

# Good News Family Care



— *there for the family*

## PROSPECTUS 2010



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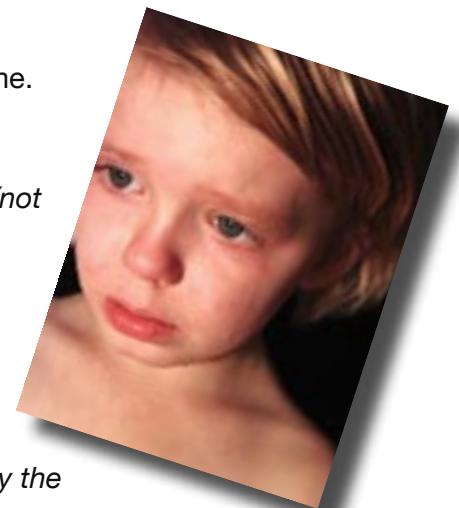
## The oldest institution in world history is under seige...

# Facts on the Family

- More than 40% of marriages end in divorce. The number of divorces granted in England and Wales in 2004 was 153,399. More than half of these couples had at least one child aged under 16
- The median duration of marriages ending in divorce is a little over 11 years. The average cohabitation relationship (not ending in marriage) is a mere 39 months.



- One in four single women aged 18 - 49 are living with a man to whom they are not married
- In 1972 6% of British children were raised by single mothers. Today the figure is closer to 22%
- Britain has the highest rate of teenage pregnancies in Europe. In 2002 legally induced abortions were carried out on 3,514 girls aged 15 or under (nearly 1,000 were aged 14 or younger)
- The percentage of births outside marriage continues to rise. In 2004, 42.2 per cent of births were outside marriage, up from 41.4 in 2003
- 5,000 children every week suffer a broken home. 4,000 children call Childline every day.
- A child whose mother is living with a partner (*not the child's father*) is 33 times more likely to be exposed to abuse than a child living with its natural parents who are married.
- Every day, in 2004, more than 500 legally induced abortions were carried out in England and Wales - a total of 185,400 (82% funded by the NHS)
- In December 2004 around 100,000 people were living in temporary accommodation. Family breakup was cited as the main cause.
- In 2007 family breakdown was estimated to cost the British taxpayer a staggering £24 billion annually.



# Family Matters

“Strong communities revolve around strong families”

Tony Blair

“Strong families are the building blocks of strong communities and key to tackling anti-social behaviour”

Home Office Minister Beverley Hughes



“The breakdown of family life damages the fabric of our society.”

Jack Straw

## WHO ARE WE?

Good News Family Care was founded in 1989 as a ministry of *Good News Church*, Whaley Bridge. We aim to encourage a return to Christian



family values and to provide a 'safety-net' for families in crisis.

### DEDICATED STAFF

Good News Family Care is managed and staffed by a team of committed Christians who have a desire to share God's love in the community.



*Nativity play - Buxton nursery*

For us, working at Charis House is not 'just a job' - it's a way of life!

The nurseries and pre-school centres are registered with the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) and have received very positive Ofsted reports.

Like former Prime Minister Tony Blair, we believe that "Strong communities revolve around strong families". At *Good News Family Care* we are determined to play our part in protecting, fostering and empowering Britain's families.

We know, from our own experience as parents, that family life can be very demanding - and that there are times when a little practical help is welcome. We aim to provide that help.

In 1994, Good News Family Care became a registered charity and in June the following year we opened our residential family centre and day nursery in Buxton.

At Charis House we offer help and support to families in crisis. We encourage traditional family values, responsible parenting and positive social attitudes. We do all we can to strengthen family bonds and to encourage a sense of trust, friendship and social responsibility.

We also provide opportunities for skills training at our smallholding in the Goyt Valley and at Charis House in Buxton.



Our door is open to all families — whatever their problems and regardless of race or religion.

### FUNDING

Not all clients qualify for state funding, of course, but we have never seen this as a reason to turn anyone away. The inevitable shortfall this policy creates is made up by the generosity of our supporters: churches, Christian organisations, trusts and individuals.



*entrance to 'The Farm' - our smallholding in the Goyt Valley*

# Good News Family Care

...because sometimes families may need a little help

Family life - as any parent will tell you - is rarely a matter of 'plain sailing'. Sooner or later problems arise. In most cases these can be resolved within the family unit; but for some the problems are of such magnitude, or so deeply rooted, that they are unable to cope alone.

A family in crisis may only need a 'breathing space' to sort themselves out. For others a period of intensive support may be called for. In *all* cases a little love and practical help is usually very welcome. No matter what level of support is called for we try to provide it.

We offer supported accommodation in pleasantly furnished rooms and support in key areas.



## Charis House

We are deeply indebted to *Derbyshire County Council* who provided Charis House (pictured above) on a 'peppercorn' lease until we were in a position to purchase the property.



An informal setting, relaxed atmosphere and good, solid information help to make our Parenting Courses a popular feature of life at Charis House

## COURSES AND PERSONAL SUPPORT

In our experience no two families are alike, that is why we offer a broad range of help and support:

- Personal Problems

## HELP WITH...

- Housing-related support
- Budgeting
- Job-Seeking
- Home Management
- Cooking/Healthy Eating
- Personal Growth
- Health and Wellbeing
- Further Education
- Smoking cessation

On-going support available for ex-residents.

