

SUPPORTING BIRMINGHAM'S BUSINESS  
COMMUNITY BY HELPING PEOPLE TO

# THRIVE

ChaplaincyPlus  
Annual Report  
**2019 - 2020**





# TOGETHER

CITY VIBES

## GROUPS

### City Women

Supporting each other through both the opportunities and the challenges of working life. Our City Women network of over 200 gets together for quarterly lunchtime events, responding to the heart and soul of our work – trust, integrity, truth.

### City Men

Offering an opportunity for men to come together over breakfast, encouraging one another, studying the Bible, and discussing how faith can strengthen us in our inner life and our service of others.

### City Legal

Providing a forum for over 200 people from the legal profession to explore Christian faith and legal practice. Since lockdown we have seen a good attendance at our weekly breakfast on Friday mornings on Zoom to replace the monthly in-person event.

### City Vibes

Supporting and encouraging young adults from all backgrounds within their working lives. We changed the name from City Lights to City Vibes to better reflect the group dynamic which offers fun events, conversations around different topics, and an encouraging online community.

### City Forum

Providing a forum for encouraging discussions and connections on a deeper level within the business community.

### Contemplation

Offering online Christian meditation every Saturday morning to give people space to slow down. We have also organised our annual Retreat in Daily Working Life - twice. Once in person before Christmas, and once online after Easter.

## FROM THE TRUSTEES & TEAM

So much has happened in the last 12 months that has shaped not just our immediate future, but perhaps the world of work for many years to come. Last year, reflecting on Brexit, we highlighted “the uncertainty of the times”, and little did we know what was around the corner. Covid-19 has had a devastating impact on all our lives, and we have had to change the way we work, but our staff team have risen valiantly to the challenge. The team have continued to support the network through working from home and changing 1:1 meetings into zoom and phone calls. During these times we continue to hold onto the fact that God is still a God of certainty.

Indeed, we continue to be amazed at his kindness and provision over the last 12 months, which started with Oliver Nyumbu speaking about how we are blessed to be a blessing at our Annual Celebration in October 2019. Our Carols for the Business Community once again proved very popular, with a capacity crowd in the Cathedral at lunchtime, and a good turnout for the after-work service. Rachael Orrell, the CEO of Saltmine gave a powerful Christmas message..

The trustees and team have worked hard to launch our new Strategy for the future work which includes describing our existing work with Christians as ‘the Christian Business Network’ and our work with the wider city as the ‘City Wellbeing Initiative’. Please do look at our summary on page four for more details. One of the new events that has started up is the Birmingham Wellbeing Forum which gathers individuals from firms around the city who have a role in supporting colleagues for some input and mutual encouragement.

We have also introduced a new name and brand for the work with 20s & 30s – City Vibes! This new name, along with an enthusiastic steering group, has really helped grow our work with young professionals from across the city.

Our Christian Business network responded to the ongoing financial challenge during our Prayer and Giving Week – with over £9,000 raised towards the work, and we have also been able to add a new Accounts Volunteer, and two Marketing Volunteers to the team! The financial and staffing provision were both specific prayer themes for the week, as well as our City Wellbeing Initiative, so a real blessing.

We are thankful to God for this tremendous provision and place our trust fully in Him for the future.

We are so grateful for our good friends who have volunteered their time or partnered with us at ChaplaincyPlus over the year including; Campbell Thomas, Romaine Thompson, Nathanael Fitro, Tim Roberts, Sue Noyes, Carol Wilson, Chris Whittington, Mel Evans, Terry Wilbanks and John & Maria Price with the Manressa Link Prayer Guides. Our current trustees are listed on the back page.

# ENCOURAGEMENT

ZOOM EVENT

"ChaplaincyPlus is very personal, very supportive of my whole wellbeing not just my work. They're great!"

