Belfast Profile

Belfast has many international students, more than 5,000 at Queen's University and several thousand more at the Ulster University's Belfast campus.

Friends International has had staff in Belfast for more than 20 years and works in partnership with Christian Unions Ireland (CUI), its CUs, and local churches. For some years international student ministry in Belfast has been centred on the area of the city around Queen's, but more recently it has grown to include opportunities across the city. As well as outreach events during term time, there is also a summer outreach and a new Philip Project course, teaching Christian International students Bible handling skills; understanding it well for themselves and to teach others.

Ongoing hospitality, friendship and outreach ministries continue to be the heart of ISM in Belfast, but there are further possibilities and fresh challenges as international student numbers, demographics and needs continue to shift.

To meet the opportunity and need, we are seeking to grow the Belfast team, adding a Staff Worker (experienced in mission and/or cross cultural ministry) and an Apprentice Staff Worker willing to be trained. The right individuals will be appointed to join Kim Becker, our Senior Staff Worker in Belfast, to help us fulfil Friends International's mission; To work with the church to communicate the good news of Jesus to international students in both word and deed and in whole life cross-cultural discipleship. In addition to the general responsibilities of a Friends International Staff Worker (which can be found in the accompanying job description(s)), specific responsibilities of this post include:

- Envisioning, partnering and resourcing churches and Christian Unions for mission among international students.
- Assisting with the iWelcome Programme, which takes place in September and January for newly arriving international students.
- Helping organise and join in the summer international outreach programme.
- Supporting established church and CU led activities to further Friends International mission in the Greater Belfast Area, such as international cafés etc.

Please note that some seed funding money may be available for this role. The exact amount will be confirmed at the time of interview.



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