



cyreanians  
cyreanians  
**cyreanians**  
IMPACT REPORT 2024  
cyreanians  
cyreanians





# IMPACT REPORT 2024

## CONTENTS

Welcome	4
Thanks From Our Chair	5
Supporter Story: Sue Bottomley	6
Prevention	8
Community First - St Bride's Pantry	10
Early Intervention	12
Amanda and Dylan's Story	13
Support Into A Home	14
The Social Bite Village Story	16
Influencing Policy and Practice	18
Supporter Story: Alex Chung	20
Thank You	22
Volunteer	26
Get In Touch	27





Ewan Aitken, pictured with Cyrenians Leadership Team

# WELCOME

## Welcome to our 2023-24 Impact Report.

Within it we share stories and statistics from our service users, our supporters and our staff to offer an insight into the real and positive difference we are making in the lives of those who experience or are at risk of homelessness, or moving on and building brighter futures.

Our mission is to tackle the causes and consequences of homelessness through learning from lived experience; by delivering targeted services which focus on prevention, early intervention and support into a home; and by influencing changes in legislation and policy. Never has this mission been more urgent, or so much at stake. In this last year, we have seen the highest number of homelessness cases on record, the numbers of children living in temporary accommodation rise to nearly 10,000 and a national housing emergency declared by the Scottish Parliament.

Homelessness is a complex challenge which is always about much more than a lack of housing. It can't and won't be solved simply by building more social housing, although it is critical that the Scottish Government's building targets are met. Complex problems require careful thinking and consideration of whole community, whole family and whole person solutions. Everything we

do at Cyrenians is values-led and centres on building trusted relationships so that people can go on to thrive.

We take a public health approach to delivering 63 services, which focus on prevention, early intervention and support in to a home. We operate in seven local authorities across South East and Central Scotland as well as delivering five national services. We support people to navigate change and manage conflict, to develop resilience and to understand systems that aren't always inclusive or accessible. We go on to the streets and into homes, to prisons, schools, hospitals and workplaces. We open the doors to our communal houses, our kitchens and the gates to our community gardens. We are frontline, face-to-face, hand in hand, day after day.

In the last year, our services have improved the life chances of over 7,800 people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless – 1,700 of whom are children and young people.

We are proud to work in partnership with organisations in every sector across Scotland to end homelessness and the suffering it causes. Sharing our learning, recording our impact and amplifying the voices of those with lived and learned experience of homelessness are all vital to the work we do and the success we achieve.

**Thank you for your support.**  
**Ewan Aitken**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

# THANKS FROM OUR CHAIR

**You can't fix a housing emergency overnight that's been created over decades.**

The underlying problems are complex and the solutions are not easy. When I tell anyone about what Cyrenians does, I often have to explain that it's not simply in the business of putting roofs over people's heads, valuable as that might be, but that primarily we are seeking to prevent homelessness.

We try to support young people leaving home, people with addiction, people who come out of care or custody, those who have experienced trauma or abuse, in the hope that they will never become homeless in the first place. For those living in our residential communities and supported accommodation projects, we seek to offer the support they need to ensure that they can sustain a safe and secure home in future and will not face crisis again. We aim to make people feel valued and respected, and to give them the skills and self-esteem that helps them make their way in the world. We do this in partnership with many other organisations, whose association we

value. Each brings its own expertise to the problems to supplement our own.

I am privileged to preside over a Board of Trustees that has been refreshed – over half its members have joined in the last eighteen months – and has an excellent blend of talent and experience, while retaining the all-important continuity of some members who have been imbued with Cyrenians values and traditions for a longer period. They all give their time voluntarily and I thank them for their valued contribution to our work.

Wherever I go I am humbled by the commitment and enthusiasm of our staff, and of the many volunteers who generously offer their time and provide great quality of support, often acting as role models to those engaged in our services.

We would also like to thank all the generous businesses and donors and funders who have contributed to our cause this year.

**John Lawrie, OBE**  
**Chair of the Board of Trustees**







Sue Bottomley photographed at a residential volunteers' reunion at the Farm in May 2024

## SUPPORTER STORY: SUE BOTTOMLEY

Sue lived on the Cyrenians Farm as a residential volunteer in the 1980s. Last year, she donated part of a bequest to us from her father's will, for which we are enormously grateful. Here she generously shares her memories of being part of our farm community and the impact of these experiences on her life since then.

