

## APPLICATION TO SHEFFIELD METHODIST DISTRICT 2024

Dear Friends

Would you please prayerfully consider this application for a grant of £20,000 to enable The Terminus Initiative to move forward with its exciting expansion plans to reach a wider demographic on the estates of Lowedges, Jordanthorpe and Batemoor.

Although you have previously funded towards the role of the Community Outreach Manager/Chaplain over the last 3 years, the fruit of this work is the emerged ecumenical church at the margins with a ministry of 30 regular attendees at Friday Worship. The Terminus is supported by the local Anglican, URC and LEP churches, however it has always been recognised that it was birthed by Greenhill MC, and continues to be supported by them with volunteer and financial support.

The Terminus reaches out to and serves in excess of 200 people from the community, with numbers of more than 400 people being reached at specific community events.

### **OUTLINE OF PREVIOUS 3 YEARS**

The Terminus Initiative serves a community on the social housing estates of Lowedges, Batemoor and Jordanthorpe. Lowedges is situated in the Beauchief and Greenhill ward, which is ranked the 10<sup>th</sup> most deprived ward in Sheffield, and 65% of people living in Batemoor and Jordanthorpe are amongst the 10<sup>th</sup> most deprived in the country. The estates also have the third highest number of elderly residents in Sheffield, with many of these suffering from isolation and loneliness.

### **THE VISION**

#### **Successes of The Terminus Over the Last 3 Years**

The work of the Community Outreach Manager has been successful enough for the Trustees to prayerfully consider moving to a bigger space more centrally located on the Estate, where there is opportunity to reach out to a wider demographic of people.

This move has sparked interest from the Michael Church, which belongs to the URC (and whose minister sits on our Board of Trustees), as they are in the process of closing down their worshipping community because of numbers being so small. Negotiations between TTI and The URC have culminated in an agreement for The Terminus to take over the management of the Michael Church, utilising the income from the community groups who rent the space. The Michael is also the home of Grace Food Bank, which is a much needed and ever expanding resource on the estate.

In addition, the Community Outreach Manager has made contact with a local Christian businessman whose company has a Trust – The Gavins Foundation - and he has agreed the purchase of an additional building which sits adjacent to the Michael to enable the Terminus to really expand its reach in sharing the gospel through worship and practical ministry. He is currently working with us in an advisory and mentoring capacity to recruit other Christians and members from the community with skills to ensure that the 'new' Meeting Place is the central hub for the community, with as many people as possible being invited to come to know Jesus.

The future of the new place will include a space for mothers and babies, a daily drop in for school children, community lunches, citizens' advice and debt services, groups for men, art

and crafts groups, recovery church, support for domestic abuse victims, youth club, continuation of Friday worship, alpha type courses and discipleship courses. These groups will be facilitated during the day as well as in the evenings to ensure that working people from the community are included in our outreach. In addition, the services will include the Health and Wellbeing team work, funded by Sheffield City Council, and the Warm Welcome Spaces Worker (also funded by the council). The new and bigger space will enable the work of the Community Outreach Manager to expand the reach of the community on the estate, and actively recruit able and skilled volunteers to facilitate the new missional programs too.

There are also plans to host seasonal events including Easter, Christmas, Summer Fayres etc.

Between the new Meeting Place and The Michael Church building, there is multiple opportunity to offer mission and worship.

Funding by the Gavins Foundation is providing us with the new building, money towards fixtures and fittings and making the building fit for purpose, and part-funding for the role of the new Operations Director (for 3 years) to manage the staff, oversee the day to day operations of TTI (strategy, finance and budgeting, and to manage the move to the Michael and the new Meeting Place.

This leaves us with a shortfall to secure funding for the new ministries, equipment (furniture, appliances, flooring, shelving, soft furnishings, pa equipment, internet installation etc, as well as our regular and ongoing core costs.

## **THE JOURNEY**

We have arrived at this proposal through two factors:

1. The success of the face to face ministries created and facilitated by the Community Outreach Manager, means that the community space is at capacity in terms of numbers, particularly when it comes to Friday Worship. This means there is no further room for growth in this group.
2. The current premises rented by The Terminus is no longer fit for purpose, both in terms of limited space (due to the success of its growing community of faith and outreach programs), and poor condition of the building which falls victim to leaks and other faults, every time there is significant rainfall. In addition, the rent has been up for renewal and The Terminus are facing a 60% rise in rent fees.

The above sparked a discussion about the Terminus' future, and began discussions with the Yorkshire Congregational URC to potentially move into the Michael Church, and take over the management costs, thus providing a continued home for the foodbank and other community users, as well as providing a bit extra space for Terminus Outreach activities.

The Community Outreach Manager initially secured funding from The Gavins Foundation, to enable this move to take place. However upon really seeing the work being done so far by The Terminus, and the potential of this move to reach a much wider community, an offer was made to purchase an empty shop unit (formerly a co-operative building and 6 times the size of our current premises) located adjacent to the Michael Church.

During this process, we have listened to, and taken the advice of a Management Consultant, who has been working with us over the past 12 months, as well as the Chief Executive of The Gavins Foundation, who is a Christian, keen to reach as many people

on Lowedges as possible with the gospel, and has a successful multi-million pound Global Enterprise, and is providing us with mentorship.

