

## **Greetings from London!**

I am very sorry indeed but I can't speak Polish so I hope you can understand this or find some help with translation.

I am writing from the **Simon Community in London**. Maybe you have heard of us? We have been 'living and working' with street homeless people in London for over 40 years ( [www.simoncommunity.org.uk](http://www.simoncommunity.org.uk) ) Now we are very concerned indeed about the growing numbers of homeless Polish people in London.

Since Poland joined the EU (two years ago) there have been over 300,000 migrant Eastern European workers coming to the UK seeking work. Most of these have found work but there are some who have ended up on the streets. There is a video news clip on the internet which you can watch on [http://www.sky.com/skynews/video/videoplayer/0,,31200-polish1\\_p15622,00.html](http://www.sky.com/skynews/video/videoplayer/0,,31200-polish1_p15622,00.html) 'Real Britain for Migrant Workers' on Sky News.

### **Can you help – we need more volunteers?**

Our services are provided by full time residential volunteers. These live in our community houses alongside the homeless people and spend their time assisting the residents and doing outreach into central London supporting people who are sleeping on the streets. It would be very helpful if we could recruit a couple of Polish speaking volunteers. (A good knowledge of English is absolutely essential in order to be able to assist those on the streets who can't speak English themselves.)

Might you be able to help us in recruiting some volunteers? If you could circulate the notice below to any of your people who can speak English we would be very grateful indeed.

**The Simon Community**  
**Living and working with London's street homeless.**

**Residential volunteers needed to start this summer!**

**Come and live with the Simon Community in London.**

As a volunteer living in one of our community houses and participating in street work you will be assisting in providing services for street homeless people in London. In return you will gain valuable personal development as well as the necessary accommodation, expenses and training. This will be a life changing experience for which we need a minimum commitment of at least 6 months.

Applicants will need to submit an application form and complete a trial weekend.

For more information and an application pack please telephone 020 7561 8270 or visit [www.simoncommunity.org.uk](http://www.simoncommunity.org.uk)

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## Hello from Housing Justice UNLEASH (in London)

Hello

A friend told me about your work and I found your website. I'm hoping that someone will be able to speak English and reply to this email?

I would like to set up contact and possibly come and visit. We are finding a lot of Polish and other Central and Eastern Europeans are ending up homeless here in the UK, since May 2004.

Please could someone drop me a line, and perhaps we can do something about this?

best wishes,  
*Alastair*

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[www.unleash.org.uk](http://www.unleash.org.uk)

Please visit our website: [www.housingjustice.org.uk](http://www.housingjustice.org.uk)

Housing Justice mobilises the resources of Christians, the churches and others to reduce and ultimately eliminate homelessness and bad housing. It works both through direct services of independent housing advice, resident-led regeneration, and church linked homelessness projects, and through awareness-raising and campaigning programmes to influence policy-makers.

Housing Justice was formed on 31 March 2003 from the merger of the Catholic Housing Aid Society and the Churches National Housing Coalition, two bodies with a strong track record in campaigning, policy work, education, service provision and servicing members. UNLEASH (Church Action on Homelessness in London) joined in January 2006