

Autumn Edition

Food4Thought

Serving the people of South Staffordshire 2018



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Welcome to Food 4 Thought - giving you the latest news from Cannock and District foodbank with up to date information about our services

Within the Cannock district, we have a network of 135 volunteers working in 8 distribution centres, with the aid of 85 support agencies, all backed up by our warehouse and admin office.

What is the biggest single, and fastest growing, reason for referral to a foodbank??
'Low income - benefits, not earning' .

Update from the Project Manager

I would personally like to thank all of our wonderful team of dedicated volunteers, without your support foodbank wouldn't be able to function.

Thank you to everyone who has donated food to help feed people in need. At present we are currently providing a record number of food parcels across the area. As we approach Christmas, demand for the services will increase, as well as this, we are prepared for the roll out of Universal Credit, we continue to liaise with key agencies in the area to work together.

National Statistics from Trussell Trust

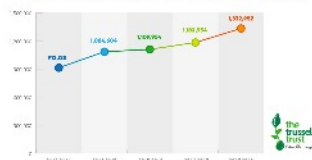
Between 1st April 2017 and 31st March 2018, The Trussell Trust's foodbank network distributed 1,332,952 three day emergency food supplies to people in crisis, a 13% increase on the previous year. 484,026 of these went to children. This is a higher increase than the previous year, when foodbank use was up by 6.64%.



The main issue now, is to focus on the causes of food poverty and how the need for foodbanks can be reduced. We offer **More Than Food** services, which provide assistance with signposting, fuelbank, Eat Well Spend Less and Budgeting.

In Cannock we are looking at a range of schemes to help people eat well and spend less, plus practical support for families with very young babies, school holiday


NUMBER OF THREE-DAY EMERGENCY FOOD SUPPLIES GIVEN BY TRUSSELL TRUST FOODBANKS



What is Universal Credit...

Universal Credit is Scheduled to roll out in November for Cannock.

Official Date: 21st November 2018

Universal Credit is a new single payment for people who are looking for work or on a low income. Universal Credit will help claimants and their families to become more independent and will simplify the benefits system by bringing together a range of working-age benefits into a single  payment.

Could you be a volunteer for the Cannock and District foodbank?

We are looking - in particular for:

- Website Co-ordinator
- Supermarket Co-ordinator
- Benefits Officer
- Warehouse

If you have spare time, energy and interest, please get in touch with Adam - our Project Manager

“I had lost everything” - John’s story

John was his wife’s carer - living in a council owned and adapted home. Sadly she committed suicide, everything became too much and John then made several attempts to end his own life. Whilst in hospital their home was repossessed and all Johns’ belongings holding the memories of his life and marriage of 20 years were lost. His benefit payments stopped, he was both homeless and without the means to provide for himself. Pye Green Christian Centre and the Cannock and District foodbank were able to help John to regain his benefit payments , providing a room in supported housing and food parcels until he had an income John needs time to grieve for his wife, and has problems to resolve but the support that the Pye Green Christian Centre and Cannock and District foodbank were able to give was vital.



Could you support our work...

Foodbank needs your help, can you give just £5.00 a month to help support local people in a crisis. It will help us to budget effectively and demonstrate to other potential funders that our foodbank is sustainable.

Donations can be made via our JustGiving Page or a standing order form can be provided upon request. For Standing order forms please phone 01543 422394.

LATEST NEWS

The Tesco in store christmas collection dates are Thurs 29th November 2018 through to Sat 1st December 2018.

Thank you to everyone who has supported foodbank over the last 12 months. Your donations have helped us receive a record 42 tonnes of food in 2017.

Its that time of year...

Harvest is a time of year where we all celebrate by singing, praying and giving thanks to God. It is a time of sharing and bringing the good news. Churches and Schools across the area hold harvest festivals and donate the food to foodbank.



2017 Statistics

8 Distribution Centres

135 Volunteers

Areas we cover: Cannock, Chads Moor, Hednesford, Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Norton Canes, Burntwood, Heath Hayes, Penkridge and Stafford

Total Fed

4159

ADULTS

2759

Children

1400

Fuelbank

Fuel Vouchers Issued: 581

Overall Value: £23,624

Helping 1197 people

28.4%

Increase from 2016