2022 may have been a challenging year for us, but it was nothing compared to the challenges faced by those experiencing homelessness every day. So, before anything else, we’d like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the beneficiaries and graduates who walked through our doors. Whether attending short ‘taster’ training days or our full programme, it takes incredible resilience and bravery to start this journey of change. So, thank you - just for turning up. Your actions will hopefully inspire many others to start their own journey.

As mentioned, last year was challenging on several fronts. Change Please had to contend with Covid restrictions, inflation, coffee price volatility, and many other external influences. Throughout these difficult times, however, clients, funders, corporate partners, catering partners, donors, and onward employers stood with us and gave us the chance not only to survive but to flourish. We are so pleased to see the retail business bounce back from tough restrictions, which has allowed us to reopen our beneficiary training and impact work. We are very lucky to have so many loyal supporters, and no matter the size of their contributions, it all adds up to create life-changing opportunities.

We also want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the incredible work carried out by our staff. Often experiencing challenging conditions of their own, it is humbling to watch this amazing group of people overcome many obstacles in order to further our mission and help as many people as possible.

This year, the mission continues, and we will strive to create even more opportunities to help break the cycle of homelessness.
**Impact Update**

**Our Training Program**

People who successfully completed 3 months of training in January to March: 6

Three days training sessions completed this year: 14

One day training sessions completed this year: 15

**Referrals**

Jan - Mar

55

15
MEET ANGUS, ONE OF OUR BRILLIANT TRAINEE BARISTAS.

Angus came out of University, could not find work and ended up busking to make ends meet. He unfortunately couldn’t afford rent or find permanent employment, spending 5 months sofa surfing and rough sleeping before finally being supported into accommodation by charity, No Second Night Out.

Our Recruitment Manager – Susan – met him at a job fair and he has been training with us since the 1st of December 2022. We are so proud of Angus, he has done amazingly and is now on placement at one of our brilliant employment partners – Alfa Systems.

We’re now continuing to support him into his next role. Thank you to everyone who has supported Angus on his journey.

“BEING PART OF CHANGE PLEASE HAS HELPED ME WITH A LOT MORE INDEPENDENCE AND IF YOU ARE WILLING TO PUT THE TIME AND EFFORT INTO IT YOU CAN GET QUITE A SECURE FUTURE.”

- ANGUS
MOVING PEOPLE INTO EMPLOYMENT QUICKER

AFTER A DIFFICULT FEW YEARS FOR THE WHOLE OF THE COUNTRY, 2023 IS THE YEAR THAT CHANGE PLEASE WANTS TO BRING MORE PEOPLE INTO OUR MOVEMENT, SPREAD OUR WORK AND HELP LIFT MORE AND MORE PEOPLE OUT OF HOMELESSNESS AND INTO BETTER LIVES.

To achieve this, we are working in partnerships across the country to develop our ‘Fast-Track-to-Employment’ Programme. We will be capitalising on the experience of our partners across the voluntary, commercial and corporate sectors to address the rise in homelessness across the UK.

We have some key sites for trialling the programme and we will update shortly once these have launched!

Historically, our Training Programmes have lasted for three months, with our Fast-Track Programme, trainees will complete an initial 2 weeks on Change Please sites, and will then complete their training on our partners’ sites.

During this period, our amazing Impact Team will continue to support trainees and then into new roles. Once we roll this out to other sites, the partnership will allow us to massively increase the numbers of people that we support. It will enable us to bring more people into the world of work, into our movement and helping people to live better lives.
We are thrilled to announce the opening of our newest café and taproom experience, Good Company. Located at 17-19 Triton Street in Regents Place, London, Good Company is a collaboration between Change Please and Toast Ale, meaning customers can swing by for a coffee or beer, knowing the money they spend is helping fight homelessness and fix the food system.

We are so excited to announce this partnership, opening a space where social enterprises can collaborate and bring a high-quality experience whilst doing good! We will be serving breakfast and cakes by Breadwinners, a social enterprise helping refugees. Lunch and dinner service will include a selection of sandwiches, salads, and hot pies by B Corp Pieminster. There will also be exciting food collaborations for late evenings on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

The drinks menu will include the full range of Toast beers, as well as carefully selected guest beers and other alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks from B Corps and social enterprises. Most importantly, our joint space will also host barista training, helping us increase the number of lives we can change.

“WE’RE EXCITED TO OPEN GOOD COMPANY, A SPACE THAT PROVIDES AWARD-Winning COFFEE, FOOD, BEER, AND FRESH ENTERTAINMENT, WHILE ALSO GIVING BACK TO SOCIETY AND THE PLANET,” SAYS CEMAL EZEL, FOUNDER AND CEO OF CHANGE PLEASE COFFEE.

Toast Ale is a social enterprise that uses surplus bread to make beer, with 100% of profits going to charities focused on fixing the food system. Want to see what all the fuss is about? Pop over and grab a coffee or beer.

Make sure to follow @goodcompanyldn on Instagram to find out more and to keep up to date with all the latest information.
In March, we opened our first Café and Training Academy in the USA at the Innovation Barn in Charlotte, NC. This new site is designed to support women and children experiencing homelessness in the USA by providing them with barista training, employment opportunities, therapy, and housing support. Our aim is to transform the lives of those in need in Charlotte.

The Innovation Barn was the perfect location for our first café and training academy in the USA because it is a collaborative space that combines entrepreneurial businesses, zero-waste initiatives, and circular economy projects to support the Charlotte community.

We are so proud to announce that our first trainee in the USA has successfully started their training with us at the Innovation barn!

Make sure to follow @changepleaseusa for all updates on what Change Please USA are up to.
We are so proud to announce that Driving for Change won Primary Care Project of the Year at the HSJ Partnership Awards 2023 with ELFT and the North East London Health & Care Partnership.

For the Driving for Change initiative, we partnered with ELFT and the North East London Health & Care Partnership (NELHCP) and won this incredible award for the ground-breaking initiative in Hackney which offers mobile, informal, welcoming and open access for some of the most vulnerable members of society.

The bus programme offers free GP consultations, dental care, haircuts, financial literacy training, employment support, shower facilities, therapy assessments, and essential everyday items. We aim to give people experiencing homelessness practical support and to help open pathways to potentially life-saving key services.

Henrietta MacEwen, Head of Partnerships, Driving for Change expressed that, ‘Our partnership with ELFT and the North East London Health & Care Partnership (NELHCP) makes sure that Driving for Change can deliver the best possible primary care service to those in need.

“PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS ARE THE WAY FORWARD FOR MAKING A SUSTAINABLE CHANGE FOR THE HOMELESS. WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DO THE WORK WE DO WITHOUT THEM.”

- HENRIETTA MACEWEN
THIS WEEK MARKS ANOTHER MILESTONE FOR CHANGE PLEASE IN PARIS - TWO OF OUR TRAINEES STARTED A NEW JOB PLACEMENT!

Faith and Fabrice have joined The Beans on Fire team, to work as baristas at a beautiful art museum in Paris. They will be serving coffee with a fantastic view!

Both baristas joined Change Please France at the end of September 2022. In six months they gained impressive skills and discovered a new passion. With the support from our amazing team in France, Faith also found permanent housing this week - she is moving out of the homeless shelter and into her new flat!