I had just done my A levels and then I had a gap year, an unexpected gap year before I went to university. I applied through CSV - Community Service Volunteers - and then they placed me at the Cyrenians Farm, just outside of Edinburgh.

Until that point, I was living at home, in a village in Yorkshire. I was very naive and very unexposed to the real world. I turned up at the train station with my rucksack and I went to Broughton Place, which was where the City Community was at that time. I can remember waiting there with all these really friendly residents chatting away to me and thinking it was absolutely hilarious that a teenager who'd never been to Scotland had turned up and couldn't understand what they were saying. And then someone picked me up and took me out to the Farm.

I remember they were incredibly welcoming, accepted me immediately and paired me with a resident. We had the structure of the farm work – at that time the residents and volunteers worked on the farm - in order to start to get to know people and the work was well supervised. I was learning to milk the cows, milk the goats and make the butter and work with Willy, who was the guy who had the polytunnels. We had a farm meeting every morning and then the social worker came once a week for a community meeting. Those things gave a sense of supervision and structure and the residents were just such an amazing bunch of people. We had a lot of time to talk, which is what happens when you work with people.

A lot of the time we were either cooking the dinner, washing up, doing farm work, so it was a nice side-by-side way to gradually hear people's stories. We didn't ask people directly about their past lives, you took people as they were in that moment, and if they wanted to reveal more about the past, they could.

But it wasn't something that you questioned people about, so it was all about just living your life and potentially moving on. And I think I just very quickly



Sue milking a goat at the Farm in 1983

realised that there was a whole other world out there that I had absolutely no idea even existed.

I had a very privileged, easy upbringing. So I think it completely changed me to live alongside people who hadn't. It changed my politics with a small P and probably a large P. It changed my ability to interact with the world and the people that live in it.

It broadened my world, it made me more independent of thought and more able to follow my own morals and my own beliefs. I sometimes look back and think, "Oh my goodness, what would my life have been like if I hadn't have done that?"

When I did go to university, I turned up just much more aware of and engaged in the world I was living in. I questioned things that I know I wouldn't have questioned if I hadn't done that placement. I questioned the politics of the university. I questioned the sense of entitlement of those that felt the right to be there without considering the fact that others have no choices at all in their lives. I did some volunteering in a local youth club and I joined CND and I think I just understood that being able to be at university was a huge privilege in itself.

I qualified from university as a Pharmacist and later trained as a Medical Herbalist. I've worked in both professions and I now run a Natural Health Practice. We're set up to be able to provide low-cost treatment to people who wouldn't be able to afford it otherwise. I wouldn't have taken the decision to do that without that experience of volunteering at Cyrenians Farm.

## THEN AND NOW ...

*Cyrenians Farm was our second residential community, established in 1972, after our first City Community opened in Broughton Place in 1968.*

*The Farm Community was home to 10 young people in 2023/24 and we had 29 residential volunteers providing the kind of 'side-by-side' support that Sue talks about here.*

*Although they don't milk goats and cows anymore (the Farm stopped keeping animals in the mid 1990s), our residential volunteers are still fundamental to building the trusted relationships that help people recover from homelessness.*

*In addition to the residential community, the Farm is now home to our Green Skills Centre which offered outdoor learning and skills development opportunities to over 100 young people struggling in mainstream education last year.*







Above: Cyrenians staff at the FareShare Depot with celebrity volunteers, actors Mark Bonnar and Jamie Sives

## PREVENTION

We know homelessness is rare when people have sufficient income and are supported to eat and live well, to develop healthy relationships and to remain connected and supported within their communities.

Our work to reduce poverty and deliver whole community interventions in areas where we know people have an increased risk of homelessness develops resilience at a community level.

### DURING 2023/24:

Our FareShare food distribution service redirected over 800 tonnes (nearly 2 million meals) of good-to-eat surplus food from landfill, reducing hunger and supporting 167 projects and services to bring people together through lunch clubs, breakfast clubs, pantries and other community food initiatives

We supported 69 volunteers, many of whom are recovering from homelessness, at our Cyrenians

FareShare Depot. They gave us 14,000 hours to help us to carry out our operation and we provided a safe and welcoming environment that creates a sense of belonging, purpose and achievement.

