

# Alms Giving

**Relief of Hardship 5 year Framework** Following the 2019 AGM, The Society agreed to a Relief of Hardship Framework which undertook to fund several Charitable Causes with annual grants over a 5 year period. The following Causes have been identified and funding is ongoing:

## **Chorley Help the Homeless**

With your generous support we were able to fund over £3,600 of fresh food Chorley market vouchers for our visitors between November 20 and March 21. This enabled us to distribute both a food parcel and £5 worth of fresh food market vouchers per week for each homeless visitor and a larger food parcel with up to £20 fresh food market vouchers for a family of four.



In April 2021, we received confirmation from Chorley BC of an additional contribution of funding towards the rental of larger premises only a five minute walk from Dorothy House. This enabled the charity to relocate its frontline services to said premises, at the Gateway, where we are currently delivering a much improved, COVID compliant service to our visitors as well as providing a safer working environment for our volunteers, who now total 25! A further £400 of the Broughton Trust grant was used to assist with the purchase of essential tables, chairs and a new telephone system for the Gateway, in order to help create a welcoming reception area for our visitors.



Since January 2022, CHTH has had to temporarily withdraw the fresh food market voucher scheme with the exception of our street homeless visitors, as it proved so popular with families with children that we ran out of funding sooner than budgeted. Thank you all once again at the Broughton Society for your critical financial support at what has been a very challenging time. The new funding proposed for 2022/23 will greatly assist our charity to enhance its existing 'drop in' food service by installing new worktops/units and appliances in the kitchen. We've already had an offer of free kitchen units, to be donated by Howden's and your grant funding would assist us to cover the cost of fitting the kitchen, installing electrics and a new dishwasher, estimated to be £1000. Currently we offer up space at the Gateway to enable Narcotics Anonymous to provide support to around 20 people, one evening a week. Over the next few months, in partnership with Jigsaw homes, we aim to set up a Healthy Eating Project, subject to a bid to the council to secure additional funding . **BCCS has granted a further £4,000, together with £4,000 in 2019 and £4,000 in 2020 making £12,000 granted to date.**

# for 2020-22

## ACE Project

Assisted Community Engagement Project has delivered an offender resettlement project for over 15 years. Individuals referred to the Project have life histories of deprivation, poor educational attainment and frequently a history of being in care. This is reinforced by addiction, poor mental health and incarceration. The process of recovery is often difficult as individuals have to address long standing habitual thinking and behaviour patterns, and relapse is common. BCCS grants are going towards helping vulnerable individuals being supported by the ACE Project that have multiple issues and with no financial, family, or other support. The majority have been through the care system, and many have dual diagnoses for mental health and addiction. They are often the most difficult to help, as they don't fit into any single criteria for support.

With the continuation of the support received from the Broughton Society, the generous donation/grant of £4000 went towards supporting many vulnerable people who are struggling to cope in society with no financial, and mostly no family or other support. The fact that ACE are fortunate to have this funding enables immediate help, which is momentous when individuals are faced with the distress of being desperate for something to change their predicament. The vulnerable people ACE supports have some, or all of the following issues:

- Homelessness/insecure housing
- A history of adverse childhood experiences and lack of secure attachments
- Addictions including; Drugs, alcohol, substance misuse, gambling
- Mental and physical health issues
- Inability to access key services who can provide help
- Alienation from families and the wider community

£2000 Hardship Funding Pot + £2000 Mental Health & Wellbeing Funding Pot: Due to COVID, and the limitations of activities allowable during the pandemic, we were able to transfer some of the funds from the Mental Health & Wellbeing funding pot to the Hardship funding pot. This enabled ACE to provide more support to vulnerable people in need of essential items when accommodation was sourced by the ACE team. The items included; new bedding, towels, crockery, cutlery, toaster, kettle, microwave, carpets, gas/electric tokens, mobile top-ups and much more. **BCCS has granted a further £4,000, together with £4,000 in 2019 and £4,000 in 2020 making £12,000 granted to date.** Everyone that received this support has cherished the financial assistance from the generous donation/grant provided by the Broughton Catholic Charitable Society. This has given many people a chance of a new beginning, and hope for the future ahead.



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**YMCA Harbour House** Harbour House (Lytham) provides temporary accommodation in 12 self-contained flats for young people aged 16 to 21. Whilst in accommodation they are supported in several ways including support to find employment, access to training and education, cookery sessions and healthy eating. They have limited PC equipment and more and more of the application process for jobs and social housing must be carried out online.



Initially, the first grant was used to purchase new computers and laptops for the communal area to increase the scope of education and training. This proved most successful in helping to expand the use of job seeking and searching for accommodation of flats.

All residents are now able to access the Internet when the communal area is not available, which was the case during the long periods of lockdown. This meant they were able to continue to access education and training programmes, which had and continue to be, delivered online. They were also encouraged to keep contact with their family and friends thereby promoting positive relationships.

**Food & Health:** In order to improve the skills of the young people going out into the world on their own, we plan to run regular cooking sessions. As the facilities in the cooking area are no longer suitable for this purpose, part of the funding received will greatly assist with the purchase of a new oven and the necessary pots, pans and utensils. This is intended to ensure that everyone in difficulty or hardship should have basic cooking skills and be able to cook healthy and nutritious meals on a budget.

