



Our Strategy 2025 - 2028

For over 25 years, the Clock Tower Sanctuary has been a safe space for young people experiencing homelessness in Brighton & Hove.



Last year, we listened to young people, the organisations we work with, donors, corporate partners, staff, volunteers, and trustees. What we heard was clear: our work is valued and vital. Our ability to meet young people where they are is recognised as our expertise and sets us apart. But with a broken housing system, shrinking services, and a soaring cost of living, the challenge is greater than ever.

Here is our NEW strategy to address that challenge over the next three years.

Our Vision



**A city where
ALL young
people have
somewhere
they call home**

**We believe every
young person
deserves a home
they can proudly
call their own - a
home that is safe,
stable, and meets
their unique needs,
and a place where
they can build
independence at
their own pace.**

Our Mission

To provide young people who are homeless in Brighton & Hove with a safe and supportive space to shape their own future.



With the challenges of the welfare system and the cost-of-living crisis, young people are facing the perfect storm.

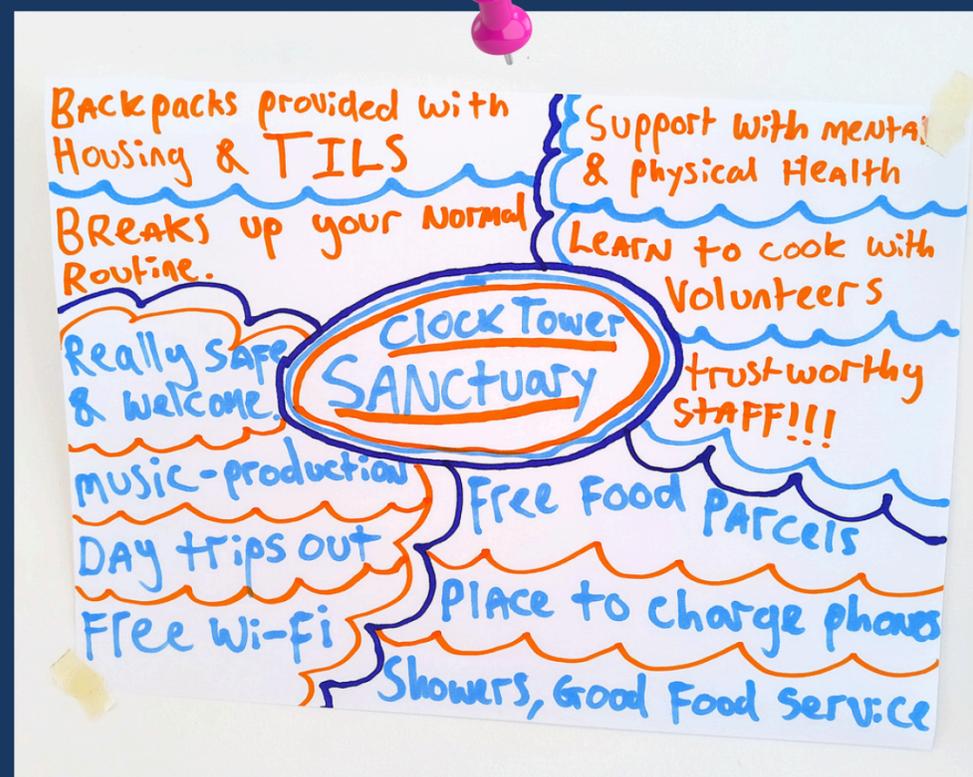
They struggle to access the help they need because the system is too complex, unwelcoming, and often unavailable in ways that work for them.

Why We're Needed

2023-2024

- There was a 12% increase in young people asking local councils for homelessness support in England.
- 1 young person became homeless approximately every 4 minutes in the UK.
- 1 in 62 young people in the UK were estimated to be facing homelessness.

(Source: Youth Homelessness Data Bank via Centrepoint)



"What I love about the Clock Tower Sanctuary is that when you're here you don't feel homeless. When you're here you're just yourself. Then when you go back outside you're homeless."

Our Values



WE Care
Collaborate
Challenge injustice

Our values run through everything we do – they guide how we work together, how we work with our partners, and how we work with young people. They're central to all the decisions we make and how we hold ourselves to account.

Service Delivery

- Young person led
- Trauma informed
- Strength based



It's the little things at Clock Tower too, like one of the volunteers braiding my hair for me so I felt good going to university open days. And then, remembering and celebrating my birthday, and just having someone to talk to.

Young Person

We cook for them. For me, that's a care thing. They might not have done that with a family, but we do that. We sit and eat together.

