

Newsletter



Issue November 2023

Volunteers urgently needed for our upcoming food collection



TESCO ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE- Urgent help needed

Volunteers are urgently needed for the annual TESCO collection at Batley; Garforth and Seacroft Tesco stores between 10 and 4 on Thursday 30 November; Friday 1 and

Saturday 2 December. Please spare a couple of hours to help out. Contact us via telephone- 0113 2772229 or by email – volunteering@leedssoutheast.foodbank.org.uk

Food needed

Top items needed are-

Tinned tomatoes; cooking sauces; juice; tea; biscuits; tinned fruit; custard; long life milk, advent calendars and selection boxes.

How the Foodbank helped

Food distributed by our volunteers and number of people helped

During the period April 23 to September 23 we gave out:-
Food Parcels: **8563**
Total for Adults: **5238**
Total for Children: **3325**



Message from Emma Revie CEO of The Trussell Trust

I want to thank you so much for getting all your voucher data onto the system in time for our mid-year stats release, especially in the midst of the extraordinary times we are in.

On Wednesday 8 November, we will be making public the data. They tell us that between April and September this year you have provided 1.5 million emergency food parcels to people experiencing financial hardship.

Though I know these figures will not be surprising to you as you see firsthand, day in and day out the increase in need at your food bank, I also know that they will weigh heavily on you, as they do on me. I was recalling my first national conference at Trussell Trust in 2018 where I spoke of the 1.3m parcels you had provided in the previous 12 months, and I am so deeply saddened that this year you needed to provide a higher number of parcels in the first six months alone.

As we see so many people struggling to get by, I continue to be in awe of you and your teams as you act with compassion and justice to provide such incredible support to your communities. And whilst with these levels of need it can at times leave us wondering if change is coming, I see and share every day your passion and hope to make it happen.

Compassion drives you even when it can be hard to see how to stretch things further. To raise more food, open for longer hours and offer more services. Our shared commitment to justice means we know that things cannot continue like this, and the work you are doing locally to create change and call for action is incredible.

As the Guarantee our Essentials campaign continues to gain traction, so we dig deeper into that stubborn hope we share that things can and will change.

And as we face into a difficult winter, we will be doing everything we can to stand alongside you.

Warmest wishes,

Emma Revie CEO



Volunteers needed at our warehouse in Beeston

We urgently need volunteers to work in the warehouse to collect and sort food donations.

If you can spare a few hours per week please contact telephone- 0113 2772229 or by email – volunteering@leedssoutheast.foodbank.org.uk

Christmas Cheer

PLEASE HELP

We would really appreciate donations of Christmas advent calendars before Friday 24 November for our clients' children. Selection boxes are also needed ideally before 15 December to ensure our clients' children receive them by Christmas.

MONEY BUDDIES

Leeds South & East, Leeds North & West and Wetherby food banks have been running a pilot Money Buddies scheme. In Leeds South & East foodbank, we have Money Buddies at St Andrew's, Beeston; Epiphany, Gipton; St Cyprian's; Hunslet Methodist church and St John & St Barnabus. Over the year ended September 2023, the scheme has attracted 1181 new clients, (494 at Leeds South & East). Debt of £624,751 has

been managed (£254,751 Leeds South & East) with £61,307 being written off (£21,779 at Leeds South & East). Financial gains achieved during the year was £511,176 (£249,495 at Leeds South & East).

Our sites in Leeds South & East, during the period 1 July to 11 September 2023, 224 people accessed the service, with debt of £127,280 being managed; Financial gains of £58149 were achieved of which £55828 were benefit gains.

We want to see a future where food banks aren't needed and we know that together, we can make that happen.

Find out more about our work by visiting our website:

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