

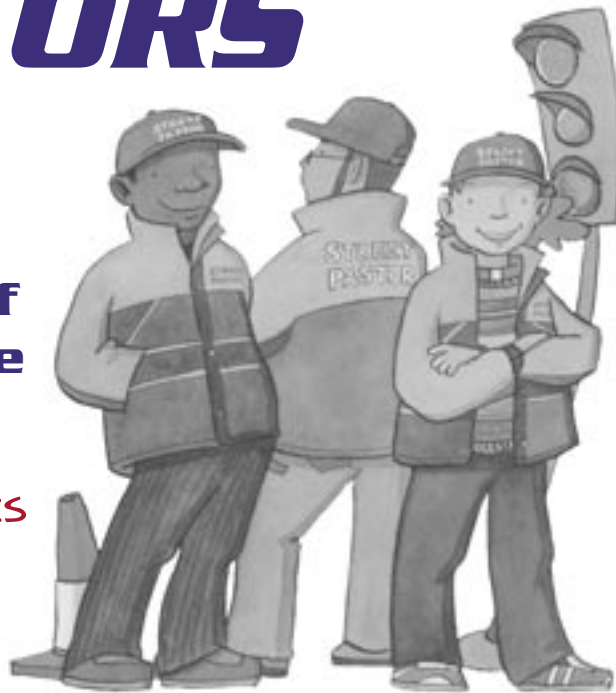
STREET PASTORS

ASCENSION TRUST

Making a positive difference in the lives of young people

The Church in action... on the streets

currently in...
**London
Birmingham
Manchester**



Street Pastors is an inter-denominational Church response to urban problems, engaging with people on the streets to care, listen and dialogue. It was pioneered in London in January 2003 by Rev Les Isaac, Director of the Ascension Trust, and has seen some remarkable results, including drops in crime in areas where teams have been working.

Each city project is set up by Ascension Trust and run by a local coordinator with support from Ascension Trust and local churches and community groups.

To be a Street Pastor you need to be over 18 (no upper age limit), a church member and able to commit to a 12 session training course in three groups of four Saturdays over a year. The course includes subjects such as counselling skills, drugs awareness, sociology, knowing your community, role and responsibility, and street safety.

Each Street Pastor team consists of at least three groups of four, each of which will work a minimum of one night a month, usually from 10pm to around 4am.



WHAT IS A STREET PASTOR?

A Street Pastor is a Church leader/minister or member with a concern for society - in particular young people who feel themselves to be excluded and marginalised - and who is willing to engage people where they are, in terms of their thinking (i.e. their perspective of life) and location (i.e. where they hang out - be it on the streets, in the pubs and clubs or at parties etc).

Street Pastors will also be willing to work with fellow activists, church and community leaders, and with agencies and projects, both statutory and voluntary, to look at collaborative ways of working on issues affecting youth, and initiatives that will build trust between them and the Street Pastors.

As the Street Pastor gets to know people in the community he/she will find out their needs are and what can be done to help. A presence of Street Pastors will earn credibility in the community, so that people know that the Church is there for them in a practical way. The role is not about preaching heaven and hell, but one of listening, caring and helping - working in an unconditional way.

"As a member of the Christian Police Association and a serving officer I not only believe this will assist the police in tackling this problem but will demonstrate real Christian concern and practical support for those who find themselves involved in gangs and gun crime."

Chief Supt. Neil Wain, Greater Manchester Police



"The Council of Black Led Churches ("CBLC") supports the Street Pastors Initiative. It is engaging the Church in a practical way to serve their community where a number of issues are."

Bishop Derek Webley, CBLC

"To believe in change asks of us to embody what we hope for. Street Pastors rise to that challenge"

Marijke Hoek, Network

"There are many young people who feel excluded by society. Street Pastors takes practical hope to the pavement for these individuals."

Joel Edwards, General Director, Evangelical Alliance UK

If you would like to apply to become a Street Pastor, or if you would like to support Street Pastor teams through prayer or give practical help (such as making drinks for the team before they go onto the streets), fill in the form and send it to:

Street Pastors, c/o Ascension Trust, PO Box 3916, London SE19 1QE

For more information or to be put in touch with your nearest project, phone: 0207 771 9770, email: ascensionswjp@yahoo.com, or visit the website at: www.streetpastors.org.uk

The Ascension Trust is a Registered Charity, number 1039580

I am interested in becoming a Street Pastor. Please send me further information.

I would like to support Street Pastors through prayer practical help

I would like a presentation on Street Pastors at my church:.....

Name.....

Address

..... Postcode

Phone Mobile Email

Street Pastor applicants only please also fill in:

Age Church Church Leader's Name

Your Church Leader will be asked for a reference.