



12 days of

**CHRISTMAS 2020**



# Christmas...

...as we all know, it's the season of giving. Thus, this year, we have teamed up with the Manchester Homelessness Partnership to bring you our 'Reverse Advent Calendar'. For each of our 12 days of Christmas, we kindly ask you to donate either your time, money or supplies to a chosen charity in Manchester.



**Together, we can make a real difference to the lives of homeless people in our city.**

# 14th December



## Manchester Street Engagement Hub

**Led by Greater Manchester Police & Manchester City Council**

A partnership involving charities, drug and alcohol services, the police and council working together to reduce begging and anti-social behaviour in Manchester. They work under one roof to support vulnerable people by removing barriers to accessing services and ensure that people receive the help they need to help them move on from the street. The partnership aims to make Manchester a safer place for everyone.

★ **Donation: Hats, socks & gloves**

Over the Winter months they would really appreciate donations of hats, socks and gloves.

Contact: [begging.citycentre@gmp.police.uk](mailto:begging.citycentre@gmp.police.uk)

**Donation drop-off point**

Spinningfields Management Suite  
Leftbank, Manchester, M3 3AL

# 15th December



## Wood Street Mission

[www.woodstreetmission.org.uk](http://www.woodstreetmission.org.uk)

Wood Street Mission is a children's charity helping children and families living on a low income in Manchester and Salford. They provide practical help to help meet children's day-to-day needs and improve their life chances. Through Family Basics we provide struggling families with children's clothes, bedding and baby equipment, and toys and books which are important for children's wellbeing and development.

### ★ Donation: New toys, books, selection boxes

This winter, Wood Street Mission would like any donations of new toys that parents can choose to wrap and give to their children as Christmas presents. The toys can be suitable for children aged from 9 to 11 years.

Contact: [collections@woodstreetmission.org.uk](mailto:collections@woodstreetmission.org.uk)

**Donation drop-off point**

Spinningfields Management Suite  
Leftbank, Manchester, M3 3AL

# 16th December



back on track >

## Back on Track

[www.backontrackmanchester.org.uk](http://www.backontrackmanchester.org.uk)

Back on Track was founded in 1977. They have a learning centre in central Manchester, where they work with adults who are going through a process of recovery or rehabilitation. They support around 750 people every year who have been through problems with alcohol or drugs, offending, homelessness and mental health and their projects enable people to build the skills they need to lead meaningful and fulfilling lives.

★ **Donation: Purchase an ethical festive hamper**

Give a gift that gives back by supporting people facing disadvantage in Greater Manchester this Christmas. This year, Back on Track Manchester have got creative and are offering ethical festive hampers to purchase as gifts to lift people's spirits, spread some Manchester kindness and raise much-needed funds for their charity.

Contact: [dee@backontrackmanchester.org.uk](mailto:dee@backontrackmanchester.org.uk)

# 17th December



## Big Change MCR

[www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/big-change-mcr](http://www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/big-change-mcr)

Big Change MCR is a unique fund for people who are rough sleeping in Manchester. It allows people who are homeless and the charities who support them to have quick and easy access to the things that individual people need – such as deposits for a flat, furniture, or interview clothes. It is part of the Manchester Homelessness Partnership and has no running costs, so every penny goes straight to the cause.

★ [Share the love & donate your change](#)

Please take the time to watch the new video on the Big Change MCR website about what has been done and please promote this among your networks.

Contact: [bigchangemanchester@macc.org.uk](mailto:bigchangemanchester@macc.org.uk)

# 18th December



**boaztrust**  
serving destitute asylum seekers

## Boaz Trust

[www.boaztrust.org.uk](http://www.boaztrust.org.uk)

The Boaz Trust works with people who become homeless after fleeing persecution and war. Many people who are asylum seekers or refugees do not receive any support from the UK government and do not have access to housing or benefits. The Boaz Trust provides accommodation and specialist support and works towards ending destitution among people seeking sanctuary.



**Donation: Socks, gloves, hats, scarves, earmuffs, photoframe, notebook, nice pens, mugs, hot water bottle, hand cream, body cream, lip balm, biscuits, chocolates, sweets.**

Despite the challenges of lockdown, Boaz Trust are working hard to put together some gift packs so that they can share some joy with our clients this Christmas.

Contact: [info@boaztrust.org.uk](mailto:info@boaztrust.org.uk)

**Donation drop-off point**

Spinningfields Management Suite  
Leftbank, Manchester, M3 3AL

# 19th December



## The Booth Centre

[www.boothcentre.org.uk](http://www.boothcentre.org.uk)

The Booth Centre is a community centre run with and for people affected by homelessness. They provides a warm welcome, an opportunity to belong, to gain a purpose and rebuild lives.

Their programme includes activities such as volunteering, creative projects and sports, as well as training and help to gain employment. They also support people to improve health and wellbeing, to access emergency accommodation, and to secure and maintain a permanent home.

### ★ Donation: Socks & Deodorant

Donations can be delivered to the Booth Centre garden where staff will be able to assist Monday - Friday 08:30-15:30.

Contact: [charlotte@boothcentre.org.uk](mailto:charlotte@boothcentre.org.uk)

**Donation drop-off point**

Spinningfields Management Suite  
Leftbank, Manchester, M3 3AL



# 20th December



Migrant  
Destitution  
Fund GM

## Migrant Destitution Fund GM

<https://manchestercommunitycentral.org/migrant-destitution-fund-gm>

The Migrant Destitution Fund supports destitute migrants who have “no recourse to public funds” - a policy which leaves people unable to meet their basic needs, not supported by the state and not allowed to do paid work to support themselves. Many applications are made on behalf of asylum seekers who have been refused by the Home Office, many of whom eventually secure their right to remain. Local charities identify someone who needs support and make an application to the Fund.

★ **Donation: £20.00 to support a destitute migrant**

The MDF was first piloted in 2018 and it was clear there is a great need for it. It reopened in April 2020 and has given out over 350 grants since. However funds are now running very low, with only one month's left worth of money left, and an increasing demand for it.

Contact: [migrantdestitutionfund@macc.org.uk](mailto:migrantdestitutionfund@macc.org.uk)

# 21st December



## The GM Mayor's Charity

[www.gmmayorscharity.co.uk](http://www.gmmayorscharity.co.uk)

The current focus of the charity is to provide essential funding to front line projects that deliver innovative initiatives to tackle homelessness and support the goal to end rough sleeping in Greater Manchester.

However, the charity has a broader objective which allows the Trustees to support other charitable causes that tackle social issues at the heart of the Greater Manchester community and support the vulnerable members of its community.

### ★ Donation: Exterior window space

The GM's Mayor's Charity are looking for window space to add contactless donation points throughout Greater Manchester and the funds will be distributed across a network of charities tackling homelessness. The requirements are a 1m x 0.75m window space for a vinyl and access to a plug for 6 months.

Contact: [vanessa.haworth@gmmayorscharity.co.uk](mailto:vanessa.haworth@gmmayorscharity.co.uk)

# 22nd December



**Change  
Grow  
Live**

## Change Grow Live Manchester

<https://www.changegrowlive.org/>

Change Grow Live Manchester is a national health and social care charity priding themselves on approaching drug and alcohol treatment with an open mind, free from judgement. Their goal is to help changes lives, encouraging individual growth and personal development. Many of their clients rely heavily on their recovery communities, whether they are still in active addiction or early recovery. It was a very difficult time for them as this resource of community and connection during a crucial stage in their lives was taken away from them by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### ★ Donation: Refurbished IT equipment

CGL are asking if anyone in our city has any IT equipment they can donate, e.g. refurbished laptops, tablets or smart phones to help to keep their clients who are experiencing digital exclusion connected with recovery support and activities.

Contact: [Mark.Jepson@cgl.org.uk](mailto:Mark.Jepson@cgl.org.uk)

**Donation drop-off point**

Spinningfields Management Suite  
Leftbank, Manchester, M3 3AL

# 23rd December



## Riverside Housing

[www.riverside.org.uk](http://www.riverside.org.uk)

Riverside provide services across Manchester for people over 300 people experiencing homelessness, this includes young women, people new to rough sleeping, males and females that have long term experiences of rough sleeping.

### ★ Donation: Underwear

This Winter, Riverside are hoping for donations of underwear for males and females, smaller sizes if possible.

Contact: [eleanor.watts@riverside.org.uk](mailto:eleanor.watts@riverside.org.uk)

**Donation drop-off point**

Spinningfields Management Suite  
Leftbank, Manchester, M3 3AL

# 24th December



## Barnabus

[www.barnabus-manchester.org.uk](http://www.barnabus-manchester.org.uk)

Barnabus started in 1991 as a street outreach group which then operated from a bus before moving into the premises where they are now. They help up to 100 people a day at their drop-in centre alone, with a mission to empower people to build new lives through finding a new home.

★ **Donation: Post Office One4All Gift Card**

Barnabus have a resettlement tenancy scheme and are asking for Post Office One4All gift card donations to help purchase items to make a new house a home. Suggested £10.00

Contact: [neil@barnabusmanchester.co.uk](mailto:neil@barnabusmanchester.co.uk)

**Donation drop-off point**

Spinningfields Management Suite  
Leftbank, Manchester, M3 3AL

# 25th December

## Christmas Day

On behalf of Manchester Homelessness Partnership, St John's Homelessness Initiative and all the team involved, we'd like to thank you for taking the time to get involved with the Reverse Advent: 12 days of Christmas.

Christmas is a special day for many, and even more so after a tough year living through Covid-19. If you are lucky enough to spend the season with your loved ones, we would like you to spare a thought for people who are homeless, and consider how you could make a difference in 2021.

**'I pledge to actively play my part to end homelessness in Manchester in 2021'.**

