



**2021-22**

## **25th Anniversary United Kingdom**



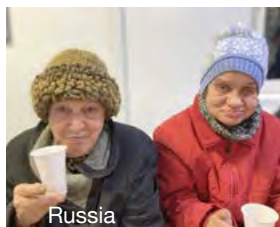




England



Bulgaria



Russia



Spain



Russia



India



Bulgaria



Scotland



Spain



Czech Republic



England



Finland



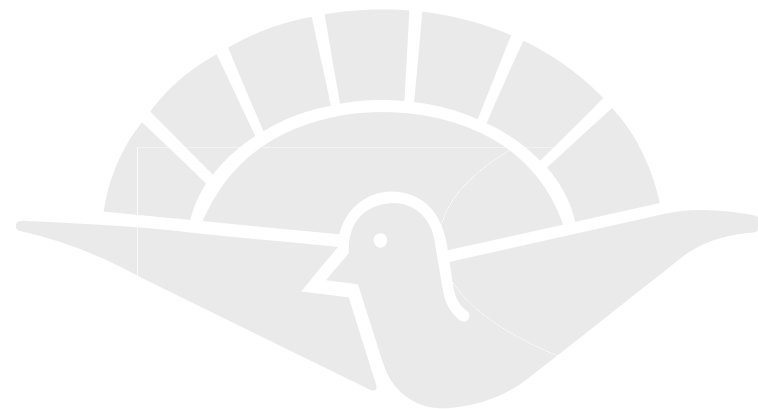
Kazakhstan



Spain



Spain



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# Put to the Test

## Letter from the Director



“The last two years have not only tested Betel’s model, but also strengthened and affirmed all that is essential in Betel”

Dear friends,

Greetings from the Betel family from around the world. Certainly, without exaggeration, these last two years of the Covid pandemic have put much stress upon the Betel ministries, programs, residents, staff and resources. As a Christian charity, it is a joy to give thanks to God, to our friends and supporters, and to all the many levels of government in the nations where Betel maintains our residential communities and multifaceted programs for their practical and timely help.

I believe as you read through the following pages you will see that the last two years of the Covid pandemic have not only tested Betel’s model, but also strengthened and affirmed all that is essential in Betel: Our Christian ethos, our social-medical model and our goal of providing a free program to all who wish to enter.

As you read through the pages of this year’s Annual Report we invite you to share with us our celebration of Betel of Britain’s 25th Anniversary. Without a doubt our British leaders, their staff, and community members have created, maintained, and are an expression of what Betel has striven to achieve over the last three decades of service among the nations. We believe that just as God is able to transform broken lives into healthy and happy individuals, he can transform groups of individuals into powerful entities for doing good. Read with wonder and celebrate with us Betel of Britain’s first quarter century of service. Their new national headquarters in Birmingham is a multidimensional wonder.

Again, please enjoy the following pages and stories of the lives radically changed by God.

Sincerely,  
Elliott Tepper



**Pretoria, South Africa**  
The Betel community celebrates it’s 10th anniversary



India



Portugal



Australia



Spain



Spain



Spain



# Vision Mission and Values

*Committed to Restoring Lives*

Betel's model has helped to radically transform many lives. It does so through it's drug-free residential program, inspired by Christian values.

This international Christian ministry is based on mutual help: Community residents help one another through peer support. Betel develops charitable businesses that fund the free program for people affected by severe conflicts, leading to family breakdown, homelessness, long-term unemployment and substance abuse.

Since we welcomed our first man from the streets of Madrid in 1985, we have helped tens of thousands of homeless and drug and alcohol-dependent individuals.

Today Betel is present in more than 100 cities in 20 nations, offering it's residential program free of charge.

Our end goal is to help people not only escape addiction, but become productive, trustworthy men and women of character when they leave our community.

Community residents help one another through peer support



## Vision:

Our vision is not only to cure addiction, but to train and empower individuals who are committed to the ethos of Betel, so that the personal and social benefits of our program might be extended beyond Betel to bring hope to the neediest people in the world.

## Mission:

Our mission is to restore lives that have been broken by drug abuse, alcoholism and social exclusion. We achieve this goal by building character in a caring Christian community. Our residences are free of charge and are supervised principally by graduates who have successfully overcome their addictions in Betel's program.

## Values:

- » We defend basic human rights and the dignity of the individual.
- » We consider the family to be the fundamental institution in society.
- » We are committed to and embrace generous hospitality.
- » We strive for transparency, effectiveness and efficiency in the utilization of our resources

Pretoria, South Africa  
Celebrating Betel's 10th Anniversary in South Africa



Pastors, directors of Betel International

# Our Team

*Committed Men and Women in Need*

The driving force of Betel is it's team of people made up of collaborators, volunteers and professionals, many of whom have received the same help they now offer to others.

Betel has a team of professionals located in Madrid, Malaga, Barcelona, Tarragona, Seville and Birmingham who offer support both nationally and internationally.

Board of Directors

» President  
**Elliott Edward Tepper**

» Vice President  
**Luis Pino Sanchez**

» Secretary  
**Javier Gonzalez Espejel**

» Treasurer  
**Juan Carlos Matesanz**

» Board member  
**Tomas Lopez Parraga**

» Board member  
**Eduardo Hdez.-Lissen**

SPAIN	
Profesionals	Nº
Program directors	20
Doctors	3
Dentists	7
Dental Assistants	6
Social Workers	4
Social Educators	2
Psychologists	2
Family Therapist	1
Attorneys	4
Economist	1
Architect	1
IT Specialist	1
Graphic Designer	1
Admin. Assistants	10
Mechanic	1
Maintenance	3
Total	68



# International Volunteers

*Short term service for life long change*

Betel International's Volunteer Internship Program started in July 2010 upon completion of our first website where candidates could start the application process. Our first class of 5 interns from the UK, USA and Nigeria started in February 2011. Since then, 238 interns from around the world have served in 13 countries where we have Betel communities

Through the internship program, Betel has gained 26 full-time voluntary workers during the past ten years, 12 of whom are still serving as missionaries.

Many interns come during a gap year or breaks in their studies to serve and gain experience volunteering. Some come to fulfill their Bible College or University's placement requirements, enabling them to receive credit towards graduating in their studies. Others come be-

cause they are considering working with Betel as full-time voluntary workers, but want the opportunity to "try before you buy". Whatever the motive, Betel's Internship Program has been a success for the charity and the men and women who sacrifice a season of their lives to work and live in Betel's community alongside residents in various stages of recovery.

