



WELCOME TO 2024

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With January almost behind us already, we wanted to reach out and keep you in the loop with what has and will be happening across BCM during 2024. It's always worthwhile to celebrate our successes but also listen and question where can we do more for each other and our service users.

This newsletter is very much an interim as we assess how is the best way to get regular accessible updates out to everyone. We will endeavour to keep you posted on both what you need and what you want to hear from across our teams.

CEO'S UPDATE

By Nicky Conway

As we begin 2024 I am pleased to launch BCM's new strategic plan 2024-27 which was shaped by feedback from our staff, volunteers, congregation, Board members and external stakeholders and will provide direction for our work over the next 3 years.

As you can see our Mission statement has been changed to reflect our purpose of supporting people at their point of need at whatever stage in their lives.

(Continued overleaf)



STRATEGY AND VALUES LAUNCH

Our values of Respect, Integrity, being Person-Centred and Excellence remain unchanged and provide a framework for how we work. We have identified 3 strategic priorities of

1. Excellence in our delivery,
2. Excellence in our organisation
3. Excellence in sustainability.

These priorities will be broken down into more detailed and measurable initiatives and I will share more details in the coming months however in the meantime thank you for all of your hard work and dedication and I look forward to meeting with you at the forthcoming 'CEO roadshows'!



Superintendent's Update

After the busy-ness of December, including a Christmas Toy appeal that helped more families than ever before, (over 5000 – 20% up on last year!), the first month of the new year has flashed by. New Year traditionally prompts people to make various resolutions, which some of us are better at keeping than others.

BCM's new strategic plan is essentially our new year's resolution, not just for 2024, but taking us up to 2027 and the Board are committed to do all that we can to achieve it. It includes a radical review of Object 1 of our governing document, that is "the religious bit", a key part of which is looking at the role of Superintendent in the future.

Currently the Superintendent is formally described as "an Office Bearer of the Mission... with responsibility for objective one of Belfast Central Mission (the promotion of the Christian Religion), the pastoral well being of staff and service users of the Mission and its compliance with the values, ethos and regulations of the Methodist Church in Ireland." (Continued Overleaf)



Rev David Campton

A small working party has already been working on a this under the chairmanship of board member Rev. Stephen Sheerin, and will report to the wider board soon. But one of the most encouraging aspects of the recent strategic review, was the desire for “compassion” to be right at the heart of everything we do. That is a value that has characterised the work of the mission since its foundation by the Methodist Church in 1889, and continues to be embodied in you, its staff, volunteers and supporters.

Thank you, on behalf of all the people who are helped that their point of need by our services, for all that you continue to do in pursuit of our wider strategic aims.

STAFF AND VOLUNTEER NEWS



We were delighted to receive our renewed Investing in Volunteers award before Christmas. Well done to all staff and volunteers involved.

We also have recently celebrated some milestones, with Nicky McConnell, Julie Gordon and Maureen White all having completed 25 years of service to BCM.

If you would like to recognize a colleague or an achievement, please do get in touch via the email below.

CAMPAIGNS AND FUNDRAISING

Our fundraising and campaigning work this year will centre around two main strands. Firstly, our development at Copelands is by no means finished, and we will be getting a new phase of fundraising underway soon to deliver enhancements to our services that will define Copelands as a market-leader in residential care for Northern Ireland.

We have also embarked on a partnership with the Trussell Trust, and will be hosting a hybrid post for two years. The person will be representing four Belfast foodbanks, but will connect into our own work as well. Through this we hope to gain real insights into root causes of poverty, and support local campaigns to combat the issues at the source.

If you would be interested in getting involved in a fundraising panel, get in touch by the email below. We will be running some form of sponsored challenge event to headline Summer 2024.



Want to share some good news from your team or department? Get in touch by emailing airwin@belfastcentralmission.org or tel **07706352905**