

TOGETHER SUSSEX⁺

A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN THE
DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER AND CUF

TOGETHER IN SUSSEX

SHARING ACTION ACROSS SUSSEX

June 2019

Mental Health and Wellbeing

In our churches we can play a vital role in challenging the stigma, fear and misunderstanding surrounding mental health.

Volunteers are needed to be a Mental Health and Wellbeing Contact for their church. This is the first step to increasing awareness and responding well to anyone who has a Mental Health and Wellbeing concern. This is a Together in Sussex initiative is supported by Chichester Diocese. Please find attached job description and application form.

Elle Weaver,
Mental Health and Wellbeing Facilitator,
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Elle Weaver's role is to facilitate the Church's understanding and support for those with Mental Health and Wellbeing concerns.

Resources and funding opportunities

Movement for Good Fund.



Specialist insurer *Ecclesiastical* has opened a £1m fund for charities called *Movement for Good*. The organisation will give away the money in two phases, with £1,000 awarded to 500 charities in the first round and £50,000 offered to 10 charities in the second. Charities can be nominated for the £1,000 donations (by 17th May) and apply for the £50,000 grants (by 26th July). [Find out more about the fund and its criteria here.](#)

Together for Good Course

Together For Good is a new downloadable course from Livability, which explores 5 key topics: Abundant Life, Keys to Success, Richer Relationships, Creating Community and Finding Meaning. It's inspired by Livability's Happiness Course. Using some key passages from Scripture, the course invites us to see that growing wellbeing isn't just an individual practice, but also a call to a way of living as a community. The material also aims to challenge the notion that being happy might be something unworthy of our attention; but instead should be at the heart of who we are. [Download the course here.](#)

The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it

Village Halls Improvement Fund

Are you in a rural parish?
Do you have a Village Hall?

You may be interested in some funding recently made available by the government.



The grant funding, managed by ACRE on behalf of Defra with support from the ACRE Network, aims to help fund the updating and refurbishment of village halls so that they are fit for purpose and provide activities which seek to achieve one or more of the following outcomes for their communities: improved health and wellbeing/reduction in loneliness, demonstrates a positive impact on the environment and/or supports the local rural economy. Check out the [ACRE](#) website for more detail

Your space.

Do you have a community project or an activity you would like to share with other churches in Sussex? If so, do let Diane know.

Stacked against



CAP have released a useful report revealing the breadth and depth of vulnerability and the overwhelming nature of multiple complex needs. Using data from their annual client survey, the report shows the true extent of the difficulties people face, the multiplicity of these, and how they interact. [Read the report here.](#)

Transforming Poverty resource inspired by I, Daniel Blake

The silver screen has inspired a Wolverhampton curate to create a new national church resource to engage with issues of poverty in our communities. Transforming Poverty places the Bible in relationship with the Ken Loach and Paul Laverty film *I, Daniel Blake* in a six-session course.

It aims to help church groups and congregations talk and pray about local poverty and its impact on their own and other's lives, and in the process be moved to make personal and collective steps towards bringing about change in Jesus' name for those in their community.

[Download the resources from Church Action on Poverty here.](#)

Promoting volunteering opportunities to University of Sussex students

[University of Sussex Students' Union](#) is currently trialing uploading local volunteering opportunities to an album on its main [SU Facebook page](#) once a week. If you would like to feature in this new album please [complete the online form](#). Other ways you can promote volunteering opportunities to Sussex students include uploading information onto the [Careers Hub](#), a portal students are familiar with for searching voluntary and employment opportunities. These opportunities do not need to be restricted to the local area.

A new Community Engagement and Volunteering Elective will be running for the second time starting again in Autumn 2019. Students are committing to volunteering for 30+ hours in the local community. If you want to receive more information about this, please contact Hannah Woodin, Community Volunteering Coordinator, at hannah.wd@sussexstudent.com