In 2021, the international internship program received 162 requests for applications from 36 countries and 6 continents. Even in the midst of the pandemic, a total of 12 interns (6 men and 6 women) served as interns in Spain and the UK.

## Opportunities in

- » **United Kingdom**
- » **Spain**
- » **Czech Republic**
- » **Finland**
- » **Germany**
- » **India**
- » **Kazakhstan**
- » **Portugal**
- » **Russia**

More information:  
[betelinterns.org](http://betelinterns.org)



*From the United States and Czech Republic serving in the United Kingdom  
Volunteers (black shirts) in the Rising Cafe with women from Betel England*



*From Mexico serving in Spain*



*From Mexico serving in Finland*



*From Mexico serving in Spain (right)*



*From and serving in England (left)*

## University Internships

### Educational Cooperation Agreements

During the year 2021 Betel has maintained Educational Cooperation agreements enabling students to complete their practical requirement, which is a requisite for graduation. Agreements have been signed with the following universities:

- » **Complutense University of Madrid**
- » **King Juan Carlos University**
- » **Comillas Pontifical University**
- » **Ramon Llull University**

A highlight has been internships in the area of social assistance with Betel. These have been completed at Betel's headquarters in Madrid by students studying degrees in Psychology, Criminology, and Social Work, from Complutense University, Comillas Pontifical University and the Pere Tarres Foundation of Ramon Llull University.



**“**I'm thankful to Betel for giving me the opportunity to complete my practical requirement. It has been a very important experience for me, both personally and academically. I'll take with me the skills that I developed with the support and orientation of the professionals who make up the administrative and accounting teams in the Association's central office.**”**

Cinthia Contreras Choque  
King Juan Carlos University





**Kolosok, Russia**  
Leaders from Betel Russia,  
Kazakhstan y Finland

# Offering Hope

## Betel's Program

The story of Betel began in Spain in the inner city barrio of San Blas, Madrid almost four decades ago when a small group of WEC International missionaries helped a drug addict named Raul Casto who needed a place to recover from his heroin addiction. Once free from his addiction, Raul wanted to help more people. This was the beginning of Betel's community houses, which today are located in more than 100 cities in 20 countries. Betel has 42 men's houses and 6 women's residences in Spain alone.

While each Betel community worldwide has developed its own identity and approach in applying the program to the needs of their people, Betel international embraces the same principles and shares a common ethos. Through work, well-being and worship, the Betel program helps to restore broken lives through the power of the Gospel.

### Methodology

Betel's method is founded on the idea that each person has the potential to change one's self and others. It is a peer motivated process by which desperate people help desperate people to maintain abstinence and move forward in their process of personal change and freedom from addiction.

In each Betel home, the more advanced residents help the newcomers adapt to their day to day activities, guiding them in the process of restoration. As residents' motivation and stability improve, they are gradually given more responsibility. Their example helps to encourage less-experienced residents. The result is a community that is peer-motivated and guided. Over the years, some residents decide to stay long term in Betel to help others as they have been helped and realize their potential as leaders in Betel.

### Betel offers:

- » A welcoming place for people suffering from addiction and those at risk of social exclusion, where peer support fosters personal growth and change
- » A place to receive food, shelter and clothing and where possible we offer practical support with medical, social and legal problems
- » An environment that is drug, alcohol and tobacco free
- » An environment where people can develop self-discipline and constructive habits

## FAQ

### What is Betel?

Betel is a non-profit organization dedicated to caring for people who suffer from addiction and social exclusion. For more than 35 years, Betel has not only helped people to overcome their addictions, but to become men and women with moral integrity and active, productive members of society.

### How does it work?

Betel offers a long-term residential program (12-18 months) where residents focus on achieving long-term change in three main areas of life: *physically* by maintaining abstinence from harmful substances, *emotionally* by practicing self-control and co-operation in a community environment and *morally*, by acquiring a system of values which help to avoid relapse over the long run.

### How is it supported?

Betel's 100% free program supports itself through funds generated by occupational activities undertaken by the residents as well as through donations and subsidies from both public and private donors.

### How to enter?

Call our admissions number in the city of your choice (see directory) or visit our website [betel.org](http://betel.org) for details.



**Lilydale, Australia**  
Betel men gardening



# A Day in the Life of Betel

## The value of occupational activities

In Betel's program, daily life includes occupational activities that promote personal responsibility, productivity and healthy leisure time. These activities are therapeutic because:

- » They are goal oriented.
- » They have meaning for those who perform them.
- » They are a useful tool in the prevention of physical and mental illnesses, as well as for the improvement of skills and quality of life.
- » They stimulate participation in daily life activities, thus breaking the cycle of social exclusion and marginalization.

In fact, occupational activities meet these characteristics so that a majority of Betel residents, in an interview after the first month, report being more active and able to accomplish tasks more quickly. They also report feeling more useful and satisfied than before and recover the ability to make decisions.



**Morning devotional:**  
After breakfast, residents gather for time of encouragement and Bible study before starting the day's activities (Russia)



**Picking up a new resident:**  
New residents come in often, giving the more advanced residents a chance to care for others (Russia)



**Furniture restoration:**  
Restoring furniture is one of the occupational activities that many Betel centers do (Czech Republic)



**Mealtime:**  
Residents eat meals together and enjoy celebrating events with barbecues or banquets (Russia)



**Fellowship:**  
During the day there are moments to relax and enjoy conversations (Spain)



**Donation pick-up:**  
In each country, Betel picks up donations of furniture and other household items in order to sustain the free program (Bulgaria)



**Events:**  
Betel residents and the local church join together to celebrate special events (Baptisms in Spain)



# Income Generating Projects

*Occupational activities that provide a great benefit*

Betel has been dedicated to restoring lives affected by addiction and social exclusion for over 35 years, using a model that has helped radically transform many lives and does so through a substance-free residential program.

Providing a free residential program is only possible thanks to the income generating projects of the association, which provide approximately 98% of the total income needed to run the center.

Betel receives approximately 2% of its total income through subsidies and donations from public and private sources.

The majority of residents in Betel would not be able to enter the program if they were required to pay. For this reason, Betel's vision is not only innovative, with its income generating projects, but it proposes a solution to a social problem by offering a refuge and a home for those who are willing and able to enter the program. Our charitable businesses are the main support for the program and a space for the development of occupational activities. Residents carry out therapeutic work related tasks, which help them to develop or recover healthy habits and social, collaborative and teamwork skills. In addition to helping residents overcome the difficulties of the day to day rehabilitation process, the occupational activities prepare residents for future reinsertion in the work force and society generally.

