

BUILDING TOGETHER



Building a Forever Home for Open Hands

For over 20 years, Open Hands has been serving people across Leicester by providing practical support, hope and community to those facing poverty, homelessness, displacement and other hardships.

During that time, we have welcomed:

- **300,000** visits to our Compassion Centres
- **More than 15,000** households supported with essentials
- People from **142 nationalities**
- Referrals from over **400 organisations and agencies**
- More than **1,000 volunteers**

Today, we have an exciting opportunity to secure the future of Open Hands.

Our Vision

Open Hands has been offered a site on Frog Island, Leicester, where we plan to build a permanent Compassion Centre.

This purpose-built centre will provide a welcoming home where people can access:

- Food, clothing, household and furniture essentials
- English classes
- Advice and guidance
- Pastoral and wellbeing support
- Volunteering opportunities

The new centre will enable our services to grow and create more opportunities for organisations to work alongside one another. This will help people receive joined-up support - not only through an immediate crisis, but also as they move towards greater stability and hope.

Why Now?

Many people across Leicester are struggling to meet their basic needs.

- **31%** struggle with essential living costs
- **32%** have difficulty paying bills or buying food.
- **40%** of children live in relative poverty (after housing costs)

Rising living costs and housing pressures mean that more people are turning to charities such as Open Hands for help.

While our current leased Compassion Centre has served us well, a permanent home will provide the stability and capacity needed to serve Leicester for generations to come.

Building Together

The new Compassion Centre is expected to cost **£5 million** to build.

This is more than a building project - it is an investment in Leicester's future. Together, we can create a permanent place where people find practical support, hope and community.

How You Can Help

- **Give** - Make a financial gift towards the project.
- **Share** - Tell others about Building Together and share the vision with your networks.
- **Make an Introduction** - Connect us with individuals, churches, businesses, trusts or organisations that may be interested in supporting the project.
- **Pray** - Pray for the project, the team and the many people who will benefit from the new Compassion Centre.

To find out more, make a donation, download resources or contact our team, visit: www.building-together.co.uk.