Our 14 community pantries provide dignified access to a range of good quality chilled, ambient and fresh foods in exchange for a small membership fee to 350 members each month. The pantries positively benefit on average 425 adults and 700 children in areas in Scotland identified in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD), reducing the need for foodbanks in these areas

Last year, our Cook School in Leith and our hub at Midlothian Community Gardens, hosted 220 free cookery classes including accredited courses and more informal chop & chats.

Cyrenians Scottish Centre for Conflict Resolution works to reduce the number of young people in Scotland who become homeless due to relationship breakdown within families. We work across all 32 local authorities, and last year reached hundreds of families directly and 900 practitioners to develop their confidence in responding to family conflict through training and events.



Al Roy, Depot Ops Assistant



Noura Selibi, Syrian Chef at Syrian Supper Club hosted by our Cook School





Michelle Redpath and community volunteers, Glynis Thomson and Teresa Ann Rushford, at St Bride's Community Pantry May 2024.

## COMMUNITY FIRST - ST BRIDE'S PANTRY

### MICHELLE REDPATH, PANTRIES MANAGER

Our community pantries offer access to low cost, good quality food in a community setting. In 2023-24, we ran 14 pantries weekly across Edinburgh, Midlothian and the Borders. We use surplus food from the Cyrenians FareShare Depot in Leith to stock the pantries, redistributing food that would otherwise go to waste.

We started St Bride's Community Pantry with funding from Edinburgh City Council's Justice Fund in April 2023. We currently have around 25 members, paying a small membership fee, who regularly come along each Monday morning and many of our current members have been with us from the beginning.

One of our pantry members said:

*"I am a single mum with two children and it has been a difficult time for us being on our own. We benefit from using the pantry as food expenses are a huge part of our budget. I would like for both my daughters not to feel that we struggle with money."*

Another pantry member says that after she's paid the bills and bought food for her cat, there's no money left for her food. So being a member of the pantry is a lifeline.

As with most of our pantries, it's not just about the 'shop', it's about partnerships. The Committee at St Bride's has the kitchen open serving free teas, coffees and biscuits.

The pantry starts at ten, the band starts at 10.45 and hot soup is served from eleven, by which time the pantry table is clear and the food stock is all gone.

Robert, who's retired from the army, comes along every week with his wife Vivian. They volunteer at the nearby Saltyard Café in Gorgie and were recommending the pantry to people in the local community before they realised they could join themselves.

*"It's a great help," says Robert. Vivian adds "It's about meeting people... having a blether, every week you don't know what you'll find."*

We have a partnership with the Forget Me Notes community music group, and IT advice on practical things like mobile phones from People Know How. Bringing together different services and experiences shares resources and means that people can easily access help and advice, all in one place.

Rhona, who works for the Committee makes sure it all runs like clockwork. Her team and our team know

everyone's name and everyone feels welcome.

With a bite to eat in a warm, welcoming place, pantry members value the opportunity to sit and chat, listen to some great music and make new connections.

Jenny, who used to attend the pantry at Good Trees but joined St Bride's as it's closer to home says

*"It's good fun. I've made friendships here and for the older people coming along, this makes a real difference to stop some of the isolation they can feel."*

The pantry also provides volunteer opportunities and training.

*"You get back what you put in", says one volunteer. "I really look forward to my Monday mornings coming along here as everyone is so lovely and it's so nice to feel that I am doing something that really benefits the community."*





# EARLY INTERVENTION

Our early intervention services focus on key transition points where we know that, without the right support, people are more likely to become homeless.

These transition points include leaving education, leaving hospital, leaving the armed forces, leaving care and leaving the justice system.

We provide support to people recovering from addiction and poor mental and physical health and to families at risk of relationship breakdown, particularly where they face additional challenges - for example if a family member is in prison or secure care.

## Over the last 12 months:

- We supported nearly 1,000 people in recovery from addiction
- Our mediation and support service helped 65 families who were reaching breaking point to find a way back, and supported 72 young people residing in secure care centres in Scotland to engage in conflict resolution workshops
- Our skills and development services supported 425 young people towards a positive destination beyond mainstream education
- Our Visitor Centre at HMP Addiewell Centre offered advice, support, homework clubs and parenting programmes to 1,200 families who are impacted by imprisonment.
- Our justice and inclusion services in Falkirk, which include employability training and development, supported 484 people.



