



# **Fylde Foodbank**

**Registered Charity Number 1157247**

## **Annual Report for 2018-2019**

### **1 Summary**

Foodbanks provide emergency food, collected from the local community, to local people in crisis. Fylde Foodbank received charitable status on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2014 and officially opened its doors on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014. It was developed under the auspices of Churches Together in Kirkham and District and is part of the national Foodbank network seeded by the Trussell Trust.

During the period April 2018 to March 2019 the foodbank has provided 3 days of food to **1559** adults and **936** children in crisis. There are now **82** agencies registered to issue Fylde Foodbank vouchers, of which **40** have actively issued vouchers during 2018 – 2019.

At the end of September 2014, the Foodbank became fully operational from premises at the Church Road Methodist Centre, St Alban's Road, St Anne's. These premises allowed us to operate the Warehouse and Office whilst providing space to meet and work with clients. The premises complimented the original space in the Citizens Advice building at Kirkham where the Foodbank had been operating from since the original vision back in September 2013.

In November 2017 because of the redevelopment at Church Road Methodist Church the St Anne's foodbank had to relocate. Fylde Borough Council offered us the use of the Public Offices on Clifton Drive South, Lytham St Anne's for which we were very grateful. Unfortunately this was only temporary accommodation as the building is for sale.

In January 2019 we left the Public Offices and relocated to the annex at the United Reformed Church, St George's Road, Lytham St Anne's. The St Anne's foodbank now has a permanent home at least for the next five years. The United Reformed Church congregation together with the Rev Jim Williams have been very accommodating and made us feel very welcome.

Our centre at Kirkham continues working out of Citizens Advice Fylde and an "On Call" system is in place at Warton. This now allows the foodbank to provide a service to our clients 5 days a week from one of our three centres.

Demand for foodbank services continues at a steady level. An increase in larger families using our services could be the result of the introduction of Universal Credit in our area.

## **2 Annual Report**

### **2.1 Highlights of the Year**

#### **Food Collections and Donations**

A Tesco one-day supermarket collection was held in December 2018 generating a total of **1512.93 kgs** of food. We have always been warmly welcomed by Tesco and would like to thank their staff for their co-operation on collection days. The Community Champion at Tesco Blackpool, Lyn Sumner, has now retired. Lyn has always been very supportive of the foodbank and we wish her well in her retirement. Local Tesco Express stores have also held collections on our behalf donating **98.67kgs**.

We are always welcomed by staff at our other supermarket collection points – Booths, Sainsbury's, Marks and Spencer's, Morrison's and the Co-op and we thank them for their ongoing support. The Foodbank has recently developed a new relationship with Aldi in St Anne's and Kirkham.

The network of Foodbank collection points is well established in churches, schools, shops and businesses. The amount of food collected by this method and from private donations together with Tesco collections amounted to **24,527.4kgs** from April 2018–March 2019. **Fylde foodbank would like to thank everyone who has donated food over the last twelve months.**

#### **Food Distribution**

Food distribution has been steady during the year. This financial year food distributed amounted to **26517.24kgs**. Changes of personnel at our referral agencies have required us to re-engage with some organisations and this will be an ongoing task.

Since the opening of the foodbank in September 2014 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 a total of **4558** vouchers have been fulfilled. A total of **10,076** adults and children in crisis have been fed.

Thanks are due to all the voucher holders who are diligent in recognising people in crisis.

The amount of food distributed since the foodbank opened in September 2014 to clients and organisations we have links with in the Blackpool and Fylde area amounts to **103,067kgs**. This has a monetary value of **£180,367**.

#### **Money**

We are enormously grateful to all those who have provided us with funding necessary to carry out the work of the Fylde foodbank enabling us to be on a firm financial footing. Also grateful thanks to those who have provided the food for us to distribute.

#### **Relationships**

We are delighted to report that established excellent working relationships with local supermarkets – Booths, Sainsbury's, Marks & Spencer's, Morrison's and the Co-op. Once again Fylde Foodbank was nominated as one of three local Charities at the Ansdell Co-op store to benefit from the Co-op Local Community Fund. We also have a well-established link with "His Provision" (foodbank) in Blackpool with whom we share our Blackpool Tesco collections and the permanent collection box. Many local Churches, schools, doctors' surgeries and business groups hold food collection boxes on our behalf. We would like to thank them all for their support.