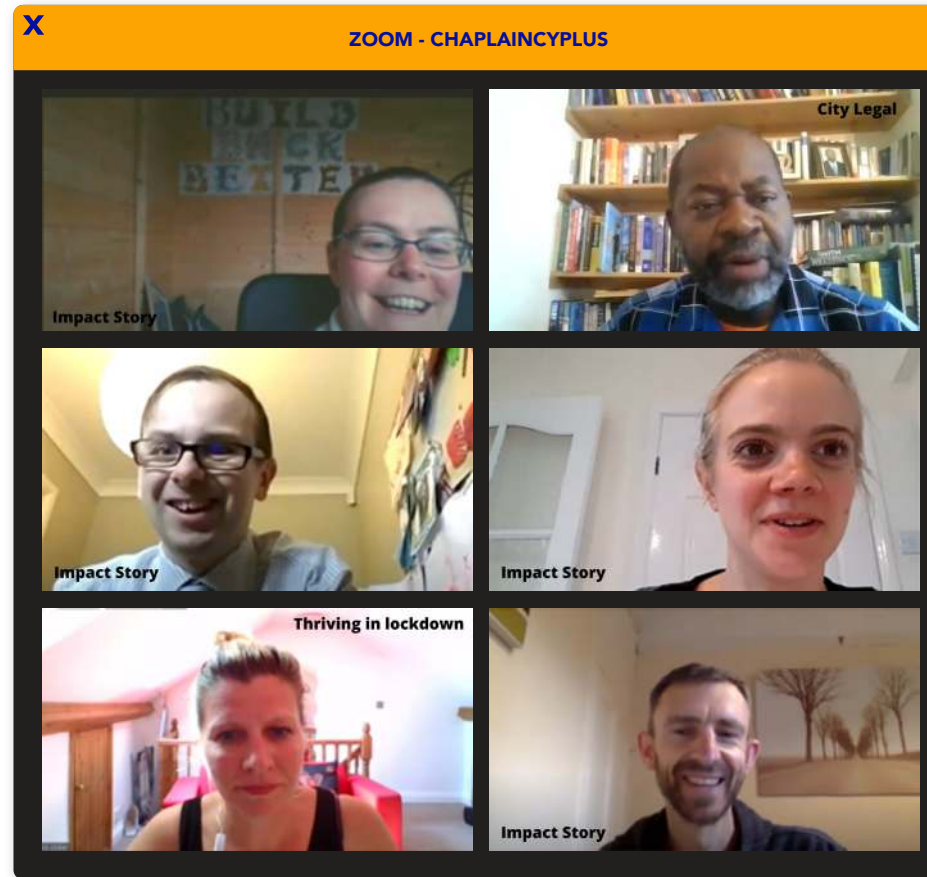
"I really appreciate the space to talk."

"ChaplaincyPlus brings connection with other Christians all over the City, of all denominations and all stages of their journey. I think unity is very important especially at this time."

"Thank you for being in the mountains and the valleys. I couldn't have done it all alone."

"Thanks for the coffee and chats but most of all the prayers. Greatly received and a blessing to me in my working life."

"You are doing some great work...it is so precious for me to encounter passionate, gifted yet humble people like yourselves."



TO WATCH OUR VIDEOS SEARCH CHAPLAINCYPLUS ON YOUTUBE

# COMMITMENT

ANNUAL  
CELEBRATION  
EVENT

## OUR PURPOSE

is to **support & inspire** the Birmingham business community to **live life to the full**.

## OUR VALUES



The business community in Birmingham matters.



The intellectual, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing of all people matters.



Caring for the welfare of people in the business community enhances the welfare of Birmingham.

## OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

### CITY WELLBEING INITIATIVE

To offer the business community thought leadership & practical support in the area of employee wellbeing.

Offering a Wellbeing Listening service at a work & personal level



Partnering with businesses for employee wellbeing



Providing advisory support & increasing strategic influence



### CHRISTIAN BUSINESS NETWORK

To maintain and grow the supportive network of Christians in the business community.

