

APPENDIX 2

Bower House Christian Counselling Service Report

Jadz reported that there is a wealth of different talents in people who serve the community of Market Harborough.

There are 47 counsellors and 32 support workers at the moment with a capacity to see 180 clients and at the moment there are 35 new clients so see on top of this each month. There are more and more referrals from the doctors in town and the Bower House is utilising all its capacity to see as many of these as is possible.

Thanks were expressed to the Churches Together in Harborough as it was reported that without the extra funding and supportive prayers it would be a further struggle.

Jadz commented that although there are different issues in this country and different suffering from what we saw in the Christian Aid publicity earlier in this Forum in Bangladesh, there is a 'flood' of people coming through the doors at the Bower House and extra support is needed if they are to continue to meet the demand.

An example of such support was last year when the boiler broke down but after raising the matter at CTH money had come in for replacement of the boiler. A constant 'drip-feeding' of finance is enabling the counselling service to continue but our challenge is to establish regular predictable income

Sex & Pornography Training is to be held at the Bower House later in the month. This is to help equip counsellors address people with problems in today's society.

Supervision is a requirement for all counsellors on a monthly basis. In order to accommodate all the counsellors in the service we need to train more supervisors. A training course is planned for this summer and Autumn to meet this need

Jadz commented that the importance of the work is not just to see people grow, develop and get stronger, but also to see people being more able to cope.

Jadz asked for prayers for existing staff who help at the Bower House as there are a number who are experiencing personal illness, family issues and also bereavements.