

# Oasis update

From Hayley Stephens

This year Oasis has developed an exciting new team that have taken Oasis to another level of being able to serve and bless those that are suffering alone. We are able to reach out to where they are in life, connect with and support them, and show them God's love.

This team is the befriending team, and they aim to disciple, equip and meet each individual at their place of need.

This is something that has been on my heart for many years and it's great to see God's Goodness and Grace through His timing with the right people that love the people they are serving. Discipling, however, is a long journey with many hurdles and bumps in the road, as their lives are chaotic and full of challenges.

Through the continuous commitment of the team we are able to share some highlights of how we have been able to serve:

- Helping a single lady with a young child build her confidence so she feels capable again. We are helping and supporting her to set up her new business. She said: "Thank you so much; you make me feel confident again to be independent."
- Sourcing work clothes for a new job and giving her confidence in what to wear
- Supporting several ladies with literacy and maths and helping them back into the education system so they can study and develop their careers.
- Pizza evening - meeting in the park and playing games and relaxing together. Some people that came had not been out of their homes for weeks because they do not have friends and do not feel confident enough
- Going to fitness classes, walks, soft plays, and lunches so that young single ladies are not so lonely
- Reaching out to the only man in the refuge and his children for the first time and building his confidence by encouraging him to develop his skills.
- Taking families to Falmer Palmers so they can get out of the refuge and do something fun with their families
- Paddle Boarding and Beach fun event. We were able to reach new families in the refuge, plus connect others that have left the refuge. They were able to experience seeing the sea and paddleboarding for the first time



If you are interested in supporting, please contact Hayley ([hayley.stephens@gatewaychurch.me](mailto:hayley.stephens@gatewaychurch.me))