## ALSO AVAILABLE

### Introducing Christianity

- Alpha Courses
- Fellowship meetings
- Nurture and Discipleship Groups
- Women's groups

### Leisure Activities

- Activity Groups
- Drop-in group
- Television lounges
- Day trips
- Children's activities

- Relationships and Marriage
- Parenting and Self-Esteem
- Pregnancy Advice
- Post-Natal Depression support
- Drug/Alcohol Dependency Recovery

# FAMILY CENTRE

## Services · Funding · Referral · Eligibility

**W**orking in partnership with Social Services, Health and other agencies, Good News Family Care offers the following services:

- 24 hour cover ('on call' system 11:00 pm and 8:00 am)
- Care Team support, incorporating keyworker system
- Support Plans (*in consultation with client and other agencies*)
- Family Support Workers
- Assessment of parenting skills
- Participation in case conference, core group and planning meetings
- Registered Day Nursery with Baby Unit and Early Years Education Unit
- Parenting Courses - "Lives in Your Hands" (*basic parenting skills course devised by a psychologist*).
- Family Caring Trust Courses: "0-5's", "5-15's" & "Parenting Teenagers")
- Positive Parenting
- Self Esteem Course
- Personal Counselling
- Training Skills Projects
- Help with: Housing, budgeting, job-seeking, home management, cooking and healthy eating, personal development, health and well-being, further education.
- Leisure activities
- Support groups; 12-Steps plus Relapse Prevention

### Funding

Funding normally is obtained via a combination of Housing Benefit rent, Supporting People funding and the client paying food and service charges from Income Support.

Whilst every attempt is made to assist the client in applying for these benefits, these payments must be underwritten by the referring agency should the client be ineligible or default. (We have a direct payment system which can be implemented if this should occur).

Services are subsidised by charitable donations from our supporters. Nursery and Childcare fees are chargeable, and must be underwritten by the referring agency. Further charges may be made to the referring agency if a client requires a high level of support or assessment.

### Referring Potential Clients

Our services are offered to people from all backgrounds - regardless of age, ability, nationality, race, sexual orientation or religion. Families who



need help can approach us directly or they can be referred by a third party - such as a Voluntary or Statutory Agency, General Practitioner, Health or Social Worker, Probation Officer, Christian Organisation or Church. We also consider referrals of single and expectant mothers and, in exceptional circumstances, women with no children.

Each referral is carefully assessed by our Care Panel who decide whether or not our facilities and resources are able to meet the particular needs of the parents and children.

### Eligibility Criteria

Women and their children are eligible for our accommodation if they:

- are homeless
- need safe accommodation due to risk of domestic violence/abuse
- need support due to learning difficulties
- need support with their parenting skills
- are a vulnerable young person
- meet the requirements of our referral process
- agree to the terms and conditions of the licence agreement
- recognise that they need support

### We accept

- women from the age of 16
- Girls with their mothers
- boys up to the age of 10, with their mothers (*we will consider boys up to the age of 12 on an individual basis*)

### Exceptions

- We do not accept pets
- We do not accept boys over the age of 12
- We do not accept women who are using non-prescribed substances
- We do not accept women who are on a methadone programme
- We do not accept women who are dependent upon alcohol.

*NB: Prospective service users from Derbyshire take priority over 'out of area' referrals. Each application is assessed in accordance with our Fair Access and Non-discriminatory Policy and based on priority of need.*

Referral form can be downloaded from:

[www.gnfc.org.uk/referrals/referral.html](http://www.gnfc.org.uk/referrals/referral.html)

### What is freedom2live ?

**freedom2live** is a community initiative operated by **Good News Family Care** with the support of local specialist services. It provides opportunities for a *change of lifestyle* for clients who are committed to overcoming life-controlling substance misuse. Working towards common goals in partnership with statutory agencies, our doors are open to all—regardless of race or religion. We encourage traditional family values, positive parenting and responsible social attitudes.



*a resource for those who are struggling with life-controlling dependencies*

### Courses

A range of courses are available to residents and day clients.

- Recovery Programme
- Self-Esteem
- Relationships
- Parenting courses
- Budgeting

### Skills Training

Our farm project is situated on a smallholding in the Goyt Valley. Participant 'ownership' is the key to its success, so clients are encouraged to become involved with planning activities which include:

- *poultry rearing*
- *woodland management*
- *drystone walling*
- *fence building/maintenance*
- *conservation*
- *horticulture*
- *livestock management*



Clients are able to participate in Training Courses for many of the activities.

We also have plans to offer training in the use of industrial sewing machines and overlockers etc, garment and soft furnishings manufacture.

### Woodwork Project

The *Creative Woodwork Project* provides training for clients in basic woodworking skills. Emphasis is placed on discipline, time-keeping and working safely.

Links are being made with training bodies and we aim to establish a programme that will provide clients with a *Level of Achievement* award as they reach required standards.

At *Level 1*, clients are limited to working with 'hand tools'. As they reach greater levels of skill they can progress to *Level 2* where they will be able to complete a project they have designed and made - such as a small piece of furniture or a wood-carving.

Clients who show aptitude progress



to *Level 3* where they can construct items from scratch and engage in repair and restoration work.

The aim is to provide meaningful, therapeutic activities and to encourage greater self confidence and self esteem.



### Funding

Funding is normally obtained by a combination of Housing Benefit and the client paying their own food and service charges from Income Support.

For more information please call 01298 24761 or visit the freedom2live website at: [www.freedom2live.org.uk](http://www.freedom2live.org.uk)

### What can freedom2live offer?

**Residential support for mothers**  
*(with children when appropriate)*

**A structured day programme which includes:**

a course for recovery from substance misuse

individual planning and monitoring sessions

group sessions for motivation and mutual encouragement

**We aim to foster:**

...a sense of belonging and individual identity in an open, non-judgmental atmosphere.

...an *empowering* environment in which each client's physical, emotional, spiritual and psychological needs are met, and their *true potential* reached.

### Core Values

We believe that every individual has the right to :

- dignity
- equality
- respect
- individuality
- love
- confidentiality
- compassion
- security
- protection





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