## **Volunteers**

Fylde Foodbank is a volunteer run organisation. An estimated 60 people (including Trustees) help to operate Fylde foodbank. **We are grateful to all our loyal volunteers who give up their time and bring a full range of skills to the organisation. Thank you all.**

## **Foodbank Centres**

**St Anne's** - Our main administration and warehouse centre, now based in the annex at the United Reformed Church, St George's Road Lytham St Anne's. A five-year lease has been negotiated. It is proving to be a wonderful base in a great central location. This centre is open 11.00am - 3.00pm on Tuesday and Thursday.

**Kirkham** – Our Kirkham distribution centre at Citizens Advice on Moor Street Kirkham was our original home and base. Fylde Borough Council kindly provided the use of the ground floor for storage and distribution. The premises have been handed over to Citizens Advice who now have management responsibilities for the building. A redesign of the premises at Citizens Advice has taken place which provides a better working environment for both the foodbank and clients. This centre is open 10.30am – 2.00pm on Monday and Friday.

**Warton** – Originally situated at St Pauls Church in Warton. A limited service is now provided on a Wednesday with volunteers operating an "on call" policy. A telephone number is available for clients to contact in case of need.

## **Governance.**

The Trustee Board currently consists of 7 members. Trustees are appointed for a term of office. As at 31 March 2019 the Trustees were:

Mr Keith Hall – Chair

Mr Bernard Armstrong – Treasurer

Mrs Kim Cook – Vice Chair

Mrs Christine Miller

Mr Ken Rushton

Cllr Mrs Linda Nulty

The Rev Jim Williams

## **2.2 Chair's Report**

As Chair of Fylde Foodbank it gives me great pleasure to present the Chair's report at our Fifth Annual General Meeting.

There is still a need to respond to the local families needing assistance with such a basic necessity of food during times of crisis.

This year there has been an increase in adults and children fed on last year. The totals this year were 1559 adults and 936 children. We are seeing larger families asking for help which could be down to Universal Credit being rolled out in our area.

Good relationships continue with our local supermarkets and we have a new relationship with Aldi in St Anne's and Kirkham. Without the support of local supermarkets we would find it difficult to operate.

Food donations are always welcome, items needed are regularly updated on our web site.

In January 2019 the St Anne's centre relocated from the Public Offices on Clifton Drive to the United Reformed Church on St George's Road. We are very grateful to Fylde Borough Council for the temporary use of their building. We would like to thank the United Reformed Church for allowing us to rent the annex.

The Foodbank now incorporates the Fylde Foodbank Drop In Centre run by Margaret West

The Foodbank finances are in good shape following the substantial grant from the Walter Clegg Charitable Trust.

Serving the needs of our communities is still at the heart of the values underpinning the work of the foodbank, and we can tell by the level of goodwill and hard work taking place week on week that Fylde Foodbank is no exception. The commitment to making a positive difference to the lives of others is very rewarding and still essential.

The operation of the Foodbank continues to be ably led by our Trustees and I thank them for their hard work and dedication in providing the service. Welcome to the Rev Jim Williams who has now joined the Board.

To all those who give their services freely, we owe our thanks.

- Especially to the volunteers at the food banks whose loyal contributions and dedication allow us to collect, control and distribute food.
- To our 40 active referral agencies, who take the responsibility of ensuring that we help those genuinely in crisis.
- To our sponsors and donors who provide the funds to keep the show on the road.
- To the generous people of the Fylde area who have supplied the food through supermarket collections and food collection boxes in churches, schools and businesses.

K. Hall  
Chair, Fylde Foodbank

### **2.3 Fylde Holiday Kids Club**

Organised by local charities and community groups, with support from Fylde Council, Fylde Holiday Kids Club ran from the 30<sup>th</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018. The Kids Club provided summer activities for families and children with a focus on supplying meals with food supplied by, amongst others, Fylde Foodbank. It has been highlighted recently that many children who receive school meals during term time miss out during the summer period as families just can't afford to feed them. The impact of this is evidenced by children returning to school undernourished and underweight at the start of the September term.

The foodbank was very keen to be involved and provided food to the value of approximately £350. 115 children attended at 3 local centres.

Christine Miller  
Trustee

## 2.4 Fylde Foodbank Drop In

With effect from 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019, Margaret West formerly from Face to Face, St Albans Road relocated to the URC Hall on a Tuesday weekly. The Drop In is running under the 'umbrella' of Fylde Foodbank and is very happy to welcome Margaret and her volunteers to the organisation.

