



## Profile: Pauline Horder



One thing that I have found many times in my life is that God does not waste our time or experiences. My role in PACE has proved that to me yet again.

Having come back 'home' to this area after moving around the country with my husband's work I was expecting to retire from co-ordinating a busy youth counselling service with Oxon's Co Council Youth Service and run a small B&B at home.

However, that was when God directed me to PACE in order to use my personal and professional experience and training to support PCWs in their work in schools. So with retirement on hold I started work for PACE in Nov 2002 as the PCW Development Manager.

From working with youth workers and school counsellors, I knew that these very demanding roles needed continual encouragement, support, guidance and supervision. PCWs are in similar situations taking on stress, anxiety, fear, confusion and anger from hurting children and young people, also supporting the adults around these young people, both school staff and parents. This is a heavy work load which is never predictable and constantly changing.

So my role became development of PCW work, which involves;

### **With the whole group**

- Training, often teaching the use of tools that I, and the workers, have devised during work experience.
- Networking, sharing good practice that has worked well with pupils and parents. Also encouraging and praying for each other and our schools.

### **With individual workers**

Supervision.

- Listening to them, encouraging and supporting them in their own personal and professional development and to use their own personal style.
- Helping them to step out into ways of working they may not have tried before.
- Reflecting on incidents and issues and working through issues with pupils.
- Praying with them.

My main focus is individual supervision and support, visiting each worker in their schools at least twice every half term.

So being a parent, supervising a pre-school playgroup, working in schools, with homeless young people, as an outreach youth worker on the streets, as a Crusader Leader, in Christian Camps and as a professional counsellor with children and young people has all contributed to my experience.

In turn God is using this to encourage and enable the PCWs to continue to work in the schools using their unique skills, abilities and giftings to share God's love in practical ways.

**Pauline Horder**

