



# PLACES OF WELCOME



*Places of Welcome* is a growing network of hospitality run by local community groups who want to make sure that everyone in their area has a place to go for a friendly face, a cup of tea and a conversation if and when they need it.

Developed out of the Birmingham Social Inclusion process 'Giving Hope Changing Lives', *Places of Welcome* responds to the challenge to make our cities and neighbourhoods more welcoming.

*Places of Welcome* is a network of small community organisations, including faith communities, who offer an unconditional welcome to local people for at least a few hours a week.

For more information or to find your nearest  
*Place of Welcome* go to our website

**[www.placesofwelcome.org](http://www.placesofwelcome.org)**

or email us at [info@placesofwelcome.org](mailto:info@placesofwelcome.org)



Each *Place of Welcome* will display this sign, and although they are all slightly different from one another, each is open to everyone and offers:

- Friendship and hospitality;
- Regular opening at the same time each week;
- Free refreshments;
- Local knowledge about the neighbourhood.

The network has developed a set of guiding principles for all *Places of Welcome*, known as the 5P's

- Place:** An accessible and hospitable building, open at the same time every week.
- People:** Open to everyone regardless of their circumstances or situation, and staffed by volunteers.
- Presence:** A place where people actively listen to one another.
- Provision:** Offering free refreshments (at least a cup of tea and a biscuit) and basic local information.
- Participation:** Recognises that every person coming to a *Place of Welcome* will bring talents, experiences and skills that they might be willing to share locally.

Do you have an existing drop-in style activity and would be interested in joining the *Places of Welcome* network?

Do you have a community building and/or volunteers and would be interested in setting up a new *Place of Welcome*?

Are you part of an organisation with links to people who might value connecting with a *Place of Welcome*?

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