Some of our charitable activities include furniture collection, second hand flea markets, coffee shops, restaurants, Christian bookstores, house painting, masonry, moving services, animal farms, calendar campaigns, and handicrafts.

*Residents carry out therapeutic work related tasks, which help them to develop healthy habits and social, teamwork skills.*



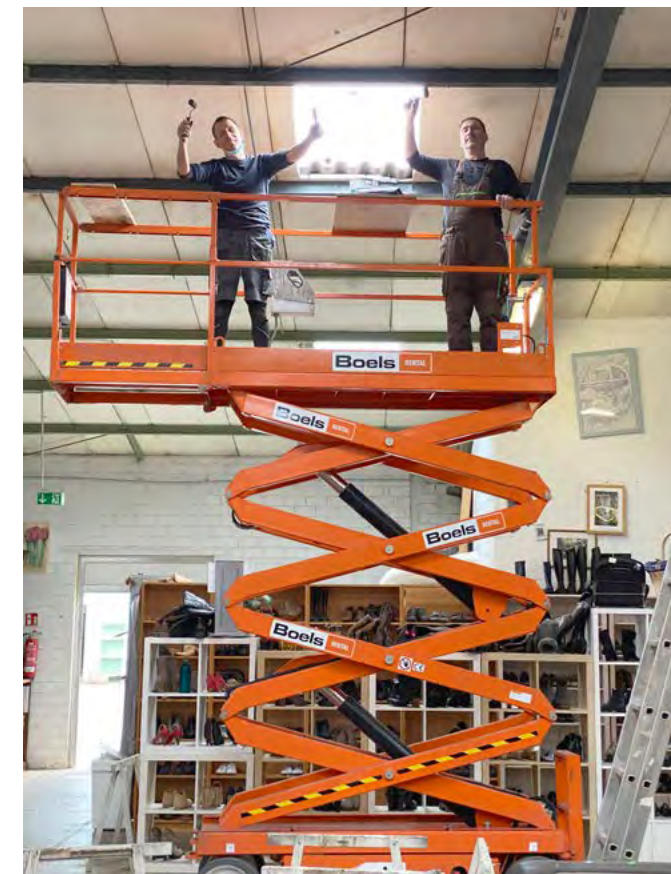
Spain Charity shop 'Rastro Betel' in Madrid



Kazakhstan Farm in Betel Astana



Russia Men from Betel San Petersburg refurbishing a house



Germany Remodeling the charity shop in Neumünster



Australia Gardening activities





Russia Food preparation



Bulgaria House reforms



Portugal Furniture removal



Portugal New coffee shop in Porto



England Passing out fliers



Mongolia Construction of local library



Kazakhstan Harvesting potatoes



Madrid Coffee shop at the headquarters



Kazakhstan New coffee shop in Astana



Czech Republic Furniture restoration



Italy Picking up furniture donations

# Health Assistance

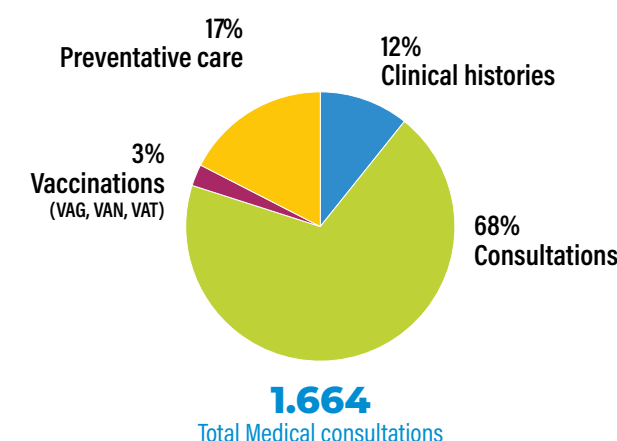
## Care and prevention

The typical Betel resident, after a long history of substance abuse and/or social exclusion, frequently suffers from a deteriorated state of physical and mental health with chronic ailments, communicable diseases and / or clinical cases of anxiety and depression, in some cases undiagnosed. For these reasons, Betel Madrid offers assistance with specific objectives of secondary prevention, in the care, limitation and control of these ailments, diseases and disorders.

This care is offered through various professional interventions of the association itself as well as through the public health care network.

This secondary preventative intervention is carried out by means of:

- » Pre-admission medical assessment
- » Follow-up medical consultation for chronic patients (HCV, HIV, AHT, DM)
- » Medical consultation on demand
- » Influenza vaccination campaign
- » Other immunizations (pneumococcal and tetanus)
- » Antigen test COVID-19
- » Psychological interview to explore the general state of health.
- » Prevention protocol for high suicide risk.
- » Interview regarding the management of basic documentation



## New Protocol for Preventing Suicide

Help for those at risk

Suicide is currently the leading cause of unnatural death in Spain ahead of traffic accidents, as well as the leading cause of premature death among people diagnosed with depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia or substance use disorder. Because of this, the health team led by the psychologist of Betel Madrid, has developed a Suicide Prevention Protocol in 2021 with the following objectives: Early detection of suicide risk, assessment of the severity of the risk and suicide prevention.

This intervention aims to break the social stigma of mental health problems and suicide, helping the person at risk to venture out of their emotional and social isolation, recognizing their need for help and ultimately receiving the care and attention they need.



Madrid, Spain  
Betel doctor performing a Covid test before admission



# Social Assistance

## Information and orientation

Our information and social orientation service is aimed at people residing in Betel's communities, people and families who are beneficiaries of our food distribution project and any person without any discrimination who comes to our organization to request help, regardless of their place of residence.

The purpose is to help people with information, assessment, diagnosis and social orientation, by appointment with the social worker responsible for the service.

### Actions

- » Information service on the availability and access to social benefits.
- » Guidance service, adapting the demand for individual social assistance to the available public and private welfare resources.
- » Accompaniment service in carrying out formalities, as a support in decision making.

### People served

In 2021, 121 people have been served, 41 of which are men and 80 women; with 42% Spaniards, 49% EU foreigners and 9% non-EU foreigners, 79% being beneficiaries of Betel's residential program and 21% people outside of the program.



### Nilda Tells Her Story

My name is Nilda, I left Cuba looking for a way to improve my quality of life and my health. I left at the age of 66, with the crutch that has accompanied me for years, with a suitcase and dreams in my head. I came with my Spanish nationality. I had to learn to live and adapt to the style and customs of a different culture, that is, to trust in God and start life from scratch.