## KEEPING THE PROMISE

Cyrenians is part of Scotland's national pledge to deliver on the change demanded by the Independent Care Review and #KeepThePromise to Scotland's care experienced young people that they will grow up loved, safe and respected.

### In our services:

- 75 per cent of young people resident in our communities,
- 60 per cent of young people accessing our skills and development services,
- 50 per cent of young people supported by our Cook School are care experienced.

In February 2024, to coincide with the fourth anniversary of the promise, we published our commitment to being part of that work of change and an update on the support we have put in place across our organisation to ensure that care experienced people can share their views, feel safe, nurtured and able to flourish.

To find out more visit [cyrenians.scot/thepromise](https://cyrenians.scot/thepromise)



Amanda and Dylan photographed in 2023

## AMANDA AND DYLAN'S STORY

Dylan (now 20 years old) was referred to Cyrenians Keeping Families Together project by social work as part of his support plan to return to the community after being in several different secure care centres since 2018.

Working with a mediator and family outreach worker from Cyrenians allowed Dylan and his mum to work on

their relationship and helped Dylan reconnect with his two younger siblings as he entered a new period in his life. His family played a crucial role in supporting him as he settled into supported accommodation.

Here Amanda and Dylan reflect on the difference that having support from Cyrenians has made.

### Amanda:

*"The support that I've received, myself and Dylan, from Cyrenians has been absolutely amazing because I don't have family here. I think if I had that before, I don't think Dylan would've ended up in secure, to be honest.*

*I think we needed that before and we didn't know anything 'bout this until he got out of secure.*

*So, yeah, it's been amazing. I don't think that we would have been able to have the relationship that we have now without them."*

### Dylan:

*"I think it's been great working with Cyrenians because I think me and my mum have a better relationship, and I feel like I can tell my mum more things now, but with the support of Cyrenians.*

*It's made me think about, obviously, the time in secure and I think I've learned a lot from working with Cyrenians because it's helped me make better decisions on like going out drinking all the time and making me think about my future."*





## SUPPORT INTO A HOME

Our services that support people into a home include outreach services working directly with those who are rough sleeping, rehabilitation services for those leaving hospital and services that provide a safe place to stay as well as round-the-clock care from trauma-informed staff until a permanent home is available.

We cannot prevent homelessness in every case but when people do reach crisis point we seek to ensure that they quickly receive the support they need to move in to safe and sustainable accommodation and with the support they need to ensure they do not face homelessness again in future.

Our residential services play a vital role in supporting people to recover from trauma, build trusting relationships and prepare them to live in their own home. For example, our Crighton Place residential community provides step-down accommodation for people who have been discharged from the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, which provides acute psychiatric and mental health services. The Crighton Place community supports residents to build confidence and maintain and develop their mental health and independence as they transition to more independent lives in the wider community.

### In the past year:

- Our residential communities offered a home to 65 people
- Our Navigator outreach service supported 251 interactions with people experiencing or leaving street homelessness
- Our Hospital In-Reach team supported 337 people to maintain, find, or move on to suitable accommodation when discharged from hospital
- We launched our partnership with the social impact property fund manager Resonance to buy and refurbish 30 properties in Edinburgh to provide safe homes for women who have experienced domestic abuse and homelessness. Cyrenians is the first Scottish partner in the Women in Safe Homes fund and the partnership will enable us to offer a home to around 200 women and their children over the lifetime of the project.

It should be noted that acute pressure on local authorities and a lack of available social housing is making it harder for all of our residential services to support people to move on in to secure and stable accommodation.

*Wafa Radhi, Senior Key Worker, and Director of Services Amy Hutton, at one of the Women in Safe Homes fund properties, shortly before it was let to a woman and her family.*







Andy Murdoch with residential volunteers at Social Bite Village

## THE SOCIAL BITE VILLAGE STORY

ANDY MURDOCH, SERVICE MANAGER (ADULT COMMUNITIES)

We try and connect people, nurture relationships and support people to access the services that are around to help them, because the system is not designed to be accessible to vulnerable people.

A lot of this is about timing. As we know, people's lives move up and down and it's about their capacity to deal with that, that's what we're supporting. So that when things are not going so well, they have the resilience to cope.

