

Annual Report on our Subsidised Holidays Ministry in 2021

Since 1996 The Jonas Centre has provided a place of tranquillity where individuals, families and groups can get away from the strains and stresses of everyday life.

Since 2004 subsidised holidays have been offered to the following

The bereaved & their families	Those diagnosed with Alzheimer's
Young people from inner cities	Those facing debt or bankruptcy
Referrals from Social Services & GPs	The disabled (mentally & physically)
Single parents & vulnerable adults	Those suffering from depression
Victims of domestic violence	Those suffering from mental illness
Ex-Offenders & the homeless	Children and adults with special needs
Young Carers	Those struggling with addiction
Full time carers in need of a break	Asylum seekers & refugees
Children from Chernobyl	The terminally ill

The Jonas Centre has a fine tradition of providing support for families and individuals in need through our subsidised holiday scheme. Since 2004 around 1900 reduced rate holidays have provided some well-needed respite for 3870 adults and 2400 children.

12th of April was a long-awaited date when we were able to welcome private guests back to the Centre with some degree of normality.

It was a privilege to host a special group of Syrian refugees over the summer who enjoyed time away with other families having moved to the local area over recent years. During their time here whilst walking through the village, they met a local man who has been in Redmire for over 30 years. He shared with the group how he had come to England as a refugee from Palestine aged 2 back in 1948 and later shared his story over a meal at the Centre. He explained that just as he had made a new life for himself in the UK, they could too. This was probably one of my highlights of 2021.

Relocating those without a home

As you may have seen in our last newsletter, during the pandemic we supported 11 different people who found themselves without a home during the Covid 19 crisis.

I'm pleased to say that working alongside the district council and local housing associations, we have ensured that each one now has their own accommodation.

We have kept in touch with many during their transition and have been able to provide them with furniture, curtains, and other household items to create a home. Pictured here is one of our longer-term residents with the keys to his new home.

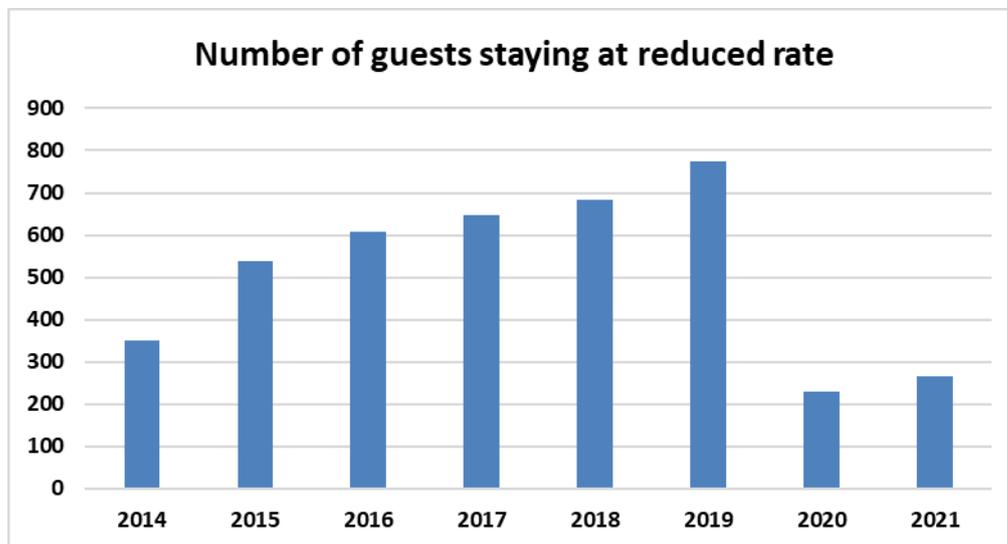


Review of our subsidised holiday scheme

In 2021 we saw another increase in requests which, we are pleased to say, we were able to fulfil. A break away from home circumstances improves mental & physical health as well as giving a chance for families to relax together in peaceful surroundings. The log cabin becomes home for the duration of the stay providing a secure and private base.

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, even though the number of subsidised individuals staying with us in 2020 fell by over 90%, the number of subsidised nights we were able to offer increased by over 730%.

I'm also glad to report that as life returns to a new normal, we are beginning to see an increase in the take up of our subsidised breaks.



The future

As a result of the economic climate, the uncertainties around BREXIT, and the situation in Ukraine, we are expecting a further increase in referrals in 2022. Referrals can come from Social Services, disability support organisations, GPs, hospital doctors, clergy, and carer support agencies, together with enquiries from individuals who have heard about us.

Can I encourage you to help us build on our previous successes by referring any individual, family or even a group you may know going through particularly difficult circumstances? A break away from familiar surroundings can make a world of a difference for those struggling with adversity. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a site visit to see us please don't hesitate to contact us. Together we can make a big difference for many.

Simon Eastwood

Centre Director

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Self-catering holiday accommodation & conference facilities; bringing individuals, families and groups closer together.

The Jonas Centre is operated by The Jonas Trust (Registered Charity Number 1049167, VAT Registration Number: 660305662)