Volunteer



Our Goals



Young people have the individual support they need to thrive

WE WILL

- **Provide a safe space where our young people can switch off from survival mode.**
- **Meet our young people's basic needs - providing essentials including hot meals, showers, a warm space, somewhere to wash their clothes, a phone to contact their support networks, and paid travel to get to appointments.**
- **Provide one-to-one, trauma-informed, and young-person-led casework and keywork sessions.**
- **Run social, creative, and physical activity sessions to improve our young people's physical and mental health whilst also building relationships.**
- **Have our staff and volunteers be there as a friendly face - someone they can trust and speak to without judgement.**



Without this place I have no idea where I would've ended up right now. Amazing staff, great food, the other youngsters are sound and I was given lots of other things to help me keep my job while sleeping rough with little money.

Currently no longer homeless and working full time. Thank you very much and it's been a pleasure coming here as it's really nice here and all the staff are brilliant. I will miss coming here and I appreciate the staffs hard work.



Young Person



Our Goals

2

**Our services are well known, trusted,
and easy to access**

WE WILL

- Collaborate with other organisations across the city.
- Strengthen our communications with young people.
- Increase accessibility of our services.

“Thank you so much for being such a great great space. I came today with 2 young people and they were so impressed by CTS and loved the food, ideas of activities, and games. It's so great what you all do.”

Partner



Our Goals

3

Young people are at the heart of our decisions and drive meaningful change

WE WILL

- **Create campaigns to raise awareness of young people's experiences of being homeless.**
- **Hold young people led meetings and discussions.**
- **Apply for funding to carry out new projects identified by young people.**
- **Organise sessions for our young people to meet with decision makers.**



"I think my achievement has been the youth voice group because we were able to go to Parliament and talk about homelessness and stuff like that".



Understanding Homelessness

Homelessness can happen to anyone, at any time. It can happen because of the lack of affordable housing, appropriate wages, or the cost-of-living crisis. It can also be triggered by life events such as a relationship breakdown, leaving care, being in an abusive situation or losing your job.

The following are ways in which young people could experience homelessness:

- Rough sleeping
- Sofa surfing
- Squatting
- Sleeping in a vehicle
- Staying in a hostel
- Staying with a host family
- In emergency accommodation
- In supported accommodation
- At risk of homelessness

When we asked the young people we currently support what their hope for the future was, here's what they said:

"self-love"

"independence"

"to have my own business and be my own boss"

"power - the skills and money to... make the world a better place"

"university"

"There is no other service that offers a safe space to go in the day that is there for young people who are homeless"

Partner

The Hidden Crisis

Many people experiencing homelessness don't appear in official statistics. These numbers only count those who have asked for help and meet the legal definitions. But what about those who don't know where to turn, don't feel able to ask for help, or don't meet the strict criteria for support from their local council? The reality is that homelessness is a much bigger issue than the figures suggest.

What our internal and external stakeholders say about us

"Working with CTS has enabled us to assess young people in an environment where they feel safe and they have not had to travel to our offices"

Partner

"The whole space is incredible, I can't speak highly enough of it. If you could replicate it, that would be wonderful."

Volunteer

"The staff at the CTS are really friendly and warm, providing a welcoming environment for clients."

Partner

"you look after me and care but you are teaching me to look after myself."

Young Person

"The team always have a positive approach and are willing to give time to partnership working, including attending meetings/ events"

Partner

"Your kindness and skills in steering young people towards helping themselves lead fulfilling lives is inspiring"

Supporter

"Clocktower Sanctuary is able to meet young people where they are at without any kind of agenda."

Partner

"They've sorted me out loads"

Young Person

"I'm visiting here for like half year now and I can't think of anything more they could help me with. Thank you so much!"

Young Person

"CTS show great care for their clients and have a tangible offer for young people in the city. The team are passionate and professional. The team represent young people at many steering groups and networks. The team are always willing to collaborate and work in partnership."

Partner

"There is no other service that offers a safe space to go in the day that is there for young people who are homeless"

Partner

I find the staff at CTS to be person centered, authentic and reflective practitioners. They hold the clients best interests at the heart of what they do. They are a supportive team to each other, essential for dealing with the increasing complexity of their client base.

Partner

"Struck by how clients share their appreciation - verbally and non-verbally, shows how the org is safeguarding their dignity"

Volunteer

"Claud does an excellent job of keeping us up to date and checking in with us"

Volunteer

"You bring light where there is darkness"

Supporter

The Clocktower offer such a great service and its obvious to me how much each of you pour into everything you do. I think you guys are the best!

