

July / August 21



NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the latest news from Cheltenham Foodbank

VOLUNTEERS

A special thank you to all who have been involved in our annual in store Tesco. Covid 19 restrictions meant that it was a less interactive event than previous years but it a huge success. With a total of 46 boxes of food donated over the three days we were in store raising awareness of our work in the local community. A big thank you to Christine England who took on the task of overseeing this event.

DONATIONS

As a charity we do rely on the generosity of local people and organisations to enable us to continue the great work we do here. We are so incredibly grateful to each and every one of supporters.

We are currently in need of the following items:

Dog food (urgently required), ladies' razors, shampoo, conditioner, tinned rice pudding, tinned custard, UHT milk, instant mashed potato, sponge puddings, cold tinned meat, jams and table sauces; tomato ketchup, brown sauce and mayonnaise.

Items we have had donated in abundance and already have plenty of are: Pasta, rice, soup, baked beans, pulses, tinned tomatoes, and cereal.

We cannot give out baby formula, alcohol or any produce past its best before date.

Food donations can be delivered to us at directly at our main warehouse at Cheltenham Elim Church on a Thursday between 11am and 3pm.

We have various other collection points in Cheltenham where you can buy items in store and make a donation at:

Tesco on Colletts Drive,

Asda on Hatherley Lane,

Waitrose on Honeybourne Way,

Co-Op on Windyridge Road, Wymans Brook,

Co-Op on London Road in Carlton Kings and

Sainsbury's Local on Cheltenham High Street. A huge thank you to all of the above businesses for their incredible support. If you would like to host your own food collection, please contact us on foodbank@cheltenhamelim.org.

FINANCIAL GIFTS

We are so grateful for monetary donations. Whether a one-off payment or a standing order, donations enable us to continue and increase the support that we can offer to local people in crisis. If you would like to help us by making a monetary donation as either a one off or regular payment you can do so here at <https://cheltenham.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

In Partnership with the Fuel Bank Foundation, Gloucestershire County Council and Cheltenham Borough Council we have been able to provide the additional support of domestic fuel vouchers to clients. This funding will soon come to an end but we would love to continue to provide fuel vouchers to our clients on a more permanent basis so we are appealing for organisations and individuals that would like to help us to make this happen with a one off or regular donation to this cause. If you this is you please contact us on 01242 570080 or by email Sarah at foodbankconnect@cheltenhamelim.org

REFERRAL AGENCIES

Thank you again to all of our referral agencies for the incredible work that you do and for your referrals. If you work with people who you think need food support, but you do not know how to refer them to us, please contact us at foodbankagencies@cheltenhamelim.org. We can provide information about becoming a referral agency or making contact with a referral agency with which you can work.

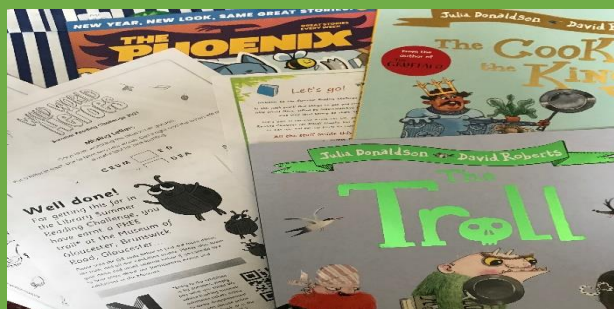
Behind the scenes one unsung hero works tirelessly to keep in order everything referral agency related. Thank you Hilary, we are so grateful for all that you do to connect Cheltenham Foodbank and our referral agencies.

PARNERSHIPS

The Wiggly Worm

During the school holidays, the Wiggly Worm work alongside Gloucestershire Youth Support Team to provide healthy and nutritious meals for young people and their families who need a little extra support. This summer they have be supporting families in Cheltenham, cooking 70+ hot meals for 3 weeks of the holidays. The meals are then distributed to the families at home by their team of volunteer drivers. In total they will be providing over 3,360 meals throughout the county this summer. Each meal comes with fresh fruit and a recipe card so families could learn to cook the meals at home. At Cheltenham Foodbank we are delighted to be able to support this project by supplying ingredients that we have in abundance such as tinned tomatoes, pasta and pulses to be used in the meals. All thanks to our supporters and your generosity.

The Summer Reading Challenge 2021



Thank you to The Reading Agency and Public Libraries who have kindly donated 200 summer reading packs to us to distribute within our food parcels again this year. These packs include a brand new book, activity sheets and information for children 3yrs - 12 about how to join their summer reading

challenge. It is joy for us to be have these to give to families in crisis as a treat for children during the school holidays.

FOOD PARCEL COLLECTION

We have 4 established distribution centres around Cheltenham Town, improving accessibility and availability for local people. We have a newly refurbished area at our Main Centre at Cheltenham Elim Church where we can provide additional support to clients to be sure they have access to the help they need to get out of their current crisis and back on their feet.

Clients enter through the main doors at the front of the building and no longer around the back.

ALL FOOD PARCEL COLLECTION OPENING DAYS AND TIMES

LOCATION	DAY	TIME
Salvation Army Church	Mondays	11am - 3pm
Cheltenham Elim Church	Wednesdays	11am - 3pm
C3 Church	Fridays	10am - midday
St Paul's Church	Fridays	11am - 3pm

Please see our website <https://cheltenham.foodbank.org.uk/locations/> for maps and full location details.

LOOKING AHEAD

We are looking for a core team of volunteers to help us to run an allotment for the foodbank so we can provide fresh produce in our food parcels. If you have experience in this area and two – four hours per week to spare that you would like to commit to this project we would love to hear from you. Please contact Rebecca on [01242 570080](tel:01242570080) or email foodbank@cheltenhamelim.org

MEET THE TEAM



Marissa Regan volunteers with us in our main warehouse from time to time and has been involved with the work of Cheltenham Foodbank for seven years now.

Spanish by birth but English born Marisa has worked for Tesco for 21 years and is community champion there. She says her community work supporting Cheltenham Foodbank has opened her eyes about food poverty in Cheltenham. Marisa enjoys being what she would describe as 'A small cog in a well-oiled machine,' working alongside a great team of like-minded people and she feels humbled and blessed by the generosity of the people that donate to the foodbank through the collection at the Tesco store on Colletts drive.

Thank you Marissa for all you do for Cheltenham Foodbank.

Thank you to all of our supporters From Cheltenham Foodbank Team, we couldn't continue the work we do supporting local people in crisis without your help and ongoing support.