New beginnings are difficult, and even more so when you don't know anyone who can guide you. Also, my health was very delicate. Still in my weak condition, a kind hand led me to Betel. The first to welcome me were the people who distribute food to needy families. Thus began my experience in this admirable organization. I was introduced to the director of the food distribution program, Rosi, to whom I expressed my desire to collaborate in some way. Thanks to her I joined the kitchen team at Betel. Since my economic situation did not improve, but rather worsened, my emotional health

collapsed. I fell into depression with suicidal thoughts. I saw no other solution.

But angels also walk the earth. Francisco, the psychologist of the center, guided me to Cinthia, the social worker of the Information and Social Orientation Service at Betel, a very sweet person with a pleasant manner and brimming with knowledge, who simply did not let go of my hand, showing professionalism in her work. She gave me new hope through her efforts and her sincere interest in helping me. She guided me through the procedures (application for benefits, disability certificate and housing) step by step and made me understand that my problems do have a solution.

Today I see open windows to my future and I understand that people like her carry love in their hearts and that love has been my medicine. Her human qualities, her tender smile and her firm words, along with the hand of God, were my refuge in the middle of the storm. I thank God for having met her and all the people and professionals in Betel who in one way or another have become my family. Thank you Betel.

Today I see open windows to my future



Madrid, Spain  
Betel's street team distributing clothes, food and offering entrance to the residential program.



Street outreach distributing winter jackets and food



Searching for homeless people in the center of Madrid

# Legal Assistance

## Support for legal defense in court

A high number of users report having legal-criminal matters pending trial or execution of sentence. On the other hand, and given that the admission and permanence in prison of convicts who have committed crimes related to drug addictions seriously hinders their social reintegration process, Betel offers legal-criminal attention with the following objectives:

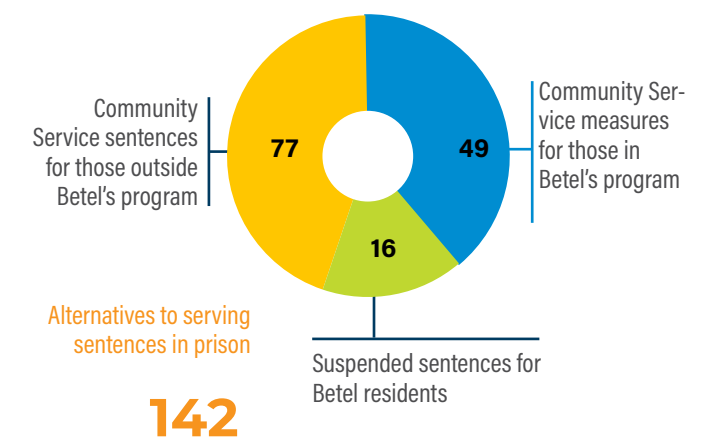
- » Attend to residents who present pending legal-criminal matters.
- » Attend to users authorized to serve an alternative sentence to prison or in suspension of the execution of a prison sentence and authorized to stay at Betel as a judicial measure.

Betel promotes alternative measures to prison, offering places for the rehabilitation of the convict in an extra-penitentiary center.

As an inherent part of this legal-criminal intervention, the following actions are undertaken:

- » Initial interview, with collection of documentation.
- » Preparation of intake certificates addressed to courts and defense lawyers.
- » Substance use analysis
- » Offering alternative sentence enforcement in the place of imprisonment.
- » Interviews and evaluation reports of therapeutic progress at the request of the Prison Social Services, courts and tribunals.

### Judicial measures





# A Kilo of Love

## Support for families in need

Betel helps to alleviate the needs of people with scarce resources through the distribution of food. This food comes from the Spanish Agricultural Guarantee Fund (FEGA). Food production surpluses are acquired by the State for its subsequent distribution through the Food Banks to entities like Betel, who deliver the food directly to the neediest families.

In 2021, Betel Madrid distributed a total of 27,800 kilograms of food staples (such as fruit, vegetables, milk, dry goods and canned food) distributed to 93 families weekly with a total of 253 individuals. In order for individuals to receive aid, Betel first



makes an assessment of the recipient's personal situation, with the relevant documentation, aimed at promoting the social inclusion of the most disadvantaged people. The weekly food bank is carried out in an orderly manner, to ensure an equitable distribution.

As a result of the pandemic, the social, economic and health crisis has caused an increase in demand for food donations, causing Betel to increase its aid. For this reason, in addition to our program of beneficiaries, hundreds of additional people have come to Betel to receive help.



“Our faith in God motivates us. We remember the words of Jesus who said: It is better to give than to receive”



**Alberto Lopez**  
Director of the Betel Food Pantry

We coordinate the distribution of food for needy people in our church and also the general public, as a project of Betel, in collaboration with the Food Bank of Madrid.

We have always helped with the collection and distribution of food donated by large commercial entities. We also work with the Food Bank in order to help more people, and increase the resources for us to continue this beautiful work.

It is a privilege to do this work, because we see people come in with such a great need and when they leave they are happier. Over the years, you get to know the needs of these people who come in and you can't help but put yourself in their shoes. It's also an opportunity to help them with words of comfort and encouragement.

A large group of volunteers has formed that have a similar desire, to help others and fulfill the commandments of Christ and see our society a little bit better off. Our faith in God motivates us. We remember the words of Jesus who said, “It is better to give than to receive” and “What you want to be done to you, do also to others.”

We are continually developing relationships with more donors, to keep helping those in need and to improve the lives of others.

We thank God first and foremost and the people who collaborate with us. Blessings.

- Alberto Lopez



**Madrid, Spain**  
Volunteers giving out food at the International Headquarters





# Women's House

## A place to start over

In 2021, the main cause of admission for women is still drug dependency with 49%, followed by alcoholism with 31%, with homelessness in third place with 18%.

Female homelessness represents a major and growing problem in recent years. In addition to poverty, homeless women face situations of violence and abuse on a recurrent basis, which causes them to experience continuous stress. This often leads to serious mental health problems. As a result, homeless women find themselves in a chain of problems that aggravate their situation and make it more difficult to get off the street.

Betel offers a home, a safe environment where they can start again, a family that transcends blood and legal ties with new relational and emotional ties based on values such as affection, understanding, empathy, respect, commitment, responsibility, communication and tolerance.