Yes, skills for life is part of it, but the reason someone might lose their tenancy isn't about their ability to boil an egg, it's about their ability to cope with their mental health, their families, their benefits.

It has been amazing for me to watch some members of our community grow in confidence and build positive relationships with their peers, residential volunteers and staff. We have a fantastic, skilled and enthusiastic staff team who have created a nurturing and safe environment for people who have become homeless and need support. Staff offer community members practical advice and support, adapting to their different needs and styles.

We provide ongoing support. The relationships don't end when residents leave the village. For example, Mark\* really benefitted from the relationship he developed with the residential volunteers at the Village. He moved

on in 2023 but still keeps in touch with us and his former housemate.

*"I like to go back and say hello to the residents, staff and volunteers. I like to see the gardens I helped to create. The people who live at the Social Bite Village are very lucky. I can only say good things. To say thank you is just a small part of what I feel."* Mark\*, Social Bite Community Member, 2021-2023

*\*Names have been changed to protect the identity of our residents*





*Scottish Labour Leader Anas Sarwar visiting Creative Natives*

## INFLUENCING POLICY AND PRACTICE AND SHARING OUR LEARNING

We use evidence from our service delivery and the lived experience of those who use our services to work with decision-makers to improve policy and practice. We work with national and local decision-makers to make the case for increased investment in social and affordable housing and changes to policy and practice that will reduce poverty. We advocate for increased support for people experiencing trauma, poor mental and physical health and addictions so that homelessness in Scotland is rare, brief and non-recurring.

Last year, we were invited by Scottish Government to co-chair with Crisis Scotland the Homelessness Prevention Task and Finish Group, which brought together leaders from local government, third sector, health, education, social care and justice to make recommendations for new legislation which aims to prevent homelessness from happening in the future. This legislation is now before Parliament as the Housing (Scotland) Bill.

We were also invited by the Scottish Government to provide evidence to the Scottish Covid Inquiry, offering a valuable opportunity for our Chief Executive to share

our learning from delivering critical services to those most at risk of, or experiencing homelessness during the pandemic.

In partnership with Homeless Network Scotland (HNS), we continue to support and facilitate the All in for Change team, a group of people with lived and professional experience of homelessness who work collaboratively to influence policy and practice. In Spring 2024, All in for Change hosted a national roadshow, which involved workshops and focus groups in all five national housing hubs to measure progress made against the Scottish Government's Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan.

We facilitate the Scottish Frontline Network to amplify the voices of frontline workers who support people at risk of, or experiencing homelessness and provide vital training and learning opportunities for the sector's workforce.

We are also proud partners in the Everyone Home collective attended by leaders from nearly 40 third and

academic sector organisations, to collaborate on the range of crises impacting on homelessness including the housing emergency, cost of living crisis, international conflict, UK immigration policy and the pace of Scotland's affordable housing programme.

Responding to the Housing Emergency, Cyrenians chairs the Strategic Homeless Action Partnership in Edinburgh (SHAPE) which pushes for solutions to Edinburgh's unique housing problems whilst lobbying for the government to recognise the broader implications of the national housing emergency.

In 2023-24, we invited representatives from Scottish Government to visit our services to hear directly from

frontline staff and those with lived experience of homelessness and gain better understanding of the challenges they face. Housing Minister Paul McLennan has been a regular visitor to our services and projects and a frequent participant in meetings with the All in for Change team.

We have welcomed Angela Constance, Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs to our Falkirk Services; Scottish Labour Leader Anas Sarwar to our Creative Natives project which supports young people disengaged from school, and the Cyrenians FareShare Depot.



*Angela Constance, Cabinet Secretary for Justice and Home Affairs visits Falkirk Services*



*Paul McLennan, Housing Minister visits first WiSH property*





## SUPPORTER STORY: ALEX CHUNG

*Alex Chung is a Junior Doctor at the Western General in Edinburgh. Through her work in hospitals she's seen the impact of homelessness and the work that Cyrenians is doing to support people in hospitals so they have a safe place to recover when they're discharged.*

*To raise awareness of homelessness as a public health issue, Alex ran the Edinburgh Marathon for us in May 2024 and raised over £800 to help support our services.*

I know of Cyrenians through my work, both in the infectious diseases unit and also working in the Royal Infirmary in various departments, including A&E. I've come across a wide breadth of people, some of whom are unfortunately experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless, including being discharged from hospital into homelessness. I've seen directly and indirectly the work that Cyrenians has done to help people, either through support services or helping people from hospital into appropriate accommodation.

