

Bower House report for Churches Together.

Many thanks for your ongoing support of the Bower House.

2019 was a busy year with increasing numbers of clients. We are really grateful for the work of our wonderful team of support workers and counsellors.

In 2019, we were 20 years old. We have enjoyed celebrating this and giving thanks for God's goodness to the service and ultimately to people who are struggling in Market Harborough and district. We now look to a new year in trust for God's ongoing presence and blessing.

We seek to remain aware of what the needs are of the community of Market Harborough and district. Concerns for the well-being of children and young people have been very much in the national awareness. As a charity, we recognise the growing mental health concerns for children and young people locally. To equip the service, our sister charity, Bower House Support Services ran successful a course for qualified counsellors to train further in working with children and young people, which finished in November 2019. Many children have now benefitted from counselling at the BH and we continue to offer support.

As a charity, our financial future has often been uncertain, meeting the £1000 a week it costs to run the service. In 2019 we were fortunate to receive support from various groups and organisations and individual clients. We are mindful of our need to continue to seek further support and hope in 2020 to build up our Friends of the Bower House Community, who commit to regular giving. We aim to meet with them as a group during the year and to include them in some of the Bower House events as well. We would value your prayers as we seek ways to develop the Friends of the Bower House group.

Our building project is ongoing, which we hope will allow equal access to the premises and increase counselling space. In his graciousness, when we needed an architect and project manager to help us think this through, God brought just these people as support workers into the service. Building plans have now been drawn up and we are in the consultation process. We would value your prayers for resources required to continue with this project.

We value and thank you for your ongoing prayers for us.