



**June 2025**

This month, after the launch of Bristol Thriving Communities report, we've been reflecting on what it means for the Church to be truly woven into the fabric of our communities – socially, emotionally, and spiritually. Churches are not simply delivering programmes, but offering presence. Through simple acts; sharing tea, building trust, opening doors, they are becoming places not just of worship, but of welcome.

What strikes us most is not the scale of activity, but the spirit behind it: work that is local, generous, and deeply collaborative. It shows us that real transformation rarely comes through quick fixes, but through shared faithfulness and steady care. This is the body of Christ in action.

This same spirit shapes one of our key areas of work, helping churches engage with Family Hubs. We're delighted to be launching our new **online Family Hubs Toolkit** this month. It offers a foundation for churches and local authorities to grow in mutual understanding, foster trust, and explore meaningful ways of working together to support families with care, compassion, and shared purpose.

As summer unfolds, may we continue to offer our hands, our spaces, and our prayers, trusting that God is already at work among us, bringing a lasting change.

Blessings,

Ellie and the ChurchWorks team

## **Family Hubs**

### **ChurchWorks Family Hubs Toolkit Launch Event**

**Tuesday 24th June, 2-3:30 pm, Online on  
Zoom**

One of ChurchWorks' key aims over the last 3 years has been exploring

opportunities for the church to be involved in the future of Family Hubs, whether through support, co-delivery or co-location.

We are delighted to have worked collaboratively with ChurchWorks partners Spurgeons and the Gather Movement to produce an online Family Hubs toolkit. The toolkit will equip both Local Authorities and churches with an understanding of one another's assets, a shared language and vision, and next steps for collaboration. We hope to make a case for the important role that faith groups play in local communities, and therefore why Local Authorities should consider partnering with them on Family Hubs. The toolkit also provides clear next steps for churches to take in building and navigating relationships with local authorities. At our online launch, we will celebrate the production of this resource, share more of its content and outline plans for the distribution of the toolkit.



[Sign up here!](#)

## Wellbeing

### **Report finds 420+ church-led projects supporting vulnerable people in Bristol**

The Bristol Thriving Communities report, released on 28th May by Good Faith Partnership and Christian Action Bristol, analysed 195 churches in the city, finding 427 individual church-led social transformation projects ranging from support for children, mental health and wellbeing provision, to providing community cafes and support to those in food insecurity.



This report builds upon the Bristol Churches Covid Recovery Report, published by Good Faith Partnership in 2022, which identified an increased appetite of churches to collectively address city-wide issues following the pandemic.

Recommendations to overcome these barriers were co-designed with church leaders in a [workshop](#) to inform the priorities of the Bristol Thriving Communities team moving forward. These practical next steps include: developing models of economic redistribution to target areas of greatest need, stronger local coordination to encourage collaboration and overcome human resource constraints, and creating more opportunities for churches [to engage](#) as a strategic delivery partner with Bristol City Council in tackling key city challenges.

For further information, please contact Alisha Cole using [alisha.cole@goodfaith.org.uk](mailto:alisha.cole@goodfaith.org.uk)



# Church Works



## Accelerate Wellbeing Workshop: Maintaining a Christian Identity

**Jon Kuhrt**

In this Accelerate Wellbeing workshop, Jon Kuhrt (CEO of Hope into Action) explores how to sustain a Christian ethos and communicate this effectively with fundraisers. He also draws on his previous experience at the Shaftesbury Society, West London Mission and as a government adviser.

Jon mentions this ChurchWorks workshop in his recent blog:

[What does a 'quiet revival' mean for social action?](#)

## Partner Resources



**Christian  
Community Hub  
Movement**

### **Christian Community Hubs Movement Online Pre-Launch**

Christian led community hubs are springing up all over the UK, with

churches using their facilities as hubs to bring local people together – providing encouragement and support in many different ways, and bringing the church into the heart of local communities. They are places where Christian community can come to life and bring hope to whole neighbourhoods.

The newly formed Christian Community Hub Movement is bringing together hubs from all over the UK, to share resources and training, enable local networks and peer support, offer guidance from leading practitioners, and opportunities for everyone to share their story.

The Christian Community Hub Movement has a vision to see a church-led community hub in every part of the country, filled with the life and love of Jesus, within 15 minutes walking distance of every home. We'd love you to join in.

An in-person conference is being planned for November, but this pre-launch will provide a taste of what's to come! To find out more see

[www.christiancommunityhubs.uk](http://www.christiancommunityhubs.uk)

[Get your tickets here](#)



## Sanctuary Youth Series

Mental health challenges in youth are prevalent and on the rise: depression and anxiety among young people doubled since the pandemic in the US. One in five young people in the UK will

experience a mental health challenge. Over 1.5 million youth in Canada live with a mental health challenge.

We believe there is a vital need for youth to be able to talk about mental health and receive support and companionship in their faith communities. Barna's latest research, [The Open Generation Report](#), reveals that mental health is one of the greatest concerns for young people, and that they want to attend churches that prioritize this issue. [Springtide Research Institute](#)—a sociological research institute in the United States solely dedicated to young people ages thirteen to twenty-five—reports similar findings: **"mental health, it turns out, is the biggest issue to address in order to do ministry that matters for young people."**

At Sanctuary, our hope is that the next generation will experience the Church as a supportive place, and that youth ministry leaders, parents/caregivers, and youth will all be equipped to have conversations about mental health. This is why we have developed *The Sanctuary Youth Series*.

[Get your tickets here](#)



## Gather and Grow: Seniors Ministry Forum (in Partnership with London City Mission)

**7 June @ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm**

This in-person forum, jointly hosted by Faith in Later Life and London City Mission, provides a unique opportunity for church leaders, seniors

workers and their teams to come together, share ideas and insights, and explore innovative ways to serve and disciple the older generations. Delve into the rich ministry of ministering to older adults and renew your vision to make a lasting impact in your area.

[Click here for more information](#)

# We Want to Hear From You!

**ChurchWorks wants to hear from you!** Whether you've attended an event, followed our work, or engaged with us in any way, your feedback helps us reflect on our work. Please take a moment to share your thoughts— thank you!

Share your experience with us



Follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn & X to keep up to date with our work!

If you're subscribed to our newsletter, you are officially part of the ChurchWorks community!

If you're a local church this gives you access to:

- Monthly newsletters with jam packed content (like this one)
- Reflections and blogs from the ChurchWorks team
- Stories of impact from churches around the country
- Information about upcoming in-person and online events
- Updates and resources from our partner organisations

**Did you know that being a subscriber also gives you access to a free 30 min consultation call with one of the ChurchWorks team?**

Whether you want to hear more about one of our mission areas, find out how you can connect more with your Local Authority or share a story of impact, we'd love to hear from you.

[Get in touch](#) to arrange a call.

Thank you so much for journeying with us as we seek to make a difference within communities by building connection in our churches. If you have any questions or feedback, please do get in touch by emailing [info@churchworks.org.uk](mailto:info@churchworks.org.uk).

The ChurchWorks Team



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