



**The average  
life expectancy  
of a person living  
on the street is 44.**

**STABILITY THROUGH  
EMPLOYMENT**

**The charity for the employment of  
the homeless, ex-offenders and  
vulnerable veterans into careers  
within the hospitality industry.**

**ONLY A  
PAVEMENT  
AWAY**



# Only a Pavement Away.

Only A Pavement Away (OAPA) was founded by Greg & Gill Mangham whose refusal to accept that all people who are homeless or rough sleepers, were in these situations due to some fault of their own or through some form of addiction. At the same time, there was an increasing awareness that the hospitality industry needed to employ a large number of team members to meet the needs of a growing industry.

On average, one homeless person dies every fortnight on our streets. In addition, 70,000 ex-offenders are released each year with just £46 discharge grant in their pockets and 6,000 veterans have no permanent address and a shocking 50,000 veterans are coping with mental health issues.

The charity, established in 2018, now provides an effective conduit between employers in the hospitality industry and charities/organisations working with homeless, ex-offenders and vulnerable veterans to place people into long term, stable employment. It also facilitates training and

development programmes. Starting a new job can be daunting for a person who has been homeless or in prison and requires a significant amount of support to help with the adjustments to having a home -perhaps for the first time in a long time, as well as a new job. OAPA will provide additional financial support in the form of a one-off stability grant of up to £1500 to those who need it to overcome any barriers to employment such as short-term support with rent, travel costs, uniforms or initial living expenses.

In the 17 months until lockdown in March 2020, the charity had placed a total of 69 members into employment and were, up until lockdown in March, averaging 1 person per week into roles within the industry adding c.£2.2 million to the economy.

Only A Pavement Away has brought to life a project that can help thousands of people into work and support the Government in achieving its target to halve homelessness by 2022.

**Only a Pavement Away** understands the importance employment plays in breaking the cycle of homelessness not just through income which helps sustain housing but by raising confidence, improving mental health and wellbeing, increasing self-esteem and creating new personal and social networks.

## Jobs board.

To further underpin our effectiveness, we have this summer created and launched a fully bespoke **Jobs Board**, the first of its kind geared specifically towards the hospitality sector. This is provided free of charge to all OAPA employers and charities. The Jobs Board allows OAPA employers to access available candidates without having to post an advert. The candidate is therefore readily available for immediate employment which in turn, speeds up the process for both Member and Employer.

# Our lockdown successes!

At the onset of Covid19, OAPA had a simple choice, stand back, and wait or take steps to support both our members and the charities with whom we work. The decision took about 20 seconds, using funds raised from the Cook & Dine event, we set up the **Pay Gap Fund** to support our current members by paying them the 20% salary they were missing through furlough. All 18 Members supported have now returned to work and this is all thanks to the generosity of UGLE in ensuring our event went ahead in January.

During lockdown, we also launched the **Hospitality Against Homelessness** campaign working in partnership with key industry and charity partners. Over 15 weeks we helped coordinate the distribution of 55,000 meals, 110,000 drinks, 86,000 snacks & 2,000 Easter eggs! with a total conservative retail value of 500k, to the various homelessness services in London including the GLA hotels and to members in lockdown and isolating.

In support of the Hospitality Against Homelessness Campaign, we were also thrilled to team up with the acclaimed and inspirational British Chef, Tom Aikens – now an Ambassador for the charity - who created a virtual Charity Cookery Challenge! Participants were asked to cook a “Five Minute Feast”, post the video on social media, donate £5 and nominate 5 friends to take up the challenge. Over 200 participants took up the challenge and an incredible £5,000 has been raised so far!

In July, we received the news of a successful 2-year grant from Crisis to appoint a further Relationship Manager focused specifically on the homeless sector who will be working to secure jobs for 250 homeless people over the next 3 years.



## Mohammed's story

“

I have been employed at Gaucho for 9 months now and it has been a pleasure to work there. I am learning new skills everyday with support of the team and the new head chef. They make the workplace more enjoyable and friendly. At work I have learnt the importance of teamwork and patience when it comes to details and struggles.

Being newly employed by the start of the pandemic has put a lot uncertainty about the future and I was anxious as to whether I would still be employed at the end of lockdown. However, I was shocked to receive not just constant updates from the company and help to cope with difficulties during lockdown, but also help off Only a Pavement Away, receiving extra payments which supported me financially through the pandemic. I was constantly updated and informed by Izzy and she kindly replied to any questions I had. Although lockdown was difficult and had a lot uncertainties, both Gaucho's and Only a Pavement Away ensured me that everything will be ok and it is clear they care about their employees/members.

Many thanks to Only a Pavement Away and everyone at Gaucho, Charlotte Street.

”

# Looking ahead.

**Over the next 3 years, we want to help a further 700 people** from across the UK who are homeless, ex-offenders or vulnerable veterans, into work within the hospitality industry. To achieve this and to optimise our potential, we are now transitioning from the “create” stage to the “growth and developmental” stage **and will be looking to raise £1 million to support our ambitions.**

We want to secure mid to long term funding partnerships to help us develop a strong programme support team who will maintain an effective, simple and seamless link between the employers & charity partners signed up to the programme and ultimately, facilitate more members getting an opportunity for employment.

In addition, we want to secure ongoing investment for the OAPA Member Stability Grant scheme which has been set up to provide those Members who require it, with additional short-term financial support with their rent, travel costs, uniforms or initial living expenses as a one-off grant of up to £1500. (Applied for on their behalf by their supporting charity).

*OAPA has established a culture within hospitality that the vulnerable members we work with have a strong work ethic and just need an opportunity to reintegrate back into society. By working with employers who are fully engaged & supportive, we can work flexibly allowing those members to transition into work at a pace that suits them & their personal situations.*

## Events and campaigns.

The charity has developed 4 annual OAPA Events & Campaigns to help raise awareness of its mission and each has a fundraising focus with options of sponsorship. “**Fill A Flask**” designed to distribute thermal flasks, one to each person sleeping rough. The distribution timeframe is specifically targeted for the beginning of summer, a time when many rough sleepers need a cold drink, the flasks are extremely durable and can therefore be used throughout the year. This summer 3,000 flasks have been distributed in London, Brighton, Norfolk and Yarmouth. “**Winter Warmth**” where the hospitality industry is encouraged to fundraise and collect donations of coats, blankets and sleeping bags ready for distribution ahead of the cold weather, takes place in November. In 2019, an estimated £57,000 worth of donated items were distributed. “**Cook & Dine**” is the charity’s annual fundraising lunch and next year will once again be held at Freemason’s Hall with Tom Aikens at the helm and the charity’s **Annual Conference** which will take place in March 2021.

Scan here  
to donate



**ONLY A  
PAVEMENT  
AWAY**

[www.onlyapavementaway.co.uk](http://www.onlyapavementaway.co.uk)

 @only\_a\_pavement\_away

 @onlyapavementaway

 /onlyapavementaway