

# Alms Giving for 2024-25

**Blackburn Young Parents Project** received a grant of £2,000 this year as part of the 'Relief of Hardship Framework' previously awarded to Bolton Young Parents - changed to Blackburn by request of the Charity.

Caritas Maryvale supported accommodation for young parents and their infants, based in Blackburn, has accommodated ten young women during this period. They are each on Public Law Outline\* (PLO) or on Child Protection Plans. Our aim is to keep the family unit safe and together and to step down from the legal arena, prior to them moving onto independent living. We work in partnership with other agencies to ensure the needs of all the young families are met.

With the help of your funding, we have had an intensive period of support sessions covering food and healthy lifestyle, and seen a reduction in the number of takeaway deliveries. Our young residents have engaged in cookery sessions, planning what they would like to eat and sharing the meal in a social environment. With the help of a regular volunteer and a

Student Social Worker on placement, we have also been

able to deliver wellbeing sessions for our young families to promote positive relationships between the residents. The young people that come to stay with us continue to be the hardest to reach and it is often a challenge to engage them in the activities prepared and organised for them. Thanks to Broughton's contribution, and our experienced and professional staff who are committed to encourage, motivate and support co-production in various activities, we have been able to achieve positive outcomes,

making it a more pleasant atmosphere for everyone.



**Case study:** Jane\* moved to Maryvale when pregnant, due to her previous child being placed in care. Jane engaged well with professionals and was in a new positive relationship with the father of her unborn baby. Jane worked through a support plan and attended the AIM programme. Jane delivered her baby, and a PLO was in place. Staff encouraged co-parenting and Jane's partner visited daily to support her with baby, and to be involved with all the routines. The PLO was stepped down to Child in Need, due to the positive changes Jane had been able to make and sustain. Following assessments and staff observations, Jane was allowed to move back to her own property and continue her relationship with baby's father. Staff have received reports from other professionals to say that Jane is doing well in the community, baby is thriving, and the family relationships are still strong and going well.



**CRY/Heartfelt (Preston)** received a grant of £2,500 to facilitate testing of young people for heart conditions. Six mothers from Preston formed Heartfelt

following the loss of their Sons due to sudden death by heart failure, nationally at least 12 young people die every week from undiagnosed heart conditions. Heartfelt are raising money for local Screening sessions at Preston Grasshoppers in Preston by CRY - Cardiac Risk in the Young Charity 1050845 founded in 1995

Each Screening costs £6,500 and over 100 young people are screened and Heartfelt raises funds by doing Car Boots and Charity Evenings.



The next Screening will take place in May 2025 at Preston Grasshoppers