

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

In order for us to reclaim Gift Aid on your donation, please complete the form below and send it, together with your donation to:

Stevenage Haven  
6 Ditchmore Lane, Stevenage, Herts. SG1 3LJ

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below:

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £\_\_\_\_\_ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to: Stevenage Haven.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Title: ..... First name or initial(s) .....

Surname:.....

Full Home address: .....

.....  
.....

Postcode: ..... Date: .....

Please notify us if you:

- Want to cancel this declaration.
- Change your name or home address.
- No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

## Shelter and Support for Single Homeless People

Everyone who has passed through our doors has a story to tell; this is just one of them:

*“At 47 years young I never expected to find myself homeless and on the street. Before coming to the Haven I slept in the park, under the subway, in the train station, I sofa surfed, in fact I slept wherever I could. During this time I had suicidal thoughts and I attempted suicide. A referral was made and I was offered a bed at the Haven.*

*During my time at the Haven I have received a lot of support from the staff and other residents. In fact there is a great camaraderie amongst the residents, which has helped to alter my perspective. The staff have helped me to move forward, they have given me support to access MIND counseling and I am leaving the Haven looking forward to a place of my own with a new sense of self worth, self esteem, self respect and self confidence.”*

For more stories written by former clients see our website [www.stevenagehaven.org.uk](http://www.stevenagehaven.org.uk)



# STEVENAGE HAVEN



## SHELTER AND SUPPORT FOR SINGLE HOMELESS PEOPLE

6 Ditchmore Lane,  
Stevenage, SG1 3LJ

01438 354884



[info@stevenagehaven.org.uk](mailto:info@stevenagehaven.org.uk)

[www.stevenagehaven.org.uk](http://www.stevenagehaven.org.uk)

Registered Charity Number: 1064495.

Company Limited by Guarantee, registration number 3366848.

Registered address 5 Ditchmore Lane, Stevenage. SG1 3LJ



Stevenage Haven has been supporting the local homeless community since 1992.

Since starting out with a handful of volunteers running a winter night shelter in Stevenage, we now have a staff of 28. We deliver services at our hostel in Stevenage and also, since July 2014, at the Sanctuary in Hitchin. We are an approved provider of Social Housing and registered with the Housing Ombudsman.

Our new, purpose-built hostel in Stevenage opened in autumn 2015 and has increased our accommodation for clients from 18 to 40. The Sanctuary in Hitchin can accommodate up to 17 clients from across North Herts. We also manage 10 supported move-on properties providing a transition for ex-residents prior to them getting their own accommodation.

Improved facilities in the new hostel has allowed us to expand our in-house day services and activities for clients. We are always looking at ways to develop our support services and introduce new services and activities; particularly those which address issues relating to health, education, training and employment.



Homelessness can affect us all.

Most of the people referred to us have experienced a relationship breakdown. All too often this results in a downwards spiral and problems with depression and substance dependency.

Our mission is to provide all clients, including those with challenging support issues, with the help they need to have a secure future and thereby break the all too common cycle of homelessness.

Evidence shows that the situation is getting worse. Recent figures indicate a 26% increase in people declaring themselves homeless between 2000 and 2014 (75% in London). Homeless Link report that 90% of clients are affected by benefit sanctions. Around half of projects report lack of suitable housing to be the main factor getting a place for clients to live.



Our floating support service supports clients across both sites, working with them to find suitable accommodation and achieve a positive move on to independent living.

Client referral forms can be downloaded from our website or by calling into one of our hostels.

We can be contacted 24/7 on:

01438 354884 (Stevenage)

01462 435835 (Hitchin)

We want to engage with local people; working together to help out some of the most vulnerable people in our community. There are plenty of ways you can get involved. Government spending cuts have hit charities, including the homelessness sector, hard. Homeless Link report that 41% of accommodation projects have reported funding cuts. We are really grateful for donations, no matter how small; you can give online by clicking the "please donate" link on our website. A donation of £40 will provide a start-up pack when a Client gets their own place.

Our volunteers are invaluable in helping out our full-time staff. Giving us a little of your time can be a deeply rewarding experience whether it's cooking an evening meal or simply coming in and being a friend. We also have specialist volunteers, including trained counsellors, and are particularly keen to hear from people who have skills in training or fundraising. Please e-mail us at:

[volunteering@stevenagehaven.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@stevenagehaven.org.uk)

[fundraising@stevenagehaven.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@stevenagehaven.org.uk)



Donations, particularly canned food, bedding and other household items, can be a great help in cutting our outgoings but we do have limited storage so please call before bringing bulky items.