

Alms Giving for 2023-24

Chorley Help the Homeless received their final grant under the 'Relief of Hardship Framework' with an additional £2,000 in 2023, totalling £14,000 support given to the Charity since 2019.

"The generous grant you gave us in July has helped our food bank at The Gateway to distribute more food parcels over the summer months, when we experienced a large need from low-income families struggling while their children were on school holidays, along with single people and couples, and people who are street homeless or sofa surfing.



In July, August and September we gave 662 food parcels to individuals and couples, and 226 food parcels to families with children, along with 28 household item packs for those setting up a new home. We also served a free lunchtime meal to over 700 people. We have also been continuing our Market Voucher scheme so that customers can get fresh food items from Chorley market stalls. This also takes

significant cash funding, and some of your donation this year was allocated to this".

Bolton Young Parents Project received a grant under the 'Relief of Hardship Framework' with £2,000 in 2023, totalling £14,000 support given to the Charity since 2020.

Over the last 12 months our Radcliffe Road Young Parents' Accommodation in Bolton has been able to provide supported accommodation to 16 young parents and 16 babies. 13 families have moved into their own independent tenancies and received help with registering for rehousing, bidding on properties, preparing for independent living, and settling into their new tenancies



Case Study: J. was referred to the service by Children's Services. She was 19 years old, pregnant with her first baby, and had been in an abusive relationship with the father. Our staff helped her gain support from social services, work positively with professionals, and show that she was making positive choices. This meant that after the birth, she was allowed to keep the baby and our staff helped her to learn how to feed, bathe, and establish a positive routine. Staff also helped her with finances, benefits, and budgeting skills, to give her the confidence to live independently. She was

with us for 12 months before successfully moving into her own tenancy and creating a family home for her and her new baby.

Alms Giving

Irenaeus Project Our President Mr John A Holland visited the Project to see the ramp



which was partly funded