

# Prisons Awareness Course



## What is it?

The Prisons Awareness Course (PAC) is a three-session course which allows you to explore what it means to welcome people leaving prison into your community. We believe it will inspire and challenge you, whether you have any experience of this type of work or not. It will enable you as a faith community **to examine your beliefs together** and, through discussion and practical encounter, **get to know the people who work in, have lived in** and have been **released from our prisons**.

The sessions are delivered via Zoom by our facilitation team. You'll get the chance to engage with prison leavers, prison/community chaplains and fellow participants from a range of faith and belief backgrounds. The course is intended to help you reflect and learn, but it is not intended to be a practical guide of what or what not to do.



## Course Content

**Beyond the Prison Gates:** In Session 1 you will learn about the experience of imprisonment, and reflect on your pre-existing ideas about people who leave prison.

**Faith in Prison:** Session 2 offers you the chance to engage in conversations with prison leavers and prison/community chaplains to explore the role of faith in the journey through the gates.

**Who we are:** In Session 3 you will explore the role of faith communities; celebrating the power of connection and support. We will also cover the issue of safeguarding.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Format:** We deliver the PAC quarterly via Zoom. Each series is three sessions long, and sessions take place on weekday evenings from **7:30-9pm** for three consecutive weeks.

**Cost:** Participating in the PAC is completely free, however we welcome voluntary donations towards the costs of the course if you feel able and inspired to do so.

**Numbers:** We'd like to welcome all interested individuals onto the course, but space is limited and we want as many faith communities to benefit as possible. We therefore suggest that ~2 members of your community join us in the first instance, with scope for others to join for later series.

## Testimonials:

"A fruitful meeting of **wonderful people** with equally **wonderful thoughts and ideas**"  
"Really enjoyed the course and would like to attend any additional courses available."  
"I have always wanted to be open, welcoming and accepting to prison leavers, and this course has helped to **show that I'm part of something bigger**"

Want to know more? Visit our webpage [here](#) or contact me at: [emily@welcomedirectory.org.uk](mailto:emily@welcomedirectory.org.uk)