24

### HOUSES FOR WOMEN

- » 6 Spain
- » 5 India
- » 5 United Kingdom
- » 3 Russia
- » 2 Mongolia
- » 1 Portugal
- » 1 Czech Republic
- » 1 South Africa



Oporto, Portugal  
Betel women enjoying an afternoon snack

### Mar's Story

Women's House - Torrelodones

I'm Maria del Mar. I'm 44 years old and from a small town in Valencia, Spain. I grew up in a humble family. My mother was the pillar of my house because my father was an alcoholic. He mistreated her and not only her but also me. When I was 20 years old, my mother passed away from cancer. With her absence, my father's addiction worsened and he passed away three years later. Orphaned, my brother and I went our separate ways. I met a guy who would later become the father of my children. At first everything was going very well, my two daughters were born and later, my son. But then things started to get worse with my partner. I started using cocaine, which I'd never used before, since before then I only drank alcohol. My partner asked me to separate and that's when the chaos really started in my life. Everything went wrong. I felt that everyone was ignoring me and I lost custody of my children. In desperation I went to Valencia and there I met the man



who is now my husband. We went to live in a room, and then we ended up on the street. He told me about Betel and we decided to enter the program because we both wanted to change. Years later, after we were rehabilitated, we got married and the dream I had of being a mother again came true. Before getting married, my husband and I were both leaders at different Betel houses. It was so satisfying to be able to help other women like myself, because if you want to, with God's help, you can overcome addiction. I thank God for all the help we have received. There is a Bible verse on which I have leaned on in my difficult moments, "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know", Jeremiah 33:3. Our desire is to continue to serve the Lord in gratitude for all He has done and to help other men and women through the work of Betel.

### Charo's Story

Women's house - Malaga

My name is Charo. I am 58 years old. I have always been rebellious and non-conformist, which led me to run away from home and I ended up in the world of drugs. I married young and had two children. I lost the father of my children to an overdose, but I continued in that world. I gave up a thousand jobs which led me to "live the night" and what that world of darkness entails. I had another daughter by a man who was just out of prison, mentally ill and abusive. My life went from bad to worse. My two older children were taken away from me and the youngest went into foster care. I decided to start a new life in Malaga, but I ended up on the street, begging. One night, while bathing in the sea, I suffered an alcoholic coma and was left at the mercy of the waves. I ended



up in the hospital with respiratory distress and hypothermia and woke up in the ICU. There something wonderful happened to me. I felt that God was giving me a new opportunity. When I left the hospital I went to Betel, where I managed to stop taking drugs and the most important thing for me, I got to know Jesus Christ. I began to have a revelation of his power to transform lives and I was experiencing it for myself. Little by little I began to restore my family relationships. I got married and now I am grateful to God for everything. I have been in Betel's social work for 13 years helping people like myself. My work is rewarding. I am happy with what I have and I can't imagine a life outside his ways.





**Vyborg, Russia**  
Street evangelism team  
offering entrance in Betel

## The Other Pandemics

### Silent Emergencies

The persistent state of insecurity and uncertainty that Covid-19 has generated in society is causing other pandemics, these more silent but no less devastating. We are talking about the closure of businesses, the loss of jobs and housing, of loneliness and social isolation, and an increase in domestic violence due to confinement. This general worsening of the state of health has put the entire public and private health care systems to the test.

As a consequence there has been an overflow of demand for attention and service in most primary healthcare centers, causing considerable delay in the diagnosis and early treatment of physical and mental illness. These delays have resulted in more damage to the individual's health, which is often irreparable resulting in disabilities and even death.

In the case of mental health, there has been an exponential increase in new cases of mental illness, as well as an aggravation of previous cases. The risk of suicide in the general population has also increased.

In the social sphere the loss of employment and housing has brought about a significant increase in homelessness. Prolonged confinement has reduced face to face work, reinforcing "telecommuting" in public welfare services. The digital divide has a very negative impact on the access of the neediest and most disadvantaged layers of society to benefits and aid.

Faced with this complex situation, Betel has a firm commitment to maintain its social program, offering free access within a drug free, residential environment.

Betel has launched a suicide prevention protocol, supervised by the psychologist of Betel Madrid and their professional team. This protocol is directed towards people previously admitted to shelters with a history of suicide attempts and/or current thoughts of suicide. The work is supervised

by Betel's professional staff which consists of our psychologist, social workers and university internship students, all accredited by the governmental authorities of Madrid.

*Faced with this complex situation, Betel has a firm commitment to maintain its social program, offering free access within a drug free, residential environment.*

## Prison Ministry

*"You visited me when I was in prison"*

In prisons throughout Spain, Betel sends teams of volunteers to hold weekly meetings that bring hope and encouragement through a variety of activities such as music, personal testimonies, videos, forums and conferences. As a consequence of Betel's work in the prisons, a number of inmates have been able complete their prison sentence in the Betel program.

### Correctional Facilities visited:

- » Ocaña I - Toledo
- » C.P. Madrid V Soto del Real
- » C.P. Cuenca
- » Seville I - Seville II
- » Botafuegos - Algeciras
- » Ceuta
- » Alhaurin de la Torre, Malaga
- » Archidona, Malaga



**Castille la Mancha, Spain**  
Day off for inmate from Ocaña II  
Prison spending time at Betel



**Helsinki, Finland**  
Food pantry operated out of the Betel Charity Shop



# Preparing Leaders

## Leadership training course reaches more students

Since 1998 Betel Madrid has offered and celebrated annually our “Basic Monitor Training Course” where people with various levels of responsibility in our homes learn from our team of professionals (doctors, psychologists, social workers, etc). The objective is to equip the workers with skills to better look after others and themselves, and to better understand the program from a bio-psycho-social and occupational perspective.

This approach provides practical tools to enable workers in Betel to give more effective help to people in our peer driven program. The essence of the pro-

gram is that people with common problems are empowered to help each other. One of the principal goals of our course is to enable our student monitors to become agents of social change in their surroundings.

In 2021, the XXIII Basic Training Course was held from September 22 to December 15, with a duration of 18 teaching hours. For the first time, the course combined face-to-face and on-line learning, with 75 students in attendance, including 25 on-site students and 50 online students, from various delegations of Betel Spain, as well as Portugal and India.

*For the first time, the course was a hybrid learning experience with 75 students from Spain, Portugal and India*

Madrid, Spain  
Graduation of the XXIII Monitor Training Course



Madrid, Spain  
“Adulam” Bible classes



Malaga, Spain  
Monitor Training Course

# Dental Clinic

## Dental care with a social focus

In Betel we have developed a dental clinic that serves the general public, but aims in particular to help groups with limited economic resources. The clinic provides dental services at reduced prices, being undisputed leaders in the sector of social dentistry.

Betel offers these services in the International Headquarters location in Madrid, Spain. The project is made known through the website (clinicabetel.org) and social service offices of Madrid, providing dental care during 2021 to 3.142 patients with a total of 10.221 consultations.

