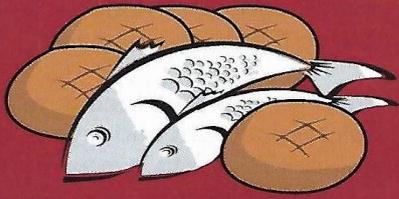


Fund for Human Need

Registered Charity No. 208866



Where a little means a lot

January 2021

Celebrating 60 years

'loving our neighbours'

THANK YOU

 We are

very grateful to all who are supporting us in what is for everyone a very difficult time. Regular donations are especially helpful as we seek to meet a demand for help that is likely to be greater than ever in the coming months.

Covid Impact.

2020 has been a year of serious ups and downs for FHN, a most serious "up" saw monthly applications reach nearly 200 in June, the continuing "down" being our income stream.

Normally in a year we would be out and about promoting the work of the Fund, at small church groups and services and bigger events such as Spring Harvest, Greenbelt and of course the Methodist Conference and this contact with people is what helps with our income. Fortunately, a reduction in income was partly offset in the summer by our wonderful sponsored walkers and, more recently, new advertising in the Church Times.

The level of applications remains high. We have had several new organisations finding us each month, many of them desperate for ways to help clients where other sources have dried up.

Like most charities we have had a serious drop in income. As churches and other groups try to adapt, with meetings in different forms, we know many are wondering about their own financial future but can you help us to help the most desperate?

The Need. November 2020.

Becky* was recently allocated a house in a new area after suffering domestic violence. However, there are no carpets, bed, furniture or oven/microwave. A community engagement worker has obtained bedding, a wardrobe, kitchen utensils and basic items, but we are mindful that she still can't move in to sleep without a bed. Becky is working with the step-up service who are taking steps to get her a job and gain more independence. She is willing to learn, return to work and access training.

We have issued bus tickets to help her get to the house to clean and decorate it, for which she shows strong motivation. We are also supporting her with information, advice and guidance. (* name changed)

After an emergency payment from FHN was made we received the following acknowledgement:

December 2020: I can confirm the cheque has arrived and we have managed to find a single bed discounted to £80. Becky asked that I pass on how delighted she was that you were able to help and she will now be ready to move to her home for Christmas. Kind regards, Senior Family Mentor, Groundwork.

Groundwork is a federation of charities mobilising practical community action on poverty and the environment across the UK.

THE NEED We work with many different organisations; 'Gilead' treat and counsel those battling with addictions in a residential setting where they can also retrain for employment. The cost of residence, treatment and training takes all of a client's benefits etc, so they apply to us for a payment to help fund small personal and hygiene items to boost self-esteem and foster self-reliance. We made such a payment (£80) to help this lady*:

'I have been battling with addiction to alcohol and prescription medication for over 10 years and have found it very challenging to come to terms with some deep-rooted issues over those years.

The love and faithfulness of God never ceases to amaze me and he directed me here in May to a place where all you receive is love and kindness. I am truly grateful to be with these women, it is a very special place. I am working through the Process with my counsellor which is really digging up those roots and helping me realise some key things, which I believe will lead to the unlocking of the chains that have kept me bound for years. I now have a real passion for gardening and how therapeutic it can be and what a great source of wellbeing it is. I now have a hope for a good future." (* name withheld / changed)

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Working with others.

At the Fund for Human Need although we will accept personal applications it is preferable and, in some cases, necessary that an application is made through an organisation. These are charities, community groups, churches, housing associations and increasingly NHS trusts or local authorities. We now have a list of over 120 such organisation that we deal with, and applications from them accounted for over ¾ of our 2019/20 applications. These local experts know the clients and their situations well, how difficult things are and how everything is affecting them and their families. They are also in a position to get whatever it is the clients need once the funds are provided.

These organisations are working at the sharp end personally trying to help people in desperate circumstances with nowhere else to turn, often even their own systems cannot provide the type of individually tailored, flexible help we can as our small amounts of money can provide just what the individual / family needs.

Thanks to you:

Many thanks. We hope this email finds you well. We are writing to acknowledge receipt of and thank you for your cheque for £80. We understand that you would be getting many applications and this is why we are **very grateful** to be selected among the beneficiaries you have helped. It is grants/donations such as this that help to keep us running our services, even in difficult times as these. We do appreciate your support. Many thanks and best wishes. **Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers**

Just wanted to confirm that received the cheque. thank you for the support, it has **made a big difference** to A's life during this challenging time. Hope all is well! Kind Regards,
www.caritassalford.org.uk

Firstly, I would like to **thank and gratitude for your support on behalf of our most vulnerable** citizens and society at large in 2020. As we end 2020 and move into 2021, we wish you a restful winter, a happy Christmas with your bubbled loved ones and a happy new year. Best wishes, **Horn of Africa People's Aid Northern Ireland**

Morning, I am writing to acknowledge receipt of the £80 grant payment for our client. Our finance team are processing this cheque currently. **Ourselves and the client really appreciate this kind support.** Kind regards, **Freedom from Torture**

Keeping in touch – we send a newsletter regularly, by post or email, to all supporters and interested parties. We will get in touch to find out your mailing preferences. If at any time these change please let the administrator know. Mrs Gill Mason: fundhumanneed@gmail.com
Ph: 01325 244992 Post: 6 Newlands Road, Darlington, Co Durham. DL3 9JL.

The Need: From an organisation helping those in the asylum system in the North.

B is a refused asylum seeker from Pakistan. He is homeless and sleeps rough on the streets. He suffers from severe anxiety and has been diagnosed with PTSD. His solicitor has tried to argue his case with the City council for financial support and accommodation on the basis of his mental health. There is very little 3rd sector support available during this pandemic because most charities are still closed. B is hoping to receive a positive decision from the city council, social services about some practical support but he doesn't know when he will hear back. B has requested some help to buy a warm winter coat, a sleeping bag and some healthy food to keep him going until he hears back from the adult social care, B doesn't have a mobile either, he can buy a £10/£15 basic mobile phone to stay in contact with his solicitor and support organisations. **Award £80, for food, sleeping bag and phone. Oct 2020.**

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

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

Other ways you can help - 60th Birthday card appeal Electronic version sent and others ready to be distributed as soon as synods meet again. We will keep this going into 2021 until every church has heard about it.

Other news outlets- as we have all moved to electronic media or hand delivered local notices because of the lockdowns, is there a local news outlet that you could send our information to?

Resources - Our film, copies of this news sheet and other resources are available on the website – www.fundforhumanneed.org.uk

Electronic giving- We are on 'Just giving' search for us or use the button on the website.

Home shopping- we are on **Smile Amazon** and **Give as you live**, if you nominate us a percentage comes to us with no cost to you.

Standing Order – Regular giving is so valuable and if you can Gift Aid it adds 25p to every £ donated. Details on the website.

The backbone of any charity is its fantastic committed supporters who, whatever the amount they can donate, give regularly. Is this something you can consider?