



FHN Resources for youth groups.

Leaders Sheet

Case studies

Two sets of cases to be decided. These are real people who have applied for grants - this can be done just with the questions on the sheet, used as cue cards for role play (if you have a dramatic group) alternatively say that just 1 or 2 payments are available and ask for decisions who gets them.

Ask your young people to make their own decision then review them together in a group.

How can charities decide who to help?

Debate cards

1 set of 8-character cards. Groups that love to talk and debate have a chance to discuss the issue of homelessness and how it can affect everyone within a community.

The cards can be used as they are or as the basis to think about and prepare for a bigger debate.

This activity also gives speaking and listening practice - everyone can be encouraged to take notes, ask and answer questions - set it up like a proper council meeting, you can have 2 people to each role.

Other questions and discussion topics

FHN is one of the few charities in the UK that gives money - most give advice or vouchers, is giving money to those in destitution or difficult circumstances safe? A good idea?

There is a new campaign to allow asylum seekers to work while their case is decided (#Lift the ban) is this a good idea?

[Type here]

Survival problem

Money management at its most extreme - a difficult subject and may not be suitable if you know any of the group are living under these circumstances but allows young people to explore how difficult life can be. The chance cards also show how small things going wrong can mean difficult choices, or how food banks and charities can make life a little better.

It may help to give a list of basic food prices if you cannot access internet for supermarket prices where your group meets.

Friends Job description

We have included in this pack a friend's job description. We are currently looking for people within churches and associated groups to promote FHN. We will supply leaflets and other resources and help.

There is no reason why this could not be a young person - is there anyone within your group that is ready for new responsibility, that would relish promoting a charity like this, that could organise fundraising and speak on behalf of the charity at church meetings? An under 18 would need an adult recommendation.

Or perhaps your group would like to set up a team and do something for us - have a look at the film on our website (www.fundforhumanneed.org.uk or at www.vimeo.com/282308832 or www.vimeo.com/284961519)

We hope you find these resources useful - please contact our administrator if you need any further information or help.

FHN where a little means a lot.

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FHN Case Studies No 1:

What would you do? Who would you give to? How much would you give?



Ms K is a young, single woman and a European Asylum-seeker. She came to the UK in 2016 but did not claim asylum until April 2018. During the intervening period (2016-2018) she had some support from her local

community but was essentially living on the streets. The last person she stayed with said that she could no longer take responsibility for Ms. K. She contacted social services and as a result was placed at a residential care home. Ms. K is pregnant, and the baby is due shortly. She has been told that the baby is of low weight. She has very poor English and is confused and vulnerable. This is her first baby and she is without any form of support and is often in pain and unable to walk very far. Since her asylum claim has not yet been processed she has no recourse to public funds. She was referred to a community charity and another charity supporting Ms. K with food and clothing. She is very worried about what will happen once the baby is born and how she will manage as she has no food, clothing or nappies.



N is currently completely destitute and street homeless. N arrived in the UK roughly 4 weeks ago from Namibia. He claimed asylum and was immediately detained. Whilst in detention he was afraid

that he had been jailed and withdrew his asylum claim (he had no legal advice at this point). He has been released from detention and is working with his lawyer to submit a Judicial Review. Due to these very unusual and unfortunate circumstances, N has no entitlement to asylum support or to any other public funds. Our organisation has supported him with a one-off emergency destitution grant of £72. This, of course, is only a short-term assistance and we have explained to him that unfortunately we are unable to provide any further support. He has absolutely no money and has already commented that he has lost weight since arriving because he is unable to eat properly.



B is a young 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. He did not live with her. The relationship has recently ended

due to his physical abuse. The police were called as B was being held hostage. B was able to escape the property but then a siege commenced for several hours between him and the police. The police were eventually able to access the property and her ex-partner was arrested. However, whilst he was in the property a lot of damage occurred due to his destruction of things. He threw liquids and hot chip oil at the walls and floors and caused a great deal of damage to the family home. Now, B needs to redecorate as the damage is a constant reminder of what happened.



G has been homeless for over 2 years now after making some poor choices following the deaths of his adoptive parents.