Providing a prayerful, one-to-one pastoral support service

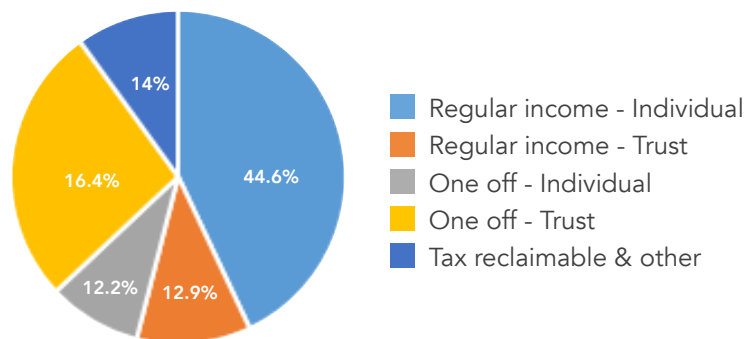
Combating workplace isolation by creating community

Equipping Christians to be confident about their faith in the workplace

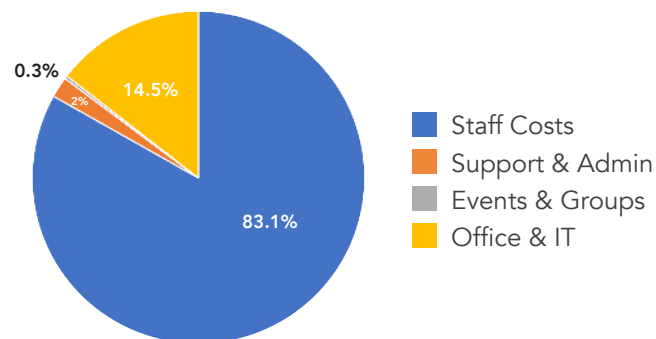


## INCOME & EXPENDITURE

SEPTEMBER 2019 – AUGUST 2020



Total Income: £65,854



Total Expenditure: £61,821

We are really encouraged that, even though our year on year income is down (in part due to the impact of Covid-19) through careful management of our finances and thanks to the generosity of all our donors we ended the financial year with a surplus in our accounts. This allowed us to top up our reserves, which had been depleted in previous years and which are an essential part of good charitable governance, ensuring Chaplaincy Plus is equipped to face any future financial uncertainty.

Last year we had huge success with a one-off week of prayer and giving, so much so that we decided to do it again! These events are a wonderful way of mobilising our network, who are passionate about what we do, to stand with us at a time when the income from trust funds continues to reduce. As mentioned earlier in the report the week generated an amazing £9000, accounting for over 13% of our income for the year!

With grateful thanks to our staff and volunteers who helped oversee the finances and also to the trusts and organisations who contributed financially to the work over the last 12 months including:

Bewley Charitable Trust	The Reuben Trust
GJW Turner Charitable Trust	Graham Hopkinson Trust
George Henry Collins	St Johns Church Harborne
Grimmitt Charitable Trust	Olton Baptist Church
Joseph Hopkins / Henry James Sayer	Knowle Parochial
Lady Tange Charitable Trust	Parish Church
Limoges	Riverside Church
Roger & Douglas Turner Trust	No 5 Chambers

Chaplaincy Plus would not exist without the generous support of those who choose to partner with us, through either a regular commitment or a one-off gift, and we are hugely thankful for this support. We hope and pray that this report will encourage you and also prompt others to be part of the journey with us.

# SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS

Day-to-day we support and encourage individuals, offering a neutral and confidential space for professionals to explore issues of life and work – regardless of background or beliefs.

ChaplaincyPlus provides regular wellbeing & listening support for The University of Law Birmingham and St Philips Chambers and we are looking to expand this service in to other business as we grow the work.

## CURRENT TRUSTEES

Mark Jowett (Chair)

Chris Watson

Amy Tabari

Matt Williams

Alan Holdsworth

Alexia Binns

Also, a massive thanks to trustees who stood down from the board during the year - Hilary Rushby and Jonathan Fortnam.

Get Connected: [www.chaplaincyplus.org.uk/signup](http://www.chaplaincyplus.org.uk/signup)

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