



PLACES OF WELCOME

Want to host your Warm Welcome space all year round? Then why not join the Places of Welcome network?

Places of Welcome was an idea that developed during Birmingham's Social Inclusion Inquiry 'Giving Hope, Changing Lives' in 2012. It aims to create a network of **safe places where people can connect, belong and contribute**. There are now well over 500 venues, rapidly spreading across England and Wales from its West Midlands base.

One of the goals of the movement is to help build a network of places in each area, where you can make friends and meet people, and can be in any location accessible to the public, including churches, mosques, temples, community centres, housing associations, libraries and pharmacies, even community gardens!

Each one is open to anyone and each one follows the following values:

Place:

An accessible and hospitable building, open at the same time every week.

People:

Open to everyone regardless of their circumstances or situation.

Presence:

A place where people actively listen to one another.

Provision:

Offering free refreshments (at least a cup of tea and a biscuit) and basic local information.

Participation:

Recognises that every person coming to a Place of Welcome will bring talents, experiences and skills that they might be willing to share locally.

It is these values that are the key to the whole movement and therefore these cannot be changed or adapted. Each venue agrees to stick to each value. Places of Welcome is not a franchise model and there are no charges for joining.

Places of Welcome have the support of a Place of Welcome Facilitator, networking opportunities with other coordinators, promotion, branding and shared resources from the wider Transforming Communities Together network, including training sessions and events.

For more information contact Carrie Blount, Places of Welcome Facilitator – Black Country carrie.blount@tctogether.org.uk
Or visit www.placesofwelcome.org.uk and [Places of Welcome - Transforming Communities Together \(tctogether.org.uk\)](http://Places of Welcome - Transforming Communities Together (tctogether.org.uk))



