

Newsletter

April 2023



The One Bromley Winter Homeless Healthcare clinic has won the 'Innovation Helping Address Health Inequalities Award' at the 2022 National Innovate Awards.

Bromley GP Alliance began running the Homeless Winter clinics in December 2019 in partnership with Bromley Homeless, to address health inequalities amongst the homeless and rough sleeping population in Bromley.

The clinics offer a range of treatments including vaccinations, mental health support and treatment for drug and alcohol dependency. Bromley Homeless host the service from our offices at the URC on Widmore Road, and we're delighted that the service has received funding for 3 years to provide a full-time nurse practitioner and a Care Coordinator. Rough sleepers and the homeless suffer real barriers to health access, and typically we see clients with complex or chronic health needs, where prompt treatment is essential.

As part of our continued commitment to supporting the homeless in the Bromley Community, we are looking for a Community Engagement and Fundraising Officer. This newly developed role will play an integral role in building relationships with our local community (schools, church groups, community clubs and many more) to increase awareness of what we do and the challenges our clients face. The individual will also be responsible for helping to raise vital funds for our charity. So any experience of charity fundraising would be beneficial.

It's a part-time/flexible role working as part of a multi-disciplinary team. So if you're looking for a new and rewarding challenge, please visit bromleyhomeless.org or contact Tarinee.Pandey@bromleyhomeless.org for more information.



There's a lot of contradictory and confusing information out there about housing and homelessness. If you want to know more but are unsure of where to start, you may want to read **Tenants** by **Vicky Spratt**. In this 2022 release she outlines the gap between the housing winners and losers, how it doesn't take much to end up homeless and why it's a trap many fall into. A word of warning, it is likely to make you angry at the unfairness laid bare!

You can find a review [here](#)



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It feels like a distant, slightly chilly, memory but our Sleep Out in October last year was a great success! There were 22 brilliant fundraisers who braved the autumn weather to sleep outside for a genuinely life-changing cause. They raised over £15,000 in sponsorship from friends, colleagues and family, which is a tremendous amount of money. Additional donations and both raffle ticket and entry ticket sales meant we raised even more in total. All of which has been put to good use helping those in the local community who needed our support over those cold winter nights when we were all safe and warm in our homes.

We also had amazing support from the local community, with many of you pitching in to help organise things. In particular we'd like to thank [Tamasha](#) in Bromley for the wonderful food they provided, and [Bromley Parish Church](#) for their hospitality and support.

We're still some way off the 2023 Sleep Out, which will be in October again to mark World Homeless Day, but we'd love it if we could increase the numbers of people sleeping out with us. You'll hear more from us about it over the summer but please consider giving up one night in your warm, comfy bed to help those who don't have somewhere to call home.

It is an unfortunate fact that many people in the UK don't receive the dental care they need. However for homeless people it's even harder. Without a home address they struggle to register with a dentist, and often live with long-term pain and infections. Sadly, 70 per cent of homeless people have dental problems and 15 per cent have even tried to extract their own teeth. To address that we're partnering with [Dentaid](#) so they can support the homeless in Bromley.

Bromley Homeless has also now secured the services of an optician who works with Kent Association of the Blind. They will be visiting our clinic with their mobile van, to support those who need their services. Another great service which those we support would otherwise not have access to!