G has been offered a property now through the Council and really needs support to access this accommodation. He has got to pay 4 weeks rent in advance which is £240 as well as travel expenses and general housing costs, £80, furnishing and decorating the property, £200. G receives £317 per month in benefits and will use this towards the cost of accessing the accommodation. A grant from your organisation will support G to move into this property and to focus on turning his life around.

An FHN payment may only be £60 - where would it do the most good?

FHN Case Studies No 2:

What would you do? Who would you give to? How much would you give?



Mr W is currently homeless and living in a hostel. When he came off the streets he was receiving ESA and had been for over 10 years. After a healthcare assessment he was told he was

no longer entitled to ESA and told to apply for UC. He had weeks of no money and he lost over 2 stone. Mr W is 57 and has severe back pain, PTSD and anxiety and often feels suicidal. He has really struggled to keep going. He is now receiving benefits but is receiving less than £60 a week to live on. He is having to pay an advance payment back and he has become very behind in his service charge at the hostel and is very worried about this. He has been supported with food vouchers, but he simply doesn't have enough money to clear his arrears which will affect his chance of moving into second stage accommodation. When in second stage accommodation he will be supported to find suitable permanent accommodation where he will still get a level of support as he admits he doesn't think he can cope living independently.



Our client fled Sudan fearing persecution as an asylum seeker she was forced to leave her home with nothing and has no belongings or assets that she can use for support.

She claimed asylum and support on arrival with the Home Office but has yet to receive any decision (Immigration and Asylum Act 1999), this is delayed in the Home Office due to backlogs. She is being supported by the local Coptic Christian church with housing but remains vulnerable with no access to financial support. We have assessed her as destitute and are providing access to a food bank. We have appealed to the Home Office for them to address her destitution needs. We are now appealing for financial support which is needed for travel, food, medication and other essential items. As a Coptic Christian she regularly attends services. With no bus fare she must walk everywhere. She must also travel to the Home Office to comply with Immigration Bail conditions.



Y was discharged from hospital about 8 weeks ago. He was in hospital due to suffering mental health problems. He was in hospital for 5 weeks. Y has bipolar disorder. Y left hospital and ended up on the streets. He came to the

Hostel and I have been supporting him. he had no ID and no money and due to him changing his name in 2009 and only having his birth certificate which showed a different name he has not been able to open any type of bank account or make a claim for benefits as they insist he has a bank account. He has had nil income for many weeks and only eating at a shelter that provides meals once a day and having no food at the weekend. He has been fainting and he is still waiting to get back on his medication. I have managed to get him help to get a proof of name change but Y has no clothing and he is wearing the same clothing all the time and his shoes are falling apart. The weather is getting colder now, and he needs a coat.



B is a newly arrived asylum seeker with a 3-year-old child. She is still waiting for her section 95 support to start. We had to send a few

reminders to the Home office she is still waiting to hear back. B is suffering from serious mental health issues. She was subject to honour-based violence in her home country by her own family/relatives because she entered a love marriage. Her local village council issued a death sentence for B and her husband. They tried to escape, but her husband was found by the villagers and shot dead. B managed to escape with her little one and with the help of an NGO she arrived in this country and claimed asylum. She has just started the process and waiting for her financial support to start. She needs some support to buy food and some weather appropriate clothes for her 3-year-old child and herself.

An FHN payment may only be £60 - where would it do the most good?



FHN - Debate cards: The Character cards can be given out at random, giving a short time to think about the situation each speaker can then have a limited time slot to put a point of view and then they need to jointly come up with a plan. (other possible characters Local MP, Charity worker eg. Shelter, Salvation army officer, big issue seller.)

The aim – to show Homelessness as a complex problem that affect all society and not an easy one to solve.

Lord Mayor

(Chair of the group)

Manages the meeting, telling other characters when to speak. Takes notes of the main points and makes suggestions for the plan.

The Lord Mayor is worried by the people living rough in the city centre - feeling it is giving a bad impression and holding back development that could help everyone. He has called the meeting to find a solution

City council Social services adviser

Worries:

The lack of facilities to help people who want to get off the streets

That they do not have the staff or budget to deal with new initiatives.

