



Prison Fellowship Press Release – 24 June 2024

Catherine De Souza appointed as CEO of Prison Fellowship England and Wales.

Prison Fellowship England and Wales (PF) has announced the appointment of Catherine De Souza as their new Chief Executive, starting 2nd September 2024.

Catherine, an ordained minister in the Elim church, has a strong background in the criminal justice system and in rehabilitation having held senior roles with Langley Trust, Alpha for Prisons and Caring for Prison Leavers (formerly Caring for Ex-Offenders). She has also served on related boards, such as Clean Sheet.

On her appointment, Catherine shares, 'I am thrilled to be joining PF and am looking forward to working with the Board, Support Team, Volunteers, and Supporters, as together we show Christ's love to people in prison and their families. It's a privilege to take on the leadership of such an impactful ministry as we respond to the growing need across the prison system, demonstrating God's heart for marginalised people and playing our part in seeing lives and communities transformed.'

Chair of the Board, Peter Harlock, adds, 'After extensive interviewing and prayerful discussion, the Board Search Committee was unanimous in recommending Catherine for appointment. That is because Catherine communicated to us a thoughtful and passionate ambition about the future of PF's ministry and has the mix of tools and experience for this season. She is no newcomer to prison work with Alpha and other such ministry experience. The CEO of PF needs to be a spiritual leader and she has led churches, too.'

Catherine De Souza replaces Peter Holloway who steps down as CEO on 28th June 2024. PF is incredibly grateful to Peter for leading the organisation faithfully and successfully for eight and a half years.

Between Peter Holloway's exit and Catherine De Souza's arrival in September, the Board has asked Andy Prescott, PF's Head of Fundraising and Communications, to step into the role of Acting CEO.

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Notes to Editors:

Prison Fellowship's mission is to show Christ's love to people in prison by coming alongside them and supporting them. We seek through prayer and practical care to help, support and develop a Christian ministry to people in prison, their families and their communities.

Our network of over 2,300 Volunteers is delivering life-changing services to people in all of the 122 prisons across England and Wales. Volunteers are connected through local groups. As well as supporting prisons in prayer, groups run PF's programmes *Sycamore Tree*, *Angel Tree*, *Letter Link*, *Prayer Line*, *Bible Studies*, *Chaplaincy Support* and *Pastoral Care*.

PRISON FELLOWSHIP

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