In addition, 473 patients have been referred by Public Health Services and by the Municipal Social Services of Madrid, as well as by Caritas and the Red Cross. In 2021 Betel also provided full or partial economic financing for the treatment of 58 residents in Betel's program.

3.142

Patients

10.221

Consultations



Madrid, Spain  
Dental team at the Betel Clinic located at the International Headquarters



Website  
clinicabetel.org



# Who we Help

## Profile of a Betel Resident

In 2021 it is noteworthy that 38% of Betel intakes were living alone prior to admission in the center. On the other hand, 25% of intakes come in off the street or have unstable housing (boarding house, shelter, rehabilitation center or prison).

In addition to the data regarding solitary living and unstable housing, 18% of residents have completed primary education and 40% have graduated from high school, with 47% being unemployed long-term.

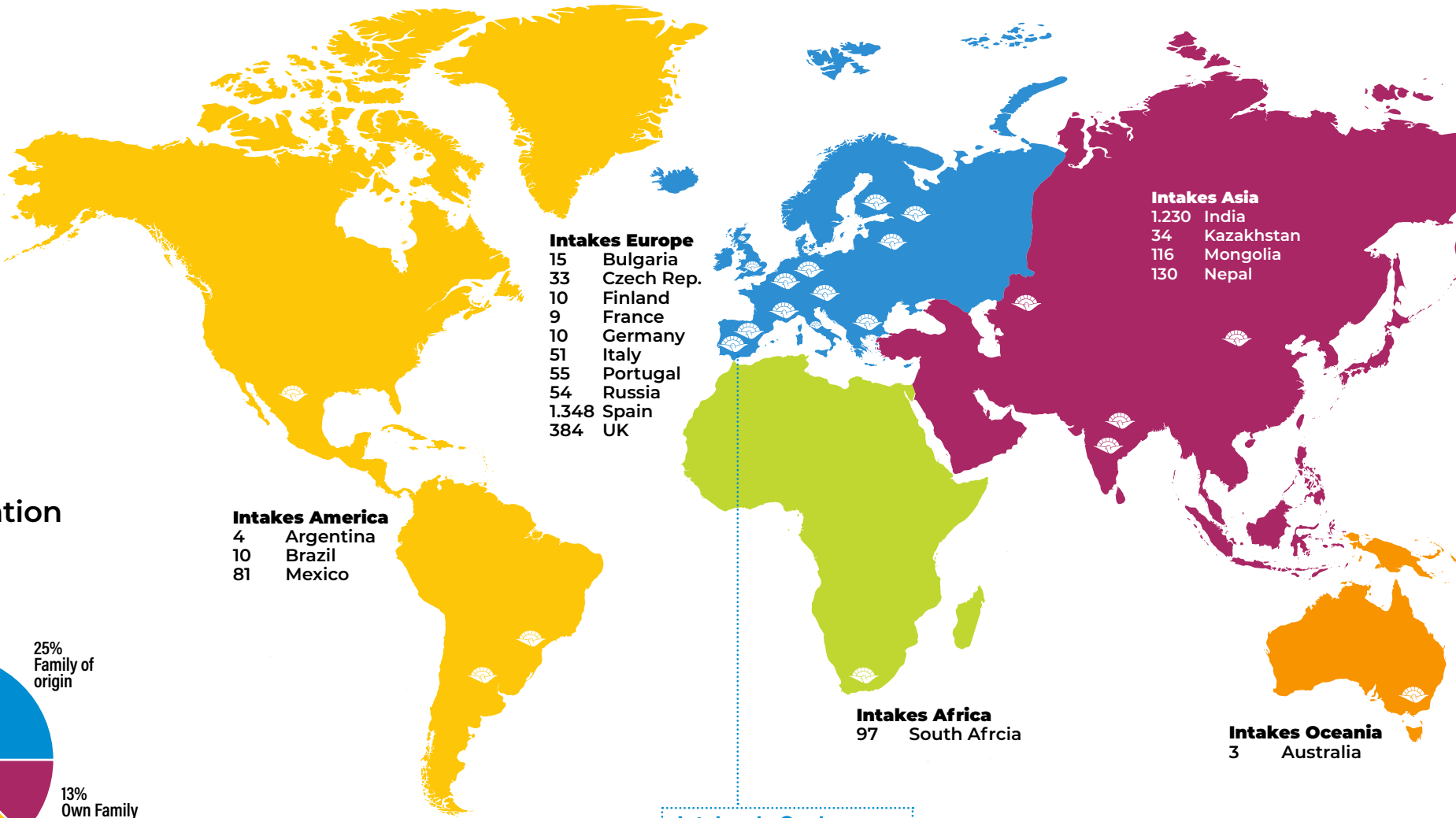
This risk of social exclusion and marginalization, aggravated by loneliness, unstable housing and homelessness, is compounded by physical and mental health problems, with drug addiction standing out as the main reason for admission in 49% of intakes and alcoholism in 31%.