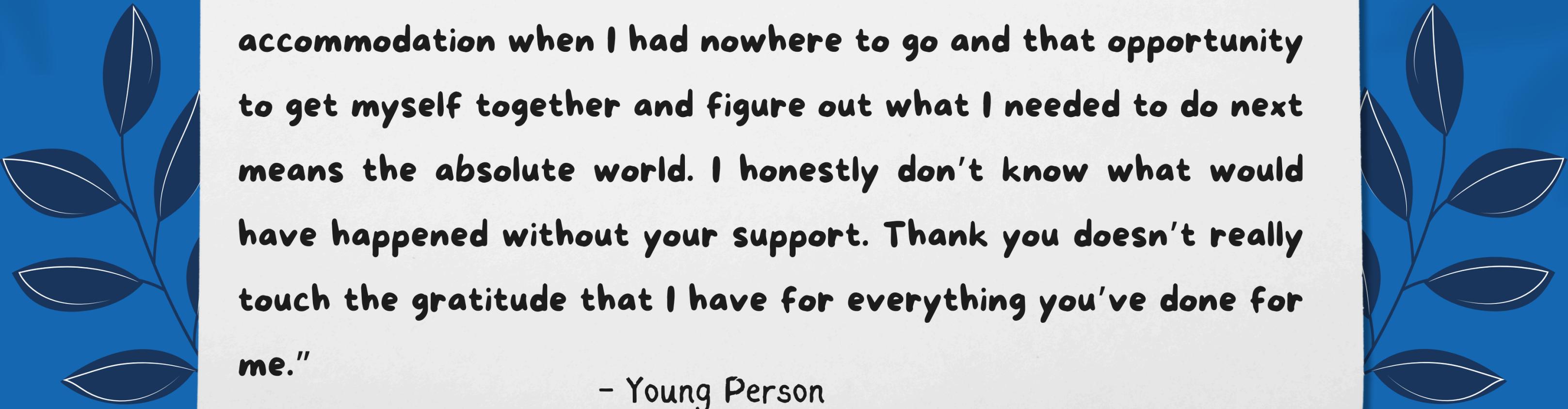
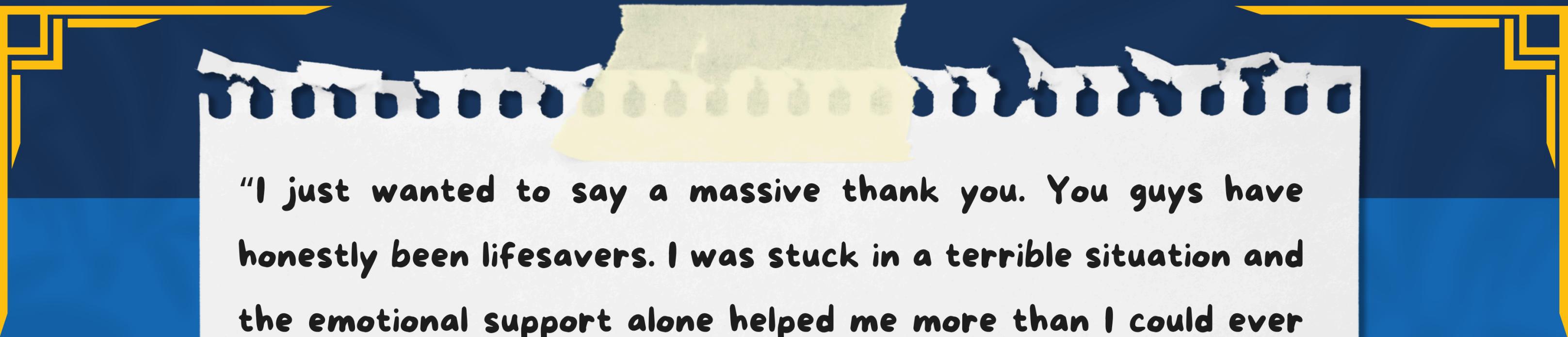
Partner

"Because it doesn't receive statutory funding its able to be really led by the needs of its clients."

Partner

The nurses from the homeless outreach team were very complimentary at how psychologically informed our centre was and look forward to running a drop in here.

Partner



"I just wanted to say a massive thank you. You guys have honestly been lifesavers. I was stuck in a terrible situation and the emotional support alone helped me more than I could ever say. The fact that you guys went as far as getting me accommodation when I had nowhere to go and that opportunity to get myself together and figure out what I needed to do next means the absolute world. I honestly don't know what would have happened without your support. Thank you doesn't really touch the gratitude that I have for everything you've done for me."

- Young Person

Funding our work & how you can help

- Make a one-off, regular, or annual donation [here](#).
- Read our latest Impact Report [here](#), created in collaboration with our young people.
- Get in touch to become a Volunteer [here](#).
- Take part in our events and fundraise [here](#).
- Become a corporate partner of ours [here](#).
- Leave a gift in your will [here](#).
- Refer a young person to our day centre [here](#).

THANK
YOU!



**CLOCK
TOWER
SANCTUARY**