**Starter Packs:** When a young person moves into our accommodation, they do not have the basic items needed for independent living. Starter Pack items are long lasting and practical, meaning that when a young person is ready to move into their own accommodation, they can take the items we've provided in the Starter Packs with them. We don't want young people to live without pillows and towels, to not have a kettle to make a cup of tea, or to have to borrow a knife and fork to eat their dinner.

**Formal Clothing:** Being well dressed can improve the self-confidence of a young person and what they wear affects how they are perceived by others. Therefore, wearing appropriate clothes, for example, a formal suit for an interview, builds confidence and can make a young person appear more serious, conscientious and respectful.

We would like to purchase a range of smart clothing that our young people can borrow if they wish to attend meetings such as job interviews or court hearings.

**BCCS has granted a further £4,000, together with £4,000 in 2019 and £4,000 in 2020 making £12,000 granted to date.**

# for 2020-22

## Bolton Young Parents Project



provide invaluable support to those young girls who find themselves in desperate circumstances, due to poverty, homelessness, violence or alcohol and drug abuse at the already quite daunting time of becoming a new mum. Bolton girls referred to them can be as young as 16. Pregnant with no family network, and often no option but to sleep rough on the streets of Bolton; life has not been easy for these soon-to-be mothers. In 2021, a grant of £4,000 was awarded to Caritas Salford's 24/7 accommodation for young parents at Radcliffe Road Bolton, enabling them to provide invaluable support to young women who found themselves in desperate circumstances, due to poverty, homelessness, violence or alcohol/drug use.

This contribution to the home's running costs means ten young women, rendered homeless and referred to Caritas through Court Protection Orders, were accommodated and fully supported at a daunting time in their lives.

They were each readied for independent living through the ***Being Healthy*** training programme on child development, healthy eating and money matters. Parents are also referred to ***The Freedom Programme***, which deals with safe relationships and self-esteem, improving the ability of young people to take control of their lives and reduce their risk of exploitation. An example of the impact:

*JC's baby was subject to a Child Protection (CP) plan, due to JC's own experience of poor parenting. JC really applied herself and engaged in all of the support sessions available to her during her stay with us, including the completion of training courses such as: Freedom Programme and Incredible Babies. Due to her consistency in engagement with both staff and other professionals, and proving herself to be capable of parenting her child positively, the CP plan has been stepped down to Child in Need. All agreed that it was time for JC to move to her own tenancy. JC is now in touch with family, and relationships are greatly improved.*

**BCCS has granted a further £4,000 together with £4,000 in 2020 making £8,000 granted to date.**

**Salford Loaves and Fishes** received a grant of **£4,000** in October 2020 to help support Homelessness and people in need in and around Salford. The aim is to offer users a warm and safe environment and offer services including food - clothing - washing facilities - toiletries - showers - GP Service - dental Service and Citizen's Advice Bureau during the pandemic and lockdown.

**Heywood Food Bank** received a grant of **£3,000** in December 2020 to help with the urgent needs of its users during lockdown and in the run up to Winter and the Christmas period.

## Read Easy Wythenshawe

following on from a start-up Grant of £1,000 in 2019 they have received a further grant of **£500** in August 2021. This has to date helped to teach 61 adults to read, an urgent need which became very apparent during lockdown and home teaching - Adults with poor literacy skills:



- Are 5 times more likely to be unemployed and 4 times more likely to experience long term unemployment
- Develop coping strategies, but are unlikely to reach their potential
- Struggle to help their Children with learning
- Are less likely to vote, or take part in public and community life
- Are more likely to be involved with the criminal justice system
- Earn around £1,500 less per year with poor literacy when employed.

We provide confidential 1-1 tuition, trained reading coaches, half hour reading sessions twice a week offering a friendly, flexible and free service. The 1-1 tuition uses Shannon Trust reading manuals

Jonathan from Baguley has recently graduated and these are his reflections: **How has finishing the programme changed your life?** *In quite a lot of ways. I can help my children with certain things like school work that I couldn't do before. My wife used to do all that. Obviously, I felt a bit down about this. I used to sit there when the kids wanted to read a book, not being able to help. Now I can actually help them with their reading. They have all been very supportive; the older ones have helped me learn to read. My eldest daughter's reaction to seeing her dad read was 'WOW'. When I'm sat at the computer, they've come up and helped to point words out for me. I used to think: "these are 10 or 11 year olds whose reading is so much better than mine", but now I feel that I'm up there with them. And they're really pleased.*



(Photo - Includes Jonathan with Diane Hawkins, the GM High Sheriff and Cllr Tommy Judge, the Lord Mayor and Ann - his reading Coach.)

Sadly **CAMEO-Aid** who we supported in 2018 with a £5,000 grant to successfully sink a Well in Mbirizi, Uganda has closed down due to Covid19 and not being able to attract new Trustees and Volunteers.

**Iraqi Refugees in Jordan - Rafedin Project** have sadly returned a £2,000 grant made in 2019, they were unable to implement the project due to major political issues in the Country.