

Vision Statement of St. Martin's Centre

The Mission of St Martin's Centre:

As Part of St Martin's Church, St. Martin's Centre shares the same mission:

- To deepen our devotion to God,
- To strengthen our support for one another,
- To widen our sharing of the love of Christ,
- And to uphold the highest standards in all we do.

In practice this means that, as an organisation:

To deepen our devotion to God.

We take the spiritual side of life seriously.

We pray for and with people.

We encourage people to develop their faith by taking the next step towards deeper devotion.

We offer opportunities for Christian worship and discussion of faith issues, tailored to the members needs.

To strengthen our support for one another.

We value everyone equally and show concern for others.

We work to make our caring and helping stronger and more effective.

We try to avoid anything which would undermine hurt or weaken anyone.

We develop relationships which are mutually supportive between us all.

To widen our sharing of the love of Christ.

We develop our potential and practice to include more people and more skills

We are as open as possible to new members and try to increase the number of people helped.

We are inspired and fired by the example of Jesus Christ who loved and still loves all people.

We do not limit our caring to any group or class or kind of people.

To uphold the highest standards in all we do.

We adhere to the legal requirements appropriate to our work, and exceed them.

We treat all those whom we contact with the greatest respect and affection.

We train, support and expect all staff and helpers to the adopt the best possible practices and attitudes.

We endeavour to be leaders in the quality and range of service we provide.

Service Priorities

Integrating People

Within the context of the above statements we will continuously develop, as resources are available, an expanding range of activities that will integrate and be appropriate for both frail and active older people who may feel isolated in society. We include a wide section of the local community in voluntary service, channelling their diverse skills and interests in meaningful activity

to enrich the lives of more frail older people, who remain independent in their own homes with the help of community care agencies. Everyone coming to the Centre therefore gains from being involved.

Core activities

Our work is based around a warm, welcoming and safe weekday facility that provides a place for companionship, support, a nutritious mid-day meal and daily activities. We will develop other projects from this base that will engage, inspire and enrich the lives of all who are involved. Crucially, we will also be responsive to the needs and informed choices of Centre members in the delivery and development of the Centre's services. Pastoral care and support are essential parts of our work at the Centre and, where appropriate, continue through visits to members at hospital and home.

In the Centre

Activities include concerts, visits of local school choirs, development of art based projects, carpet bowls, table top games, quizzes and reminiscence. We also offer occasions for services of Christian worship and prayer with and for people.

Going Out

Events away from the centre include day trips out (e.g. to the seaside), afternoon theatre trips, pub lunches, and bowling on the local green.

Future Aims

Examples of Services that could be developed at the Centre would include Hairdressing, Chiropody, bathing of more frail older people. Future activities could include pool, darts, music and drama art forms, tea dances open to the local community, swimming, regular ventures into town, ten-pin bowling, theatre trips. We could also seek to develop what we do even further by partnership activities with other agencies. We will continue to develop appropriate ways of offering spiritual direction, encouragement and pastoral support to all coming to the Centre. We wish to be innovative as we respond to the needs and aspirations of our members, and provide challenge to investigate unexplored vistas of experience.

Who benefits

As well as helping older people, involvement with the Centre will enhance the lives of younger people not working, students wanting voluntary work and all manner of people seeking meaningful activity and /or therapy through voluntary work (e.g. those recently retired, people on mental health rehabilitation programmes). Protection of vulnerable adults will remain paramount, and safe appointment procedures would be required of all paid and volunteer staff.

Conclusion

All in all, we would like to see St. Martins Centre develop as a lively, welcoming and open section of the community of St. Martins Church, where all manner of people benefit by being involved in providing and receiving meaningful, quality, inspiring and relevant services and activities for older people.