Suggestions:

That Charities are invited to set up hostels and initiatives - but out of the city centre.

That landlords are forced to bring empty property back into use - and that rents are limited.

Shop owner

Worries:

The image of the city is changing

People are worried about using the city centre, lorries have problems making deliveries and people may not bother to visit shops.

Businesses may be charged for any new initiatives.

Suggestions:

Make sure social services take people or the police move people on.

Householder

Worries:

Property values are going down and if the council need money for this it will be the council tax that goes up to pay it.

That property near him may be used as hostel or temporary accommodation.

The homeless people frighten him - but he's trying not to show it!

Suggestions:

Just wants it all to go away!

Would be happy if people were told to move on

Minister

Worries:

His church does not have many people and cannot run a big enough project

That the council will expect him to come up with some answers.

Suggestions:

If Social services can provide a safe spot, he can organise a soup kitchen to feed some.

Shopper and/or worker

Worries:

Embarrassed by the people he/she finds sleeping in the doorways

Frightened to ask people to move

Worried that it might affect his / her job.

Suggestions:

Ban sleeping in the town centre area

Provide cheap places to stay out of town.

Bus operator

Worries:

People are using the busses to stay warm and frightening away other users

Not enough people use the busses, so they are losing money.

Suggestions:

Late busses will not take cash - only cards

At the ends of runs everyone will have to get off - no round trips, people will have to get off and change busses in the centre

Doctor

Worries:

His practice is straining to cope with the numbers of people needing treatment with no address

He can't get some of his patients into the local hospital because they are bed blocked with patients that have no homes to go to.

Suggestions:

A specialist healthcare team that go around the city centre at night.

Shoes worn
out cheapest
pair £15

Winter Coat
second hand
shop £12

Feeling poorly
Lemsip for a
week £8

Bus fare to
and from
doctors £5

Phone top up
(pay as you
go) £10

Phone broken
– basic
replacement -
£30

New
underwear
£10

Asylum
Fees £375

Solicitors
bill £2500

Visit to
friends or
family £30

Salvation army
payment +£20

FHN
Payment
+£50

Food bank
visit £15
worth

Free
toiletries
£10

Food bank
visit £15
worth



Job Title:

Friend / local representative for Fund for Human Need

Purpose: The Friends and local representatives are key to maintaining the charities visibility within the local church and area.

Location: The Friends and local representatives work within their own church and associated organisations.

Key Responsibilities:

- Ensure FHN leaflets and newsletters are topped up and visible in all places where Methodist services and activities take place and are regularly distributed at all relevant meetings such as Church Council etc.
- Ensure FHN contact forms and gift aid envelopes and other supplies are available for events.
- Advertise FHN's work, contributing regularly to newsletters, notices and other local publications, mention the film and website too whenever possible.
- Promote FHN and its work on any other related forums, Like and invite friends to like the facebook page, make links to the website.
- Recruit more Friends - and ask them to recruit more too.
- Organise a fundraiser where the film can be shown, and donations made. Where people can be encouraged to sign up as supporters.
- Send in a report (very brief) to the Steering Group so that we know what activity has taken place or is planned and its impact - and so we don't duplicate activities

Reports to Administrator for FHN

The Length of Appointment: 12 months.

Time Commitment: Averaging at approximately 2 hours a month

key skills:

Communication skills; Be willing to talk to people at formal and informal events, write short reports for notices and other local church publications. Able to report on activities in writing by email. Advertise local events.

Reliability; Keeping everything up to date without being prompted. Making reports on time and meeting publication deadlines

Organisation; Able to coordinate contributions for a fundraiser, book rooms, check equipment and services, involve others and keep them up to date.

Support: FHN will provide all resources, leaflets, posters forms, access to a film and other promotional material. Speakers may also be available (depending on geographic area). Also, the administrator will be available for questions and assistance.

Age Requirement: 14+

This is a volunteer role – however it is an opportunity to demonstrate skills that would be useful on a CV or job or college application.