Personally, I'm interested in public health and I understand that homelessness is a massive public health issue. It's an indicator of how we're doing as a population, how well or not, we look after the people who are the most vulnerable in our society.

One of the things I really appreciate about the way Cyrenians works is its person-centred approach. The support given is very much focused on the person who's in hospital. What are their circumstances, what are their needs?

Cyrenians is committed to working with a person throughout their whole journey so it's the same case worker who stays with a person and the support doesn't chop and change all the time. This means you've got that continuity of care which is really nice.

Cyrenians provides that bridge, getting people from hospital back into the community, helping them to find accommodation that works for them and staying with somebody for a long time until a suitable place is found. I also appreciate that it's so difficult to find accessible accommodation that suits people coming out of hospital.

There's a lot of patients that we manage who are dealing with substance misuse issues, so again, this is where Cyrenians' person-centred approach and that



*Alex after completing the Edinburgh Marathon on Sunday 26 May 2024.*

commitment to ensuring people get the right support for them is really important.

And so for all of those reasons, I was very happy and proud to wear the Cyrenians running vest in the Edinburgh Marathon this year.

*"I didn't have a clue what was going on, I was so ill. I didn't know where I could go, I was just going to sleep in a doorway or something. I think I'd be dead if I'd done that. You guys just sorted it all out, and I'm not dead."*

**Patient supported by our Hospital In-Reach service**



# THANK YOU

... to all of the grant makers whose generous contributions made our work possible in 2023-24:

- The Artemis Charitable Foundation
- Albert Hunt Trust
- Allied Vehicles Charitable Trust
- Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust
- Baillie Gifford
- The Barcapel Foundation
- Barrack Charitable Trust
- Basil Death Trust
- Bathgate Enterprise Fund
- Befriending Networks
- Capital City Partnership
- Capricorn Energy
- CashBack for Communities Phase 6
- Cattanach
- Charles Hayward Foundation
- City of Edinburgh Justice
- City of Edinburgh Council Alcohol and Drug Partnership
- City of Edinburgh Council Health and Social Care
- City of Edinburgh Council Through Care and After Care
- Clothworkers Foundation
- The Communities Recovery Fund (Adapt & Thrive)
- Cordis Trust
- The Corra Foundation
- Cost of Living Support Fund (National Lottery)
- Craignish Trust

- Crerar Trust
- Criminal justice – Edinburgh
- Cruden Foundation
- Cycling Scotland
- East Lothian Council
- Edinburgh Integrated Joint Board
- Ernest Cook Trust
- Essential Edinburgh
- Falkirk Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund
- Falkirk Council
- Falkirk Health Inequalities Fund
- Falkirk Health and Social Care Partnership
- Falkirk Suicide Prevention Fund
- Falkirk Justice
- Falkirk Employability Training Unit
- FareShare UK
- Food Charity Support Fund Edinburgh Council
- Fyrish Foundation
- GambleAware
- Gannochy Trust
- Green Hall Foundation
- Hayward Sanderson Trust
- Improvement Fund (Corra)
- John Lewis Partnership Foundation
- John Watson's Trust

- JTH Charitable Trust
- Lady Marian Gibson Trust
- Leith Benevolent Association
- Leith Trust
- Livingston Rotary Club
- Meikle Foundation
- Merchant Company
- Merchant Company Endowments Trust
- Midlothian Council
- Misses Robinson Charitable Trust
- Mrs M A Lascelles Charitable Trust
- Murdoch Forrest Charitable Trust
- Nancie Massey Charitable Trust
- National Lottery Community Fund
- NHS Lothian
- NHS Lothian Charity
- NHS Lothian Health Improvement Fund
- Paths for All
- Peebleshire Charitable Trust
- The Promise Scotland
- Real Farming Trust
- Royal Edinburgh Associated Services (REAS)
- R S Macdonald Charitable Trust
- Riada Trust
- Ryvoan Trust
- Sainsbury's Helping Everyone Eat Better