**88% Men**  
Median age: **43**

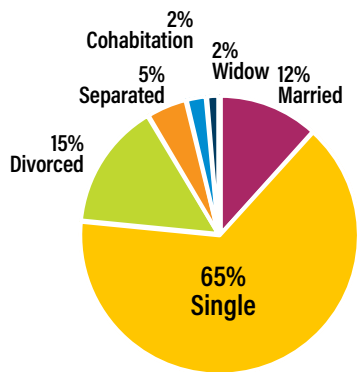
**12% Women**  
Median age: **42**

International Intakes 2021

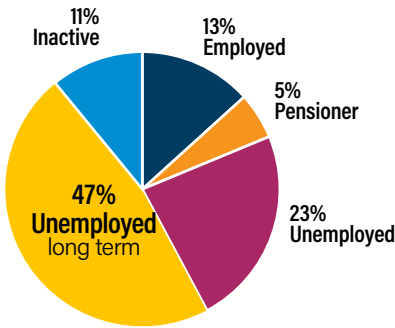
**3.671**



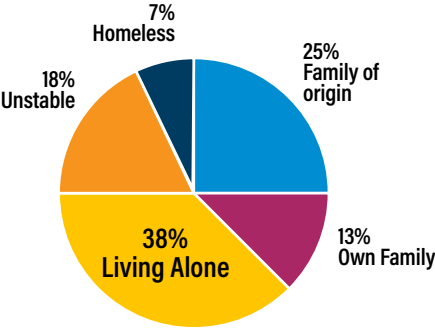
Marital Status



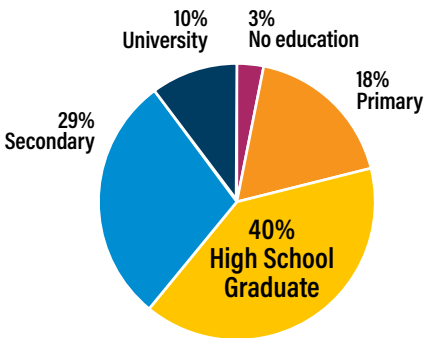
Employment Status



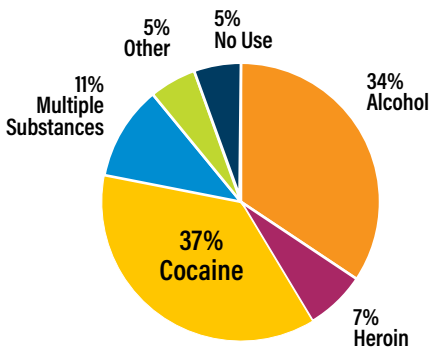
Living Situation



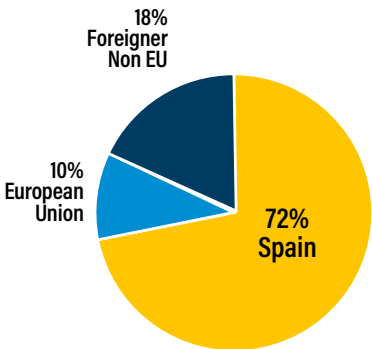
Education



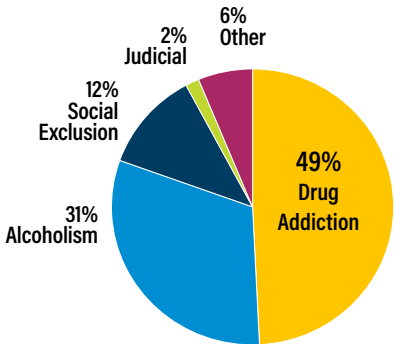
Substance Consumed



Nationality

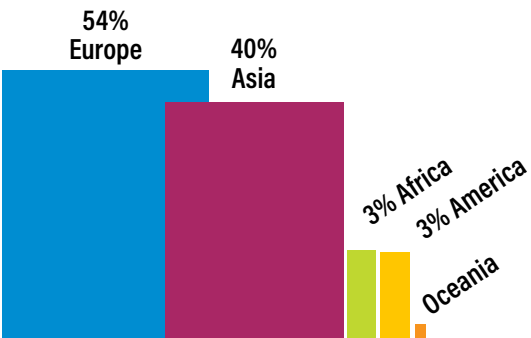


Reason for Admission



Intakes in Spain

Andalusia	508
C. Madrid	387
Castille	174
La Mancha	
Valencia	148
Catalonia	69
Aragon	19
Balearic Isl.	20
Galicia	7
Basque C.	9
Ceuta	7
Total	1.348





# Celebrating 25 years of Betel in the United Kingdom

*Betel reaches out to the local community with a performing arts center and much more*

Betel of Britain opened its new building, Anchor Point in June 2021 with a meal at its Rising Cafe, which was attended by local police and supporters. Along with the cafe that is open six days a week, Anchor Point has also become the home of Anchor Point Church, as well as a theatre, a dance studio, and event spaces. This new space is serving both Betel Birmingham and the surrounding community.

Anchor Point Church holds weekly Friday and Sunday services that include visits from other Betel Centers and attendees from the community. The church has also partnered with Westminster Theological Centre (WTC) and a few other churches, to provide theological training at Anchor Point for interested pastors at Betel UK as well as students from other churches.

In the same week that Anchor Point opened, our Infinite Arts performing arts team hosted three performances of the play "Wonder", an original musical linked to Alice in Wonderland, written, directed and performed by men and women of Betel. So far in 2022, there has been a theatre workshop for children, 8-16 years old,

and the workings of another drama that will include real-life testimony from performers whose lives have been impacted by Betel.

Things that Anchor Point is doing to reach the wider community are: a weekly toddler group for parents and carers looking for company and a safe welcoming space for them and their children to socialize, in-house Zumba and Pilate classes taught by our trained professionals, event space rental, and custom orders from our cafe bakery.

In May 2022, Betel of Britain celebrated its 25th Anniversary, looking forward to what lies ahead, in the financing of the remainder of the headquarters and the building of deeper and stronger links locally and nationally. The unfinished space is planned to become a beauty salon, soft play area and main conference room.

The Nottingham men's center at Manna Farm is up and running, providing accommodation for 36 men and two families. The complete renovation of the previous men's house has also commenced which will increase capacity to house 26 men.



**Birmingham, England**  
Original play written and directed by Betel residents at the new headquarters "Anchor Point"



**Birmingham, England**  
"Rising Cafe" in the new headquarters

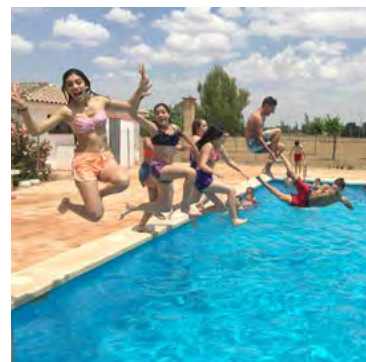


**Nottingham, England**  
New Betel house for 36 men and 2 families



**Birmingham, England**  
Betel residents in the kitchen of the "Rising Cafe"





**Ciudad Real, Spain**  
Summer Camp for children at the Betania Retreat Center

## Youth Ministry

*Equipping the next generation with eternal values*

Betel has always placed great value on teaching Christian principles and values to children, teens and young adults, knowing that they are the present and the future of this generation.

With this goal in mind, every year Betel develops socio-educational projects designed for the youngest in our communities.

In 2021, Betel carried out activities in Betel communities all over the world, with Summer Camps, Sunday School programs, Video Forums, Musical Training, etc.

**Ciudad Real, Spain**  
Summer Camp 2021 at the Betania Retreat Center with the theme "Heirs of His Promises"

**Ciudad Real, Spain**  
Betel Youth Camp 2021



**Sattal, India**  
Asha Bhawan Youth Camp 2021





# Transformed Lives

## Ruben's story

I was born and raised in a town in Ciudad Real. Our family was very humble and dysfunctional due to different situations, but we never lacked anything material.

I grew up with many insecurities and issues that tormented me (shame, fear, etc.). Around the age of 13 I started to get involved in the drug scene. Over the years I became a compulsive cocaine user. At age 17 I already had a pretty serious addiction, but nothing happened, since I still had money and health. I could cover it up and lead a double life. Two years later my life became hell.