There are approximately 10,000 people living on the estates of Lowedges, Jordanthorpe and Batemoor, meaning that to date we have been able to reach only a small proportion of the community, with much scope for expansion. Our ideas have been tested over the last 3 years through the success of our existing groups, and networking with other organisations in Sheffield who offer services that we currently don't for example, recovery church, freedom course for victims of domestic abuse. We will continue to connect with partner organisations throughout the wider reach of Sheffield in places which include Dore, Totley, Woodseats, Greenhill, Norton, city centre and Mosborough. We already network with these areas through Sheffield and individual area Leaders in Prayer Network meetings.

## TEAM

The Terminus employs a **Health Improvement Worker**, and part-time **Operations Administrator**, who are funded out of Sheffield City Council's People Keeping Well grant. This grant has supported the Healthy Living Team for some 17 years and has committed to securing this funding for at least the next 5 years. The core aims of this money is to fund the staffing and outreach work which addresses the physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing of the community, through various activities such as support for carers, local sports, arts & crafts, out in nature and healthy holidays (formerly school holiday hunger).

There is a 3<sup>rd</sup> staff member, **Community Development Worker for Welcome Place**. This role is funded by another local authority grant to connect and link welcome spaces in the immediate community and other surrounding areas.

The Terminus holds such a position of trust, that in the last 18 months, we have become the lead partner for the People Keeping Well fund, and as such now hold the entire fund for the South Sheffield Local Area, distributing money to other community organisations to promote health and well-being throughout the South Sheffield Region. The Health Improvement worker delivers some of these groups. namely Women's Conversation Club, Health Walk and Arts and Craft Group.

### **The Community Outreach Manager/Chaplain**

The Community Outreach Manager's post started in March 2021, and was initially funded as a part-time post (3 days a week) by The Methodist circuit, district and connexion. It soon became clear that the post warranted a full-time position, and so The Lauderdale foundation agreed to fund a 2 further days per week, making this a full-time position for 3 years. The funding for this role is due to run out in June (Methodist funds) and December (Lauderdale funds) of this year. Continued funding for the next 3 years has been granted by The Sheffield Circuit, and there is a further application pending with Lauderdale.

### **New Post : Operations Director**

The Terminus is currently in the process of recruiting an Operations Director to take on the overall management of TTI, and to oversee an exciting move to a bigger premises, funding for which is being granted by a Sheffield Trust (The Gavins Foundation) and Sheffield City Council. More details can be found later in this document.

The members of the Team responsible for steering and directing this project to date are the Trustees of The Terminus, and the Community Outreach Manager, with mentoring from the Chief Executive of The Gavins Foundation. There are a variety of skills here from business operations, finance and ministry.

Oversight of the project will be managed by the newly appointed Operations Manager, who will be accountable to the Trustees, and The Community Outreach Manager who will lead and support the day to day activities. The team financed by Sheffield City Council will continue to lead in our health and wellbeing work, and any future staff employed will be to assist the lead roles of outreach and health and wellbeing.

### **Markers of Fruitfulness**

The project has 4 steps of fruitfulness, following the model we have successfully achieved through Friday worship. This we envisage to grow over the next 5 years:

Step 1 Inviting community to a safe space in which they feel loved and cared for through our ministries outlined above, eg youth work, mothers and toddlers, singing group, coffee morning, community lunches etc.

Step 2 Exploring God, Jesus and the Bible through discussion groups and exploration courses, eg Alpha etc. Expanding our reach through our Friday Worship : extra space means extra capacity.

Step 3 Growing and nurturing discipleship and lives being shaped by relationship with Christ. Smaller groups, bible study groups.

Step 4 Nurturing new leaders emerging from the project.

### **RISKS/RESPONSE**

The greatest risk is that money will run out – the response is, with mentoring help from The Gavins Foundation, we are formulating a plan of Long Term Sustainability.

The Gavins Foundation is granting TTI these funds on the basis that we agree to work towards becoming self-sustaining in the next 3-5 years. On this basis, he is providing advice and mentoring on establishing an enterprise within the new premises alongside the outreach work, which will go some way to securing the future of the Outreach Manager's role, as well as other staff costs. In the first instance, the enterprise will most likely be a retail premises (charity shop), as there is nothing of this kind at present in the community. The building is located in a prime position on a parade of other shops and services, so should attract a healthy footfall.

We are launching a 'Friends of Terminus' Group to invite members of the community and beyond to join us on our journey through support with time and finance.

Donations: we receive regular cash donations at our groups, as well as a TTI 500 Club initiative which invites people to donate regularly to the Terminus by Direct Debit. This is a small club at the moment, but there are plans to have a re-launch once we are established in our new premises.

## **FINANCES**

Please find attached our annual accounts as well as our recent financial statement together with an annual costing forecast of the ongoing and new ministries we wish to offer in year one.

I believe we have secured £24,000 from the Sheffield Circuit towards the Community Outreach Manager's role, spread over 3 years.

We have requested £49,000 from Lauderdale to cover the Community Outreach Manager's role, spread over 3 years.

Sheffield City Council has granted £7,700 split between the Community Outreach Manager's role, food costs and core costs.

The Gavins Foundation - Funds towards the new Operations Manager post, purchase of the new premises, £30,000 towards refurbishment.

Gavins Foundation has also invited us to apply to them for £9,800 towards the cost of the childrens and youth work.

Laing Family Trust – application in for £10,000 towards the children and youth work.

B&Q/Screwfix – to apply for kitchen installation and appliances

Other funders we will be applying to are Benefact, Trusthouse Forte, Joseph Rank.