

# Help us to provide a guiding light for homeless people

## Activities for children and young people in your church

The following activities have been designed to help the younger members of your church think about some of the issues facing homeless people today, and have some fun at the same time!



### Hold a Christmas sleep over

A sleepover is a fun way to raise funds for Crisis, whilst spending time thinking about the problems of homeless people. Young people in your Church can choose to spend a night away from home, sleeping in your Church hall and get sponsored for their efforts.

You can find out more about organising a sleepover at [www.crisis.org.uk/sleepover](http://www.crisis.org.uk/sleepover)

### Discuss and think

Jamie McCoy lived on the streets for more than 30 years. He taught himself to read and write while he was homeless, and now can't stop writing! Download Jamie's poems at [www.crisis.org.uk/goodwill](http://www.crisis.org.uk/goodwill).

These poems about Christmas help us to think about what is really important at this special time of year. What really matters to you at Christmas? What do you think really matters to God?

### Burn off some energy with our sleeping bag race

This activity is a variation of a sack race and requires 2 or more sleeping bags.

Group the children into teams (dependent on the number of sleeping bags you have) and set up a 'sleeping bag relay race'. This can burn off some energy as well as open up a discussion about what it would be like if you had to sleep outside, or in a cold building and only had a sleeping bag to keep you warm.

### Complete our wordsearch challenge

The words are listed at the bottom of the puzzle, but could be cut off to make it more of a challenge for older children.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | C | L | O | T | H | E | S | E | R | H | F |
| W | T | Y | S | U | I | D | O | C | T | O | R |
| C | L | L | C | B | D | Q | E | F | I | S | I |
| S | O | W | A | N | C | A | H | B | R | H | E |
| N | N | A | R | B | M | C | A | S | E | U | N |
| D | E | J | E | K | L | O | I | T | D | N | D |
| E | L | U | D | I | L | L | R | G | H | G | S |
| N | Y | O | F | O | O | D | C | C | I | R | H |
| T | R | X | D | C | Z | S | U | C | E | Y | I |
| I | N | T | E | R | N | E | T | O | S | F | P |
| S | I | A | D | V | I | C | E | P | A | K | P |
| T | N | E | G | L | E | C | T | E | D | A | G |

### See if you can find all 16 words

Eight of the words describe how you might feel if you were homeless this Christmas, the other eight are words describing things that Crisis offers to homeless people at our Open Christmas shelters.

All words are either horizontal (left to right) or vertical (downwards).

If you need some extra help, the words you are looking for are:

- |         |          |                   |
|---------|----------|-------------------|
| LONELY  | SAD      | FOOD              |
| HARICUT | COLD     | NEGLECTED         |
| CLOTHES | INTERNET | HUNGRY            |
| TIRED   | DENTIST  | ADVICE            |
| SCARED  | ILL      | DOCTOR FRIENDSHIP |