

ReadiStreet

Volunteer Role

Thank you for your interest in becoming a volunteer with **FAITH**.

When & where:-

On four nights per week **Tuesday through Friday** we have a Soup Run which involves a team taking out hot drinks and sandwiches to a set location. The **Soup Runs** take place on **Dusseldorf Way** (Hosier Street), the turning by **Pavlov's Dog**, near the old Civic Centre.

The team meets at our office at 7.30 pm, prepares the water flasks and other items needed for the evening, prays together and then goes to the site.

On **Sundays** we currently use a catering trailer from which we are able to serve hot drinks and provide a better selection of food, including fruit.

Each Sunday a couple of people go to our **warehouse** to prep the trailer at 4.30. The Tea Bar is then towed to the St. Mary's Butts end of Hosier Street. The rest of the team meet up there.

Teams

We have some volunteers who go out every week. Others do fortnightly or even monthly. Usually you will attach yourself to the same team so that you regularly go out with the same group of people. Some evenings are covered by teams made up of people from the same church. Other teams are a complete mix of people. A few of our volunteers are non-churched.

Signing up

We need you to complete an **application form** as soon as possible and return together with a head and shoulders photo of yourself (better still this can be emailed to us as a digital image).

Training

We are currently not offering training sessions. However we expect you to have read our **manual** which explains the **processes** and inherent **dangers** in detail. Also of course you will learn from observing more experienced team members and staff and take their advice. First Aid training can be arranged if you would like that. Many sessions will have a staff member present.

Legal Liability

It is vital that we provide a service which is safe, both for you and the people we serve. You are covered by our Public Liability Insurance whilst volunteering for us. However failure to comply with our safety guidelines could invalidate that insurance. We cannot for instance allow anyone under 18 to be part of a team, unless a disclaimer is signed by their parent or guardian who promises to be with them and take responsibility for them.



ReadiStreet
Feeding the Poor and Homeless

readistreet@fcg.org.uk

31-33 Boulton Road, Reading, RG2 0NH 0118 9872672

Registered Charity number 1057536

FAITH
Christian Group
Working with the Homeless and Poor of Reading

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ReadiStreet

Clothing

When out on the street we are requested by the Police to wear recognisable clothing. There is a range of clothing with the FAITH logo available, free or for an 'at cost' donation. We also have Hi Viz waistcoats which can be worn over other garments. Please ensure that the whole team wear them.

Staff

Staff members endeavour to be with volunteer teams on a regular basis, i.e. probably once a fortnight. Their instructions must be followed at all times.

Press & Media

From time to time the plight of our 'clients' hits the news. As someone concerned for their needs it would be understandable that you might want to comment or get involved in debate. We ask you to resist that temptation because almost certainly you will disclose that you work for us as a volunteer and then run the danger of being quoted as our representative. This has happened and caused serious difficulties for us with the local authority and the police.

Recruitment

Our most effective form of recruitment is you. Personal recommendation or invitation is the way in which most volunteers have joined us. If you begin to enjoy working with us do invite others but do also insist that they take a welcome pack as soon as possible.

Communication

We really want, and need, to stay in touch. If you have an **email address** and **mobile phone number**, do make sure that you let us have them so that we can stay in touch. Do also feel free to feed back to us any concerns or suggestions.

And finally

We are wanting to provide friendship and care for people just as much as the food itself. We do what we do as a response to the **compassion** that Jesus, by the Holy Spirit, has put in us. This is not about "Good Works" but rather about our desire to see the Kingdom of God expressed and outworked among those whom society tends to despise.

Should you not be a Christian, do not be put off.

You are very, very welcome to join us.

I hope that you will find working with us very rewarding and know that God will bless you.



Malcolm Peirce

Executive Director

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