www.andoverfoodbank.org.uk

Newsletter

Issue No 11- February 2020

Welcome

It already seems ages ago, but December was an incredibly busy month as we managed to distribute 920 gift boxes and almost 600 Christmas hampers. Demand for both was up on last year. Thank you for your donations that made this possible. Our partner agencies reported that some of the parents were in tears when they picked up their Christmas supplies, your generosity meant so much.

Our thanks also go to the number of people who offered to volunteer over Christmas. Many are surprised that we are closed over the holiday period, but our aim is to ensure that everyone in need have their goodies before the Christmas holidays start. We check emails and phones to cover any emergencies but doing it this way allows people to know what they have in advance and this alleviates much of their stress in the build up to the holiday.

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate action of its members"

Coretta Scott King

Collecting

Keeping fit

Donating

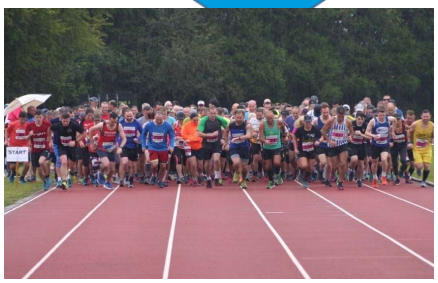
Volunteering

Community lies at the heart of everything we do and here are just a few ways you supported the foodbank in 2019!

Thank you

Trading

Sewing



Running

Hamper packing

IN OTHER NEWS

Save the date!

The 5th Andover Lake Run will be on

Sunday

13th September 2020

Registration will be open soon so keep an eye on our website and facebook for all the updates and news.

Partnerships

This year we have been working particularly closely with Vitacress and Southern Coop on Charlton Road as their chosen charity for the year. These have been great partnerships for us as we have had help with supermarket collections, donations as well as some creative (and crafty) fundraising schemes. A huge thank you to both and we hope you have enjoyed it too!

Team from Vitacress collecting at ASDA

Becoming Makaton Friendly

Shops and organizations in Andover are being encouraged to become Makaton Friendly. Makaton is a communication system that combines the spoken word with symbols and signs. This enables people, who can be quite isolated to make their needs known, to communicate with friends, family and wider community (see here for an example of the difference Makaton can make). To help achieve this, it is essential for others to also know the signs and symbols.

Becoming a Makaton friendly town is an initiative of the Andover Town Council and is being organized by Andover and District Mencap. We are delighted to be involved and volunteers at the foodbank are looking forward to the training and increasing our ability to support people in our community. For more details contact Mencap at mfriendly@andovermencap.org

Dates for your diary

- 27th and 28th February Tesco's collection
- 13th March Coffee and Cake at the foodbank 10:30am all welcome
- 13th September Andover Lake Run

Appeals

Easter Eggs

The first eggs are already in and we will be distributing again to children and vulnerable adults at Easter. Donations of medium sized chocolate eggs would be gratefully received. The deadline is 16th March to ensure we can get them out to agencies and schools in time for the holidays.

#40for40

If you would like to support the foodbank through your Lenten almsgiving, we are asking for you to consider donating 40 pence per day for the 40 days of Lent. If you would like a little money box to help you save you can download a template here or get in touch and we will send you a template.

Current needs

January has been a busy month, we have distributed 117 family boxes and 119 singles. We have a couple of items low on our shelves if you are able to donate.

Tinned Fruit
Tinned potatoes / instant mash
Laundry and cleaning products
Shampoo and deodorant

Thank you

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