmas.





Adults Team



eve's space

This January we had the wonderful opportunity to take some of our women to four creative wellbeing sessions led by Cafe Create.

Each session, we took part in a new creative activity such as painting, doodle art, and, decoupage.

Whilst we created, the women were encouraged to engage with open conversation with each other, explore their own creative ideas or simply take some quiet time to de-stress.

Each woman who attended was provided with an art kit to facilitate continued creativity at home.

Thank you to our friends at Create Bolton for providing us with such a welcoming space.



We are so thankful for the opportunities over the cold months to work in partnerships across the town to add a little bit of positivity to some difficult situations.

One of these opportunities is our longstanding partnership with Bolton Lions, who donated toys and gift vouchers for families who would otherwise not have been able to afford Christmas presents for their children. Our Eve's Space team alone were able to refer **25 families** blessing **50 young people** on Christmas morning.

We are also grateful to Dunelm who encouraged their customers to collect gifts of blankets, games, toiletries and more which were used to bless service users across all of our Adult's projects.



New Opportunity

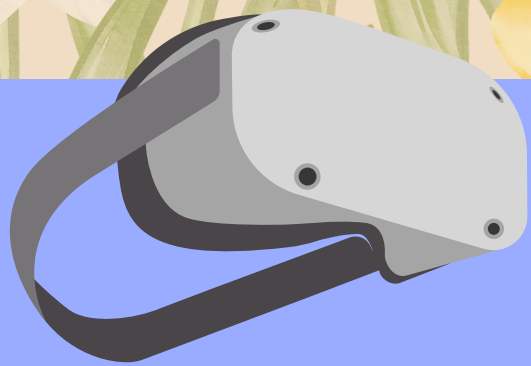
We are very excited to have been awarded a contract from the Local Authority to deliver work through a Lived Experience team within the adults realm.

Our 'Changing Futures' Programme aims to engage the invaluable lived experience of those who have faced difficulties in their past to help others improve their physical and mental wellbeing, reduce crime, homelessness and hospital admissions in a meaningful and supportive environment.

We have been able to closely link with our Adults Team to identify suitable individuals that we have supported and who have lived experience who will accompany us on the Changing Futures pathway.



Children and Families



VR Headset Sessions

The Children & Families Team has been developing the Re Root Serious Youth Violence project to offer a series of "Virtual Reality" sessions to groups of young people.

Sessions so far have been delivered with a range of partners including Flowhesion, Bolton Lads and Girls Club, EdStart Bolton and Life Lodge Alternative Provision. So far, **30 young people** have engaged in these sessions with our team, exploring immersive scenarios around Knife Crime, Child Criminal Exploitation, Cyber Bullying and Self Image, Mental Health and Grooming/Sexual Exploitation. This has been a great opportunity to engage young people in a new way that stimulates conversation about risks and dangers in the community.



Between **January** and **March 2026**, RUNA responded to...

487 Individual Missing Episodes for...

200 Children across Bolton



We also hosted a workshop at our Amber Centre with 33 Creative Group about the impact of Knife Crime. Five young people at risk of knife crime attended and got so much from the session.

One young person said...

"it's never worth carrying a knife again."



RISE continued with their wider emotional health provision facilitating cooking opportunities, craft sessions and wellbeing walks in nature over the February Half Term and Easter Holidays.



Team News



Nicola Gillard has served as Children and Families Team Leader for the last six years and has done so much to help build the strong team we have today. In January 2026, Nicola has changed role to become Chief Operations Officer to use her gifts to support the wider charity. Please pray for Nicola as she moves into this role and all the exciting opportunities to come.

With Nicola moving on from the Children and Families Team Leader role, **Chris Williams-Stainthorpe** has stepped up into this position from being the Senior Practitioner for the Team.



Nigel Newton joined our Food Team to deliver our Local Welfare Provision project after serving in Pastoral Ministry for 20 years and then as a Youth and Community Worker at Deane Church in Bolton.



Beth Ford has also had a change in role this season having moved from working as a Children and Families Support worker on our RUNA project to following her calling for vulnerable adults and community as Senior Practitioner for the Adults Team, playing a vital part in the vision for the Amber Centre community moving forwards.

We are delighted to welcome **Becki Melia** onto the Children and Families Team as a support worker on our RUNA project. Becki brings with her a real heart for young people and great interpersonal skills that will be a gift to the team and the young people we serve. Please pray for Becki as she settles into the role and the change of career.



Georgia Slater has become the new Senior Practitioner for the Children and Families Team, using her valued experience working with young people to help develop all of the projects across the team.

We are thrilled to announce the safe and happy arrival of baby Joy. Many congratulations to the Matthews Family - Hannah, Ben and the boys.

