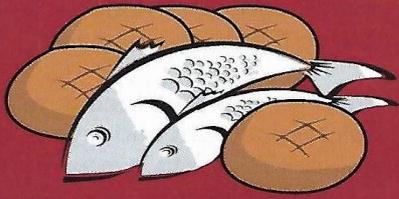


## Fund for Human Need

Registered Charity No. 208866



*Where a little means a lot*

**January 2019**

# THANK YOU!

It has been a year since we started sending out information and re-publicising the Fund around Methodism and your response has been fantastic. We have seen an increase in the number of churches involved sending collections and donations, and an increase in donations from individuals. We still need to keep on spreading the word, (can you help?) and we are looking for those generous individuals and organisations who can commit to give regularly so we can better predict our income and plan our grant distributions. This will help us help those in need like X. she fled domestic violence from her partner and struggled in temporary accommodation for a long period, tried to settle elsewhere and found herself in a second abusive situation. X battled with her mental health throughout this period. When she returned, she was again in temporary accommodation which exacerbated this. Although now given social housing it is unfurnished, and the house is damp which has caused health problems. A grant would go towards heating and furnishing this new home.

**Our**   
**Calling**

**Service: being a good  
Neighbour**

## Donate

If you can help us in supporting individuals who have no access to the major relief funds or benefits, please access our website at:

[http://fundforhumanneed.org.uk/?page\\_id=111](http://fundforhumanneed.org.uk/?page_id=111)

There you will find all the information you need on making a donation or regular gift.

Or you can contact us at:

[fundhumanneed@gmail.com](mailto:fundhumanneed@gmail.com)

## Updates on Fundraising

# Remember

Thanks to our Grant (From MAPJ)

# 100%

of your donations go to those of our 'neighbours' in the most need.

If you have not seen our film have a look at it on the website or at <https://vimeo.com/282308832> or <https://vimeo.com/284961519>.

**Remember: Facebook page** – If you use Facebook please like and share the page. Over 900 people viewed the film on our work through this media. We are looking at making it 'giving friendly' by the addition of a direct giving button.

**Making presentations** - We had an excellent time at 3Generate in November speaking to the leaders of the youth groups and giving out resources. (now available on the website). We will be at **ECG** at Scarborough over Easter-come and find us in the Market Place. We hope to be at some spring synods and are looking at going to **Greenbelt** in the summer. We need to keep this work in the news.

**Encouraging local fundraising**, bake sales, coffee mornings and other fundraising events as well as collections or donations from churches and other organisations. Can you help? Can we help you?

**'Smile.Amazon'** – if you use Amazon to shop please use the 'smile' version and nominate us. 0.5% comes back to the Fund, and we have had our first payment. It costs you nothing.

**Inviting regular giving by Standing Order** – and increasing this where possible by gift aiding donations which enables us to claim back the tax and add 25p to every £ donated

**The backbone of any charity is its fantastic committed supporters who, whatever the amount they can donate, give regularly. If not already doing this, is this something you would consider?**

**Could you be a 'Friend to FHN'?** – We are looking for people who can raise our profile within their communities and make people aware of the work we do. Check overleaf for details.

## Focus on Domestic Violence

Many applications come to the Fund for Human Need from agencies helping the victims of domestic violence. (54 applications last year) These people have often fled situations with very little and are often starting again in empty properties far from friends and support networks until their safety can be assured.

### Remember that:

Domestic violence is a crime and Specialist Domestic Violence Courts now operate in 25 courts with a conviction rate of over 70% (CPS survey 2006)

Domestic violence is very common. One woman in four experiences domestic violence at some point in her life. A victim may live with domestic violence for years before they tell anyone or seek help.

Domestic violence is very dangerous, and everyone has the right to live without fear of violence and abuse. The abuser is solely responsible for their abusive behaviour. The victim is not to blame; violence is a choice the abuser makes.

### What can you do to support?

Talk to them. You may have to try more than once. Try to be direct and start with something like, "I'm worried about you because....."

Do not judge.

Listen to and believe what they tell you – too often people do not believe.

Reassure them that the abuse is not their fault and that you are there for them.

Don't make decisions for them, they must make decisions in their own time. They are at most risk at the point of separation and immediately after leaving an abusive partner.

Leaving takes a great deal of strength and courage. **A victim often faces huge obstacles such as nowhere to go, no money and no-one to turn to for support.**

Focus on supporting and building self-confidence.

Acknowledge strengths and remind them that they are coping well with a challenging and stressful situation.

A victim is often very isolated and has no meaningful support – help them to develop outside contacts.

If they have not spoken to anyone else, encourage them to seek the help of a local domestic violence agency.

Be patient. It can take time for a victim to recognise abuse and even longer to be able to take safe and permanent decisions about what to do. Recognising the problem is an important first step.

<http://www.nationaldomesticviolencehelpline.org.uk/support-a-friend-or-family-member-experiencing-domestic-violence.aspx>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-abuse-how-to-get-help>

B is a single mam with three young children aged up to five years old. B was having a relationship with a man who was physically violent towards her but did not live with her. The relationship has recently ended due to his abuse. The police were called as B was being held hostage. B was able to escape the property but then a siege commenced. The police eventually accessed the property and her ex-partner was arrested. However, whilst in the property, he did a lot of damage, threw liquids and hot chip oil at the walls and floors and did other damage. Now, B now needs to renew her children's possessions and redecorate as the damage is a constant reminder of what happened. Grant £80



## We're looking for friends:

- **To** ensure FHN leaflets / newsletters are topped up and visible in all places where Methodist services take place and are distributed to all relevant meetings such as Church Council etc

- **To** ensure FHN's work is mentioned regularly in newsletters and draw attention to the film and website.

- **To** use links to you have with Methodists Online /U3A/Methodist Women in Britain/The Guild /Women's Fellowship (or other relevant organisations) and see if they can help?

- **To** recruit more Friends - and ask them to recruit more.

- **To** organise a coffee morning (or similar) fundraiser where the film can be shown, and donations made and standing orders encouraged

- **To** send in a report (it need only be brief) to the Steering Group so we don't duplicate activities

**All supplies and support provided, and if one of our trustees / officers is within reach we could send a speaker too.**

**Keeping in touch** – we will send a newsletter regularly, by post or email, to those who want to know what we are doing. For new supporters we will get in touch to find out your preferences. If at any time these change please let the administrator know.

Administrator Mrs Gill Mason:  
fundhumaneed@gmail.com 01325 244992  
6 Newlands Road, Darlington, Co Durham. DL3 9JL. If you need any help, leaflets or gift aid envelopes please get in touch.