I still remember with pain those years 2009 and 2010. They were the worst years of my life. I stole all my family's money and jewelry. I saw how the situation was killing my mother and I agreed to try an out-patient program to stop the addiction, but to no avail. I lost friends, no one trusted me, and I found myself at a dead end. I eventually tried to take my own life. Thank God, he had a plan for me. After some time living in the van that I stole from my father, I decided to return home. To my surprise, nobody was willing to help. They were tired. It was then that I decided to look for a free rehab center. I found Betel and I didn't hesitate. I didn't have much choice. I was on the street and about to go to prison. I threw myself into it.

On December 7, my birthday, I boarded a train. I was carrying a suitcase full of dreams and expectations, but also full of failures, fears and a lot of garbage.

I was 25 years old when I arrived at Betel. From the first moment I fell in love with the things they did and how they treated me. For the first time in a long time I could sleep without the fear of being attacked by people who wanted to take my life or steal my drugs.

I backslid during the program and dropped out twice. But I came back and gave my life to the Lord. I said, "Lord, if you help me, I will give you my life." He answered me. He restored me and gave me back everything I had lost.

Later, I met a young woman from church. We got married and have started a beautiful family. They are the engine that keeps me going. They help and encourage me. We are currently serving in Betel Madrid and we are looking forward to all that God has in store for our lives.



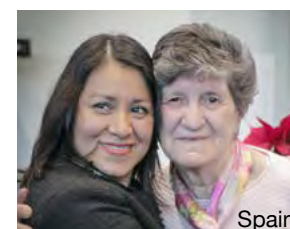
**Madrid, Spain**  
Ruben with his wife Josefina and son Obed at the Madrid headquarters



Russia



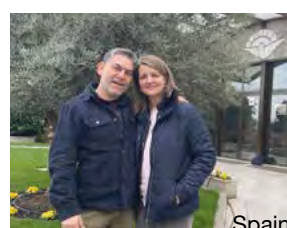
Spain



Spain



Czech Republic



Spain



Spain



Russia



Finland



South Africa



South Africa



Spain



India



Spain



Russia





Outdoor auditorium

## A place set apart

Betania is an ideal location for hosting events, church retreats or camps in a picturesque, rustic environment. Located in Ciudad Real (Spain) the property offers accommodations for 28 families and 300 individuals. There are swimming pools, recreational areas including a soccer field, basketball court, volleyball court and playground. It also has a camping ground for 1,500 people with bathrooms and showers, and an outdoor auditorium for 3,000 people and an indoor auditorium for 300.



Aerial view of the Betania Retreat Center

Pictures of Betania



# Asha Bhawan

## Betel in Asia

Betel in India, known in Hindi as Asha Bhawan (House of Hope) has grown exponentially in the last 23 years. The work in Mongolia began in 2008 and Asha Bhawan of Nepal began in 2009.

During the pandemic, restrictions in these three Asian countries have been severe, but in spite of the difficulties, three new centers have opened their doors during the pandemic: Darangamela and Tura in India along with Dornod in Mongolia.



	City	Year
India	1. Gurugram	1999
	2. Guwahati	2004
	3. Dimapur	2005
	4. Jodhpur	2006
	5. Delhi	2007
	6. Shillong	2008
	7. Kolkata	2008
	8. Chandigarh	2009
	9. Jaipur	2009
	10. Coimbatore	2011
	11. Moreh	2012
	12. Ooty	2013
	13. Kota	2015
	14. Solan	2016
	15. Trivandrum	2016
	16. Itanagar	2017
	17. Siliguri	2019
	18. Udaipur	2019
	19. Darangamela	2021
	20. Tura	2022
Nepal	1. Kathmandu	2009
	2. Pokhara	2012
Mongolia	1. Ulaanbatar	2008
	2. Darhan	2012
	3. Zamiin Uud	2015
	4. Dornod	2020



# Get involved

¿How can I help?

## ► Donate furniture

To fund our charity, Betel receives donations of second-hand furniture, appliances, clothing and other household items. Call us to request a pickup.

## ► Hire us

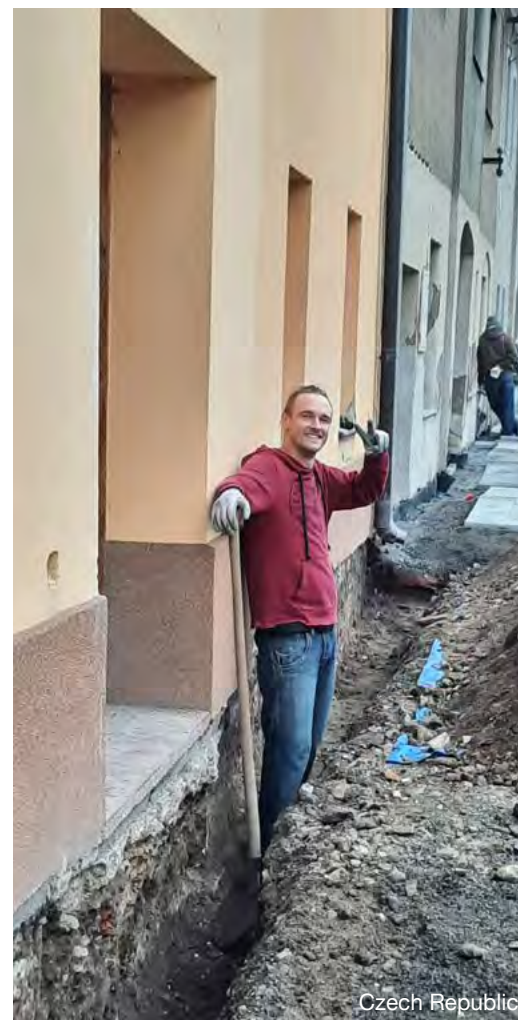
We do painting, masonry and contract cleaning of apartments and premises at affordable prices. Call us and ask for an estimate.

## ► Contribute financially

Each donation helps Betel fulfill its mission to restore broken lives. Donations may be made via our website or bank transfer: ES25 2038 1744 1560 0033 2059

## ► Volunteer

Volunteers are key to Betel's success. Betel's expansion and vision is kept alive by them. Call us for more information or visit: [betelinterns.org](http://betelinterns.org)



Czech Republic

Visit from FERMAD at the Madrid headquarters



Ceuta, Spain



Sevilla, Spain



Algeciras, Spain (Rock of Gibraltar)

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Betel International headquarters in Madrid

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