

Annual Report on our Subsidised Holidays Ministry in 2016

For over 20 years The Jonas Centre has provided a place of tranquillity where individuals, families and groups can get away from the strains and stresses of everyday life.

In 2004 we began accepting applications for subsidised holidays from churches, groups and organisations who knew of families or individuals in crisis or facing hardship, anticipating or experiencing bereavement, or needing a break from caring roles. Since then we have provided over 1600 holidays for more than 3000 adults and 2000 children many of whom have never had a holiday before.

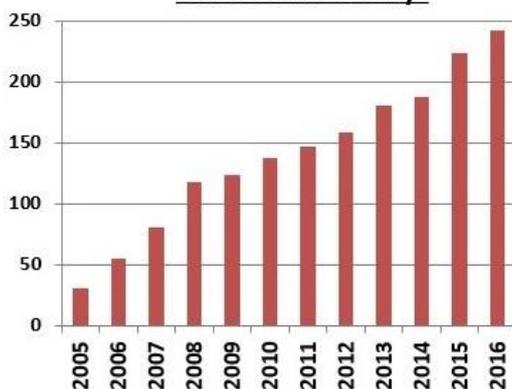
Since 2004 subsidised holidays have been offered to the following

The bereaved & their families
Young people from inner cities
Referrals from Social Services & GPs
Single parents & vulnerable adults
Victims of domestic violence
Ex-Offenders & the homeless
Young Carers
Full time carers in need of a break
Children from Chernobyl

Those diagnosed with Alzheimer's
Those facing debt or bankruptcy
The disabled (mentally & physically)
Those suffering from depression
Those suffering from mental illness
Children and adults with special needs
Those struggling with addiction
Asylum seekers & refugees
The terminally ill

In 2016 we saw another increase in requests which, we are pleased to say, we were able to fulfil. We welcomed groups bringing under privileged families on holiday for the first time, single mums with young families, families with a child(ren) suffering from disability, adults with special needs and carers seeking rest and relaxation. A break away from home circumstances improves mental & physical health as well as giving a chance for families to relax together in peaceful surroundings. The log cabin becomes home for the duration of the stay providing a secure and private base.

Number of Discounted & Subsidised Holidays



Review of our subsidised holiday scheme

We have been reviewing the impact of our Subsidised Holiday Scheme and are constantly encouraged to hear the positive impact that time away at The Jonas Centre can offer to those who are in need of rest. There have been a few 'behind the scenes changes' in the way we organise these holidays which will mean we can support even more holidays in the future.

What has changed?

- New referral forms from referees which have goals and aims for guests stay
- Post stay evaluations to see if have these goals and aims been achieved
- Individual subsidies and group discounts are recorded separately

The Jonas Centre, Redmire, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 4EW

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***Self-catering holiday accommodation & conference facilities;
 bringing individuals, families and groups closer together."***



How these changes will help The Jonas Centre and Guests?

- Understanding how the Jonas Centre impacts people we can better communicate this to potential funders
- Guests have a clear aim for their stay, so they can really focus on their needs and fully rest

Our future plans for Subsidised Holidays

- Reaching out to RELATE centres with details of our scheme
- Applying to funders to support the scheme

Feedback like this means the world to us...

‘The Subsidised Holiday Scheme has been extremely beneficial to those families/patients referred by myself and markedly de-stressed them in their time of personal crisis. Each family needed the unique service, care and support which The Jonas Centre provides. I noticed a difference in the quality of lives of those having enjoyed a tranquil break with you. The process was easy and everyone was so helpful and considerate. I would definitely and without hesitation, recommend The Jonas Centre to other ‘leaders’.

Rev Ian Ferguson, Chaplain, Cornerstone Healthcare Network, Blackburn

“The Jonas Centre was a great opportunity to relax and get engaged with nature. We spent more time with each other, which always brings us closer together. We live in a busy city, so to come to and discover nature, to be reminded of the simplicity of a butterfly, is so rewarding. Thank you to the organisers and to the funders for such a wonderful opportunity.”

Member of Meeting Point, working with refugees and asylum seekers in Leeds.

The future

As a result of the economic climate in the North East and Yorkshire, we are expecting a further increase in referrals in 2017. Referrals can come from Social Services, disability support organisations, GPs, hospital doctors, clergy, carer support agencies, Christians Against Poverty together with enquiries from individuals who have heard about us.

Can I encourage you to help us build on our previous successes by referring any individual, family or even a group you may know going through particularly difficult circumstances? A break away from familiar surroundings can make a world of a difference for those struggling with adversity. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a site visit to see us please don't hesitate to contact us. Together we can make a big difference for many.

Simon Eastwood

Centre Director

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