

## Basis of Faith



Both of our founders, Lord Shaftesbury and John Groom were inspired by their Christian faith to take action for those affected by disability and poverty. Today our vision is of a transformed society where disabled and disadvantaged people can live life to the full.

But what does the Christian faith mean for Livability in practice today? At its heart it means that the motivation for our work springs from the Christian faith: an understanding of who God is, how he has been revealed in Jesus Christ and how he calls us to live and work in the world. This 'basis of faith' is at the core of Livability's work and continues to inspire our work and inform our values of quality, inclusion and justice.

### **We believe in a God who:**

- Created and sustains the whole world and who loves all people unconditionally
- Has created every human being in his image and that each person, whatever ability or disability they possess, is born with a purpose and with equal worth
- Desires us to be in relationship with him and with one another
- Desires a world full of compassion and justice. He wants his people to 'act justly, love mercy and walk humbly' with him (Micah 6:8).

### **We believe that God has been uniquely revealed in the person of Jesus Christ:**

- Whose incarnation as a vulnerable human displays God's radical love
- Whose teaching and example has given us a model of a life of self-giving love
- Who longs to see each person reach their full potential and experience 'life in all its fullness.' (John 10:10)
- Who showed through his mission on earth a particular concern for the marginalised and those affected by disability and poverty
- Whose death on the cross and bodily resurrection has defeated the power of sin and offers to everyone reconciliation with God.

### **We believe that the Holy Spirit empowers us:**

- To bear witness to the truth of God's saving love through our work
- To go out into the world and put our faith into action to work for justice and wholeness
- To continually be transformed both as individuals and as an organisation, by the grace and love of God.

*This Basis of Faith underpins all the work that we carry out. It is not an attempt to rewrite the confessions or creeds of faith of other churches or religious denominations. Livability remains affiliated to the Evangelical Alliance.*