## 2.5 Mayoral Charity

During his mayoral year The Mayor of Fylde Councilor Peter Collins nominated Fylde Foodbank to be one of his charities.

## 2.6 Treasurer's Report

NO organisation or individual has received any payment so can I thank all those who have incurred costs for the Foodbank.

The accounts for 2018 - 2019 have been independently examined and will be submitted to the Charity Commission following the AGM.

The financial position of the Foodbank at the end of March 2019 is very satisfactory with a bank balance of **£66485.17** plus petty cash at St Anne's and Kirkham of **£162.96**.  
**Total £66648.13.**

## Income

During the year we have received donations of **£10760.10**. We are particularly grateful to those individuals who make regular payments through standing orders. We also received **£4736.39** from the Co-op Community Fund.

Funds received from MyDonate via our Website amounted to **£3024.19**.

The Gift Aid Scheme generated **£541.47**.

Two substantial Grants of **£37,700** received from the Walter Clegg Charitable Trust

Our total income was **£58.490.40**.

## THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE SUPPORTED US

## Expenditure

Our expenditure was **£12.796.50**. Major items of cost during the year were:

Food purchases	£2651.51
Rent	£1246.50 for both Kirkham and St Anne's
Miscellaneous	£3740
DIY	£1586 (includes alterations to the annex)
Branded clothing	£155
Stationery	£739
Trussell Trust	£360
His Provision	£1184
IT	£471
Insurance/Accountants	£614

If anyone would like a copy of the formal accounts please let me know, or if anyone would like me to explain the formal accounts to them please see me after the meeting.

### **3 Conclusions**

The Fylde Foodbank continues to fulfil the aims of providing food to people and families in crisis. Through the abundant generosity of the people in this area, we have been able to put the Foodbank on to a sound operational and financial basis. Our premises have enabled us to expand our work to cover the whole of the Fylde area.

## **Annexes**

### **Annex 1 Background**

Fylde Foodbank is an independent organisation but is also part of a national network of Foodbanks each having a similar mission. Quality assurance is supported by membership of this network under the auspices of the Trussell Trust. This, among other things, provides standardised operating procedures and evaluation/inspection of each local operation. There are now over 400 similar foodbanks in the UK either in operation or development.

Foodbanks provide food to people at crisis point by means of a voucher system. By this intervention they help prevent people in crisis entering the cycle of debt or criminal behaviour. The food provided is to a set standard, is donated by the public, and involves the willing co-operation of supermarkets and the public.

Fylde Foodbank has the active support of the ministers and members of the churches in Fylde area.

#### **The need**

The index of multiple deprivations in certain parts of Fylde clearly identifies the need in our area. Whilst Fylde is often seen as an area of relevant affluence there are many who are finding it extremely difficult to manage on a daily basis.

Changes in the benefits system and the continuing financial squeeze has added to the need for the Foodbank services.

#### **Operation of the Foodbank**

The concept and detail of Foodbank operation are set out in Annex 2. The Trussell Trust provides a detailed and comprehensive operating manual. This has been followed and extended as necessary to provide the basis of the operation. This includes a strong "brand" identity with a logo and design for work wear. Risk assessment, safety and statutory matters are covered fully in the manual.

### **Annex 2 How a Foodbank Works**

#### **Food is donated**

Food is collected at 'Supermarket Collections': These are events held at supermarkets where volunteers give shoppers a 'Foodbank shopping list' and ask them to buy an extra item or two for local people in crisis.

Schools, churches, businesses and individuals also donate non-perishable, in-date food to a Foodbank. Large collections often take place as part of Harvest Festival celebrations.

#### **Food is sorted and stored**

Volunteers sort food to check that it's in date and pack it into boxes ready to be given to people in need.

#### **Frontline care professionals identify people in need**

Care professionals such as doctors, health visitors, social workers, Citizens Advice, the police together with the local Council and Children's centres identify people in crisis and issue them with a Foodbank voucher.

#### **Clients receive food**

Foodbank clients bring their voucher to a Foodbank centre where it can be redeemed for three days emergency food. Volunteers meet clients over a cup of tea and biscuit and are able to signpost people to agencies able to solve the longer-term problem.