Receive our newsletters direct to your inbox:

Email address:

Welcome to our Winter Newsletter!

Happy New Year! We hope everyone has had a peaceful, warm and safe Christmas break. We're excited to share our foodbank updates, acknowledge some of the incredible efforts from our supporters, and highlight ways you can get involved to help us spread hope beyond hunger this winter.

Christmas Campaign

Thank you very much to everyone who sent in food, toys and Christmas cards for our Christmas Campaign!

We also want to say a huge, heartfelt thank you for your incredible generosity and support for the Hope Beyond Hunger campaign on Crowdfunder. Together, you've helped us raise an amazing £10,042—a result we couldn't have achieved without you!

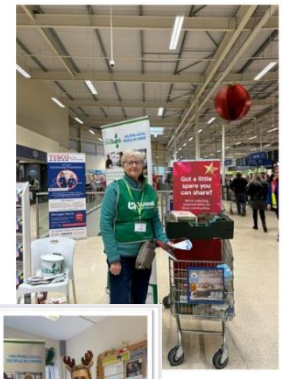
Father Christmas Visit

At our foodbank centres, on the run up to Christmas, our volunteers were assisting clients to wrap donated presents for their children at "wrapping stations". We're so grateful for the donations of wrapping supplies and gifts to make this possible, and clients have been overjoyed with the generosity. We'd also like to thank Father Christmas for coming to visit us at Loundsley Green to help give out presents donated by Chesterfield Football Club Trust!

Events & Highlights

November Food Drive at Tesco

Huge thanks to our wonderful volunteers, our Tesco Community Champions and the staff and customers of Tesco, for an incredible 3 days of collecting foodbank donations at the Lockoford Lane store at the end of November. Together we collected 2579kg of food and essentials to go in our emergency food parcels. We also collected £388.20 cash!



Donor Thanks: We'd like to say a massive thank you to Peak Oil, GI Group, Chesterfield Royal Hospital and the NHS staff, Chesterfield Football Club Trust, Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School, Lady Manners School, Tesco and the Community Champions, LIDL, M&S, Outwood Academy Newbold, Chesterfield Baptist Church, Elizabeth Phoenix Foundation, Chesterfield Labour Club, Cambridge and Counties Bank, St Johns Church Bamford, Mercedes Benz, Peak District National Park, Our Lady Queen Of Peace Church, Fortem, RSPCA, St Thomas Church, St Andrews URC and all our wonderful donors for their Christmas donations!

Gi Group's Golfing for Good

On December 5th, Gi Group UK hosted an extraordinary day-long team-building event fundraiser at Chesterfield's Glass Yard, bringing employees together for a day of creativity, fun and charitable giving. Teams participated in a scavenger hunt to collect foodbank essentials, and designed and built mini-golf courses using donated items and recycled materials. This story made it into the Derbyshire Times! Read the full story: https://chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk/gi-groups-golfing-for-good-foodbank-festivities/

With regards to our Hope Beyond Hunger Campaign, we'd like to apologise for confusion regarding the Matchfunding timeline. While our Crowdfunder Campaign ran until 8th January, the Matchfunding portion of the campaign ended earlier, on 18th December. This was a detail included in the fine print of the terms set by the Crowdfunder Community Fund, and unfortunately, we didn't spot it during the setup process. We sincerely apologize to anyone who donated after December 18th under the impression their gift would be matched. We're in contact with the Crowdfunder team, and we'll be reviewing how we communicate Matchfunding timelines to make them clearer in the future. Despite this hitch, your donations have made a huge difference and will go a long way toward supporting people in need in our community. We're so grateful for your kindness and understanding, and we truly value your continued support. Thank you for being part of this vital effort.

Chesterfield Foodbank Leadership – meet the team

Trustees

Rev'd Daniel Cooke – Chair of Trustees
John Roberts – Vice Chair of Trustees and Health & Safety Trustee
Sarah Menzies – Safeguarding Trustee
Penelope Hargreaves – HR Trustee
Nicola Fletcher – Trustee
Jeff Kitts – Trustee
Alan Ramsay – Trustee
Ian Hayes – Trustee

Non Trustee Roles

Steph – Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Stuart – Treasurer
Jenny – Donations and Financial Admin Assistant
Diana – Community Outreach Champion

Staff

Patrick Evans – Operations Manager
Jacqueline DeVeaux – Communications, Engagement and Funding Manager & Safeguarding Lead

Stats

From Jan to Dec 2024, Chesterfield Foodbank has provided food to 11170 people, 8493 Adults and 2677 children. Thanks to each and everyone who has supported us to make this possible including our teams of committed volunteers, our donors, partners, referral agencies and supporters. More Stats are available here: https://chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk/stats/

Coming up this year for our clients:

This year, in addition to supplying 3-day emergency food parcels, essential toiletries and hygiene products, we're looking forward to helping eligible clients receive Shelterbags and Carbon Monoxide detectors, and referrals for Gussies Pantry, Small Appliances, Marches Energy Agency support, RSPCA Vet Vouchers while supplies last. Eligibility requirements apply.

Thanks to **Chesterfield Borough Council** for grant funding awarded to help with our "Winter Preparedness Project" to buy foods that can be eaten without heating, and food that can only be heated using a kettle or a Microwave, and some nutritional ready meals and sleeping bags.

CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

One Stop Clinic
Planning is underway for a "One Stop Clinic" support event in collaboration with Derbyshire County Council. To get involved, please contact us info@chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk or Helen Marples at DCC to join our WhatsApp Group – Chesterfield Support Circuit.

Referral Pathways and Outreach
Signposting continues to be a major focus for our foodbank centres, to ensure people using the foodbank are getting onward support. Guest Agencies are attending foodbanks on a rotational basis to offer tailored support. See the schedule: Guest Agency Timetable.
Thank you to our referral agencies and guest agencies for your time and support, and of course to our Financial Inclusion Advisors from Citizens Advice who are with us for every day-time foodbank session to offer specialist housing, debt and benefits advice.
Our Foodbank School Assemblies and Church presentations will be starting back up from March.

Goodbyes and Welcomes

We bid a fond farewell to Emily, one of our amazing Volunteer Centre Managers, and thank her for her diligent contributions since taking over the role almost 2 years ago. Thankfully, she's staying on to assist with some of our work behind the scenes so it's not goodbye! A warm welcome to Helen, who's already doing a fantastic job stepping into the role. Welcome, Helen, and good luck to both you and Emily in your new ventures!

A big welcome to our new volunteers joining us at our foodbank centres and in our Community Outreach Team and Admin roles. May your volunteering experiences be rewarding and enjoyable!

Volunteer Opportunities
We are actively recruiting for a Volunteer Centre Manager at our foodbank distribution centre at Loundsley Green.
Interested? Apply here: https://chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/volunteer/

Keep up to date with News & Updates

Our Online Notice Board includes the following sections and more: What's On Calendar for free events and activities, Signposting and Support, and Alternative Food Provision https://chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk/online-notice-board-main/ Don't forget to follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter too!

Subscribe to our Newsletter
You can subscribe here https://chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk/online-notice-board-main/newsletters/ to have our newsletters delivered to your inbox.

Thank You for Your Continued Support
We couldn't do any of this without you! Whether you're a volunteer, partner, donor, or supporter, your help is invaluable. We're grateful for everything you do, and we ask you to keep cheering us on; together, we make a difference! Thank you for being part of our journey! Wishing all our readers and stakeholders a smooth start to the year, and an enjoyable and safe winter.

Best wishes for 2025,
from the Chesterfield Foodbank Team