

# Newsletter April 2020 Care by the Community For the Community

# What's happening

#### **Good News**

Many things have changed in the last few weeks, but we are still feeding families in crisis who come to us.

- We have changed the foodbank sessions to ensure social distancing to protect clients and volunteers
- We prepare parcels before foodbank so clients can pick up their parcels efficiently
- Referrers can now write a voucher on-line so they can refer by telephone, working from home
- Clients call a single number to get a voucher for foodbank
   (0333 772 1916)—thank-you to Onward for staffing this line
- We have started to deliver parcels to families who are self isolating and British Gas have offered help with deliveries
- Lots of new donors have given us food. White Label Recruitment; an engineer who maintains noodle making machines has given lots of......noodles; local schools; and Morrisons in Hyde
- Continuing support from ASDA and Tesco—as their stocks
- New grant funding has become available. We have been given £5,000 by Forever Manchester and are waiting to hear from other donors



# Other things

- The rush for food at the start of the pandemic hit our usual foodbank staples (tins, UHT, pasta) very hard. We have not been able to buy from supermarkets, but things are settling down and we now have accounts with a couple of wholesalers
- We have not been able to run our usual "buy a tin for the foodbank" collections, but financial reserves and new grants mean that we can buy food

# **FOODBANK OPENING HOURS:**

Hattersley Baptist Church Tuesday 12.00 - 1.00 Friday 2.00 - 3.00 St Mary's Church, Hollingworth Monday 11.00 - 12.00 (or call 07709 098068)

# **About Tameside South and Longdendale Foodbank Ltd**

The purpose of the Foodbank is to relieve persons in our community who are in poverty, need or distress. Originally focussed on Hattersley, we have extended our service to Hollingworth.

We co-operate with other charities, voluntary bodies, faith groups, statutory bodies and other community based organisations to achieve these purposes and to exchange advice with them.

Hattersley Baptist Church, Melandra Crescent, Hattersley SK14 3RB e-mail: info@tamesidesouthlongdendale.foodbank.org.uk m: 07901 786905 Website: www.tamesidesouthlongdendale.foodbank.org.uk

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# How you can help

#### Volunteers needed

Many of our regular volunteers are having to self isolate, which has hit us hard, but some of our younger volunteers have more time and we have new volunteers (thanks Neil and Sam). Home Start (a charity supporting families) is suspended but their volunteers have come to help us and British Gas are providing volunteers with vans for deliveries. Our warehouse is quite small making social distancing difficult, but the Rajah family come into the warehouse on their own to make-up food parcels.

The limited space and trying to keep social distancing means that we have enough volunteers at the moment...but we are not sure what the future holds—if you would like to help then send an e-mail to

hr@tamesidesouthlongdendale.foodbank.org.uk and we will put you on our list. If you have a DBS certificate we would particularly like to hear from you.

# Donate food

At the moment we are having difficulty buying so please donate food. We tend to run out of specific items so please consider giving more:

UHT Milk Tinned rice pudding Cereals
 Tinned meat Tinned soup Soap

• Tinned spaghetti hoops Sanitizer Disposable cleaning cloths Bring the food to Hattersley Baptist Church Tuesdays or Fridays 10-4pm or to St Mary's Church Hollingworth Mondays 10:30-12:30.

# Donate money

We are not able to do collections at the moment so we are having to buy food. It costs around £30 to provide a family with a food parcel and we are giving out 30 parcels each week. You can give on-line at <a href="https://www.givey.com/tamesidesouthlongdendalefoodbankltd">www.givey.com/tamesidesouthlongdendalefoodbankltd</a>

Please help local people in crisis by buying items from the list below. They can be delivered to the Distribution Centre during opening hours. Items in bold are particularly needed at the moment Thank you!

Milk (UHT or powdered)
Soap, sanitizer
Tinned meat
Tinned fruit
Fruit juice (UHT carton)
Pasta sauces
Sponge pudding (tinned)
Carrots, peas, sweetcorn (tinned)
Rice pudding (tinned)
Soup (tinned)
Rice/pasta

# **Foodbank numbers**

# Please consider how you can help meet the growing need from local families in crisis

On average in 2019/20 we gave out 17 parcels a week. In week beginning 23rd March we gave out 69 parcels

Most of the increase is people who have lost their jobs or who are struggling to feed children missing a school dinner.

Average cost to buy food for a single parcel £30

Number of deliveries since corona virus lockdown 10 but we are expecting deliveries to increase.

#### **Volunteers**

Thanks to all our volunteers who are still helping even when they are self isolating

- Ingrid—who has taken on all the administration for new volunteers
- Moira—who is co-ordinating deliveries, calling clients to check details
- Ann—looking after our referrers in schools
- Alan and Janet— checking all the phone numbers on our new signposting leaflet
- Margaret—who has handwritten "welcome" cards to go in the parcels

**THANK-YOU ALL**