- Scottish Borders Council
- Scottish Government
- SG Communities Health and Wellbeing Fund
- Scottish Children's Lottery
- SCVO
- Social Bite (Social Bite Village)
- Sodexo
- Souter Charitable Trust
- St Martin in the Fields
- Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards
- The Renaissance Club Charitable Foundation
- Third Sector Early Intervention Fund
- Thrive Edinburgh
- Tweedie Miller Charitable Trust
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund Edinburgh
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund Midlothian
- Vardy Foundation
- Veterans Foundation
- Voluntary Sector Development Fund
- Walter Scott & Partners Ltd
- Ward Family Charitable Trust
- West Lothian Council
- West Lothian Council Pensioners Christmas Fund
- William Grant Foundation
- Wilson Christie Fund
- Wolfson Foundation



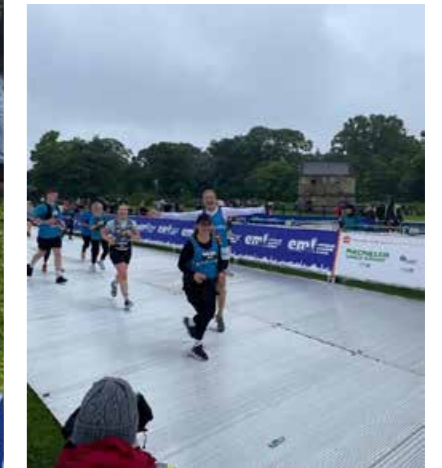
# FUNDRAISING

We would like to thank all of the generous individuals, businesses and community groups, too numerous to name, who gave their time, made donations, sponsored their friends, family and colleagues, took part in fundraising challenges and supported our events.

Last year our fantastic community of volunteers and supporters helped us to make a difference to tackle the causes and consequences of homelessness. We could not do what we do without your generous support.

## DURING 23/24:

- Over **280** generous supporters donated over **£115k** to our fundraising appeals allowing us to provide lasting support to people facing the causes and consequences of homelessness
- **227** generous individuals made an ongoing commitment to tackling homelessness with a regular donation to Cyrenians
- **38** people took part in fundraising challenges for us, including the **Kiltwalk** and the **Edinburgh Marathon Festival**, raising over **£10,000** in sponsorship
- **245** supporters bought tickets to attend a Cyrenians event
- **19** companies, groups and individuals gifted priority items and services, to the value of **£23,410.90**.





# VOLUNTEER AND BE PART OF MAKING CHANGE HAPPEN

Our thanks to all our volunteers, including our corporate volunteers, who generously give their time and their skills to support the work that we do across our services and our social enterprises.

In 2023-24, a total of 811 volunteers gifted a total of 42,340 hours to help us make a difference. This includes 408 employees from 31 companies across Edinburgh, Scotland and further afield who gave 1,224 hours of their time through our team volunteer sessions.

Volunteering at Cyrenians is a great way to meet new people, learn new skills, give back to the community and boost your confidence.

We have a range of opportunities available across Central and South East Scotland, which are flexible to fit around the time that our volunteers are able to give.

**Get in touch to chat about how you can get involved!**

**Email us at [volunteer@cyrenians.scot](mailto:volunteer@cyrenians.scot)**

# GET IN TOUCH

We could not carry out our work to tackle the causes and consequences of homelessness without the support of all our partners, funders and supporters. If you would like to find out more about our work, how we can work together or how you can support us, please get in touch.

There are many ways that you can get involved in supporting our work– from volunteering, to donating, taking part in a fundraising event or developing a partnership with Cyrenians.

**Explore how you can support us today:**


 [fundraising@cyrenians.scot](mailto:fundraising@cyrenians.scot)


 [@cyrenians](https://www.facebook.com/cyrenians)

 [@cyrenians](https://www.instagram.com/cyrenians)

 [@cyrenians1968](https://twitter.com/cyrenians1968)

**General enquiries:**

 **57 Albion Road, Edinburgh, EH7 5QY**

 **0131 475 2354**

 [admin@cyrenians.scot](mailto:admin@cyrenians.scot)

 [cyrenians.scot](https://www.cyrenians.scot)

For media and press enquiries contact

 [press@cyrenians.scot](mailto:press@cyrenians.scot)





# cyrenians

[cyrenians.scot](http://cyrenians.scot)

Cyrenians is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), registered charity SC011052  
With many thanks to Phil Wilkinson and Clara Strachan for the photography included in this report.