



IT'S GOOD FOR  
THE PEOPLE

well  
together

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“ Just being able to eat something in the morning is good - when you haven't eaten anything, like for days. It gives me a safe place to be when I don't have anywhere to be in the mornings, cause I've been on and off homeless for the past 2 1/2 years. It's easy to get stuck in the mornings and not be able to eat, and it gave me energy to be able to get through the day and be able to look for more possibilities for my day.

It's nice to be able to interact with the staff as well. To be able to know that there's somewhere that you can come on certain days and just, you know, get a bit of energy when you don't have any energy. I think, to have other people around as well to meet up with, who are in similar situation is quite good for the community. I think it's definitely helped a lot of other people who don't have many friends to come here to interact. It's helped me a lot.

I just wouldn't have been homed if it wasn't for this place, I don't think. If I wouldn't have been able to come here, I wouldn't have had the referral because it's quite difficult to get through to them, when you're homeless because of internet and we can't get to a phone. So they gave me a phone with six months free credit, which is nice as well. So that's helped me out. It's opened up lots of pathways on to better things.

I think the people with the funds that they have here, they do a very good job. If it wasn't here, I think town, in general, would be a little bit all over the place because people wouldn't have anywhere to come and people would be hanging around in areas in town. In other places - in the cities and in other towns, there is other things going on, isn't there? Like in the cities especially, there's a lot more going on, but this is kind of one of the only organisations where you can come and not have to sign up. You just come and it's kind of open to everybody. You don't really get much trouble in there. It's kind of quite laid back. People look after each other, so that's good. It's good for the people.

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*To help us understand the impact of Well Together, for organisers and attendees of funded activities, we have used storytelling as a component of our evaluation framework. Storytelling is an approach based on the Most Significant Change technique that has been used by the Old Fire Station since 2017, who now offer training and support to partners across Oxfordshire.*

*The Well Together stories are being gathered from organisers volunteering or working for a range of groups and organisations, and from the people who take part in the activities provided by groups. They are being collected in 2025 by the Well Together programme team who have been trained as story collectors.*

*By telling their stories, participants taking part in this approach, have the chance to reflect on what has changed for them through their involvement in providing activities and / or participating in them. How has it affected their life? Why has it been important to them?*

*The stories were recorded, transcribed and then edited down to two pages each - aiming to use the teller's own words, retaining their "voice" and reflecting the teller's insights into the impacts and the significance for them.*

*For more information about this methodology, and to read stories collected from a range of other projects visit the Old Fire Station's website dedicated to this approach:  
[Storytelling: Human-friendly evaluation](#)*

*With thanks to our story tellers*

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