



*Breaking the cycle of offending*



# History

- 1962 - Founded as the Camberwell Samaritans by Father John Nicholls
- 1962- 2000 – Develops as a sophisticated homelessness service
- 2000s – Shift to Offenders Charity
- 2012 – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and HRH Prince William becomes our new Patron



# Ethos



- **Our Aim** is to *'break the cycle of offending and disadvantage'*. We do this by:
  - ✓ Putting offenders at the heart of our solution by believing they have the power to change given the right support. **Peer Power!!!**
  - ✓ Offering high quality and professional housing, employment and training support to all our clients who walk through the door.

# What we do and who we support



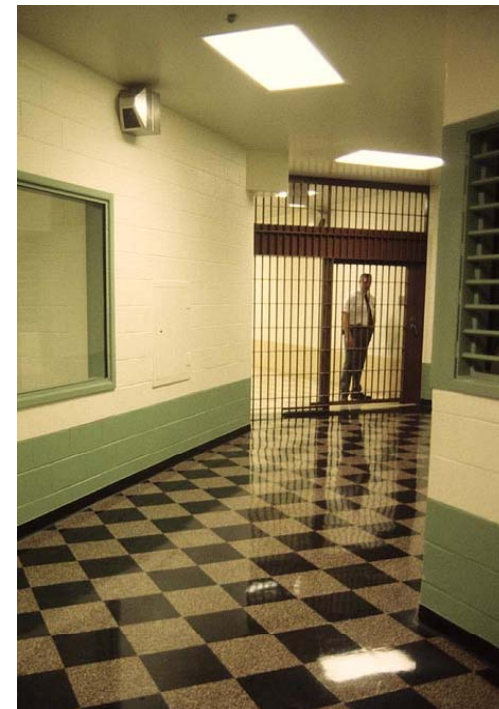
- 1. Women/Families**
  - WIRE, CAFE & Peer Call Centre
- 2. Gangs Members/Young Offenders**
  - SOS and YOIs Through The Gate Support
- 3. Offenders/Prisons**
  - Housing/Peer Advice
  - Through The Gate
- 4. The Homeless**
  - BIS



# Peer Advisors in The Prison



- QCF Level 3 in Advice & Guidance
- Learning to Advise Course
- Real work providing evidence for QCF portfolios
- Established, proven monitoring and evaluation system systems
- Recognised accreditation – City & Guilds.



# Why a Peer Through the Gates Service



- All the work, education etc. provided in prison can be lost on release
- Services are typically prison or community based
- Clients fall through the gaps
- An ex-offender, who has been there, understands.



# We are Unique



- **Employees** – 34 percent of our employees are ex-offenders 7 percent are in senior positions.
- **Learning and development** – all employees have access to coaching and mentoring from corporate bodies.
- **Turnover rate**- less than 1% staff/volunteer turnover.
- **Funding**- increase in funding for our work in 2012/13.

# Benefits



- **Loyalty** – Going the extra mile to meet our clients' needs.
- **Empathy** – Sharing a similar experience to that of the clients.
- **Highly motivated** – wanting to give something back, commitment to desistance.
- **Work Environment**- extremely happy and fully engaged employees. 4<sup>th</sup> Best Organization to work for in the 2011 & 2012 Sunday Times Best Companies Awards.





# Impact 2010



- 15,000 Client Needs Assessments
- 3,612 Positive Housing Interventions
- 2,407 Housing Finds
- 226 Jobs
- 2,000 completed training courses
- 745 into further training & jobsearch
- 315 NVQ Peer Graduates (55% from prison)
- 34% Staff are Ex-offenders
- 60% Peer Advisors had no prior educational qualifications

# Any Questions?



Please visit our website: [www.stgilestrust.org.uk](http://www.stgilestrust.org.uk)