

# **Bedford Street Angels Project – FAQ's**

## **What is Bedford Street Angels?**

A volunteer "Street Angel" initiative that works in partnership with Police, Council, Local Christians, businesses and the community. We are committed to the safety and well being of those who enjoy the nightlife of our town centres.

## **Who are we?**

Christian volunteers from the local churches and who have been trained in the role of a Street Angel. To support and facilitate the work of the Street Angels, there is a paid Project Coordinator, a management group made up of local leaders and a network of prayer partners.

## **Who funds us?**

Funding comes from various sources; churches, Christian funding organizations and one off donations from individuals. There is a need for further funding to make up the balance for the first year and subsequent years which the Coordinator and volunteer will be organising.

## **What do the Bedford Street Angels do?**

Bedford Street Angels will be patrolling the streets around the centre of Bedford on Saturday nights from 10.00pm to 3.00am. As part of the patrol, Bedford Street Angels will be watching out for those who are or have become vulnerable seeking to provide whatever help and support is appropriate.

## **Who can become a Street Angel?**

Anyone who is committed to the core Christian values of the project and has an interest in the well being of all those involved in the Bedford nightlife.

## **How can I become a Street Angel?**

There is an application form to complete. All volunteers will be interviewed and if successful, will undergo around 24 hours of training spread over 8 sessions.

**Do I need special skills?**

A comprehensive training programme is provided which includes understanding the aims and objectives, drug and alcohol awareness, personal safety, conflict resolution as well as sessions on our Christian values.

**Will Street Angels be seen as a volunteer police force?**

Street Angels are trained volunteers who will work independently but in co-operation with other agencies including police. Street Angels are not involved in law enforcement and have no authority beyond that of ordinary members of the public.

**Will Street Angels be breaking up fights?**

No. Street Angels are not expected to physically intervene in violent or aggressive situations. The training programme includes sessions on resolving conflict and how to identify and respond to potentially violent situations.

**How can I find out more?**

To find out more, contact Adam May, Project Coordinator  
Bedford Street Angels, C/O Salvation Army Offices, Commercial Road, Bedford, MK40  
1QS, telephone 07532 371311 or email [adam@bedfordstreetangels.org.uk](mailto:adam@bedfordstreetangels.org.uk)

# **How can I get involved in Bedford Street Angels?**

## **By becoming part of a street patrol**

To become a Street Angel, you will need to apply, take part in an informal interview and undergo a comprehensive training. After that, you will be allocated to one of the street angel teams. Each team will be on patrol once every four weeks. We aim to have at least two teams working a scheduled rota so that we can cover Saturday nights throughout the year.

## **Assist with Administration**

Bedford Street Angels needs help with processing application forms and references, using the telephone and dealing with email communications. Most of this work can be done home. There are also schedules, meetings and training to be organised.

## **Become a Prayer Partner**

Prayer support is an important part of any Christian initiative. There will be a regular prayer update circulated either by email or post. Prayer partners can either pray at home as part of their regular prayer times or meet with the street teams at the operational base in order to pray before the teams go out, whilst they are out and afterwards for any significant contacts or incidents.

Members of street teams are encouraged to find people they know who will become prayer partners to support and encourage them individually.

## **Consider Making a one-off gift or regular donation to the work**

Although a significant amount of the first year budget is being met, there is a shortfall in what we expect to need. Please consider sponsoring a Volunteer. We anticipate the cost of the uniform, training and preparation of each Street Angel to be £250. We are able to benefit from tax efficient giving (ie gift aid) for those supporters who are also tax payers.

## **Keep in touch**

We do want to keep in touch with everyone who is interested in Bedford Street Angels. We will have a regular newsletter to keep everyone up to date and share good news as well as those issues that concern us. Your situation might change and by staying in touch with us via a newsletter, there may come a time when you would consider getting involved in other.

If you want to become a Street Angel, then complete the application form that came with this pack and send/email it to the address below.

If you want to be involved in other ways, indicate on the following page and send this form back to us in the Street Angels Office.

## Response Form

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| I want to become a Bedford Street Angel:                           | Y/N |
| I want to become a Bedford Street Angels Prayer Partner:           | Y/N |
| I want to make a gift to the work of Bedford Street Angels:        | Y/N |
| I want to assist with the administration of Bedford Street Angels: | Y/N |
| I want to get regular news about the work of Bedford Street Angels | Y/N |

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Email:**

**Phone:**

Please complete the form and send to the following address alternatively phone or email. Adam May, Project Coordinator, Bedford Street Angels,  
C/O Salvation Army Offices, Commercial Road, Bedford, MK40 1QS,  
Telephone 07532 371311 or email [adam@bedfordstreetangels.org.uk](mailto:adam@bedfordstreetangels.org.uk)