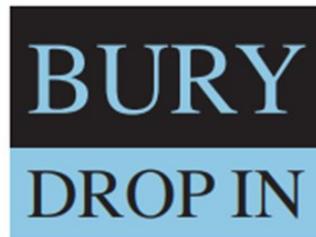




BURY DROP IN



The Bury Drop In was established due to the concern about the rising number of homeless people in the town, and created following a request for help from the housing team at St Edmundsbury Borough Council. The purpose of the Bury Drop In is to provide support for the homeless and those who are vulnerably housed, with two 'drop in' sessions per week at a town centre church. We also offer practical help - a hot meal, food to take away, a sleeping bag, tent and other essentials for life according to need.

Every guest's situation is assessed on arrival to help us to get a good idea of a person's mental and physical state, so they can be supported appropriately. All volunteers are trained in safeguarding and drug and alcohol awareness to aid this. Alongside providing the practical help, our aim is also to offer a warm welcome and unconditional acceptance of guests, wherever they are on their journey towards recovery, from what is often a set of traumatic life experiences.

Volunteers have contact with 23 local agencies to arrange appropriate support.

If Bury Drop In is successful in obtaining part of this award we would put it into a fund to support the opening of the Drop In on an extra day each week. We currently open on Tuesdays and Fridays between 11am and 2pm. Our guests now number over 60 each session. We have new guests arriving each week.

With funding in place, it is seen as very desirable to open on another day, perhaps early evening from 6pm until 8pm. This would give the guests a place in the warm, where hot drinks and food would be available before the cold night ahead.

We would be dependent on volunteers, but the provision of extra funding could make this a real possibility.

For more information visit our website <http://www.burydropin.org/>