



Welcome to our first e-newsletter of 2012. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our Winter Appeal. We've already almost reached our target of raising £10,000! More importantly, your support has enabled us to provide much needed extra emergency beds to help reduce the number of rough sleepers in Leicester. With new initiatives starting up such as The Green Light Project and Down Not Out, we're excited about what lies ahead for Action Homeless and our service users in 2012. We'd like to wish you all a happy new year and to thank you once again for your continued support.

With best wishes

Rob Parkinson
Chief Executive



Coming up in 2012...

Not the Big Snooze, our sponsored sleep out, is back and this year and we want it to be bigger and better than ever! On Friday 23rd March you can sleep out under the stars at Leicestershire County Cricket Club to raise money for Action Homeless. You can enter as an individual or as a team.

To enter please contact Jonathan Cryer on 0116 221 1851 or email jonathancryer@actionhomeless.org.uk

Down Not Out Launch

Down Not Out, our new community media agency will be launched on 31st January 2012 as part of Poverty and Homelessness Week. This new project, a partnership between Action Homeless and Citizens Eye, is supported by the Big Lottery Fund and will see the creation of employment and volunteering opportunities for homeless people. Join us at Coffee Republic on Granby Street on January 31st at 9.30am to celebrate the launch and to find out more about Down Not Out.

Winter Appeal 2011/12

Our Winter Appeal has had a great start with donations so far totalling over £8,000. We would like to say a special thank you to Caterpillar Desford who kick started our appeal with a donation of £5000 back in early December. Money raised through the appeal will allow us to continue providing extra emergency beds at Mayfield House that have been in operation since 1 November 2011.

Vulnerable Housing Journey

Back in November, Reverend Tim Blewett undertook a week long journey through the vulnerable housing system. Having slept rough for four nights the previous year to raise awareness, Tim wanted to experience the next stage of the homeless system. He started off his week with a stay at Mayfield House before moving to The Hollies and ending his week working with Action Trust and staying with an ex resident of Action Homeless in order to experience a typical move on flat.

The Green Light Project

We are pleased to announce that The Green Light Project, a partnership between Action Homeless and Apex Works is now up and running. The project aims to give service users a route to independence through work placements and training. With a dedicated Employment Advisor based at Engage, our service users can now book one to one appointments and attend weekly drop-in sessions where they can gain advice and support on employment and training.



Read more about Tim's journey on our website. Don't forget to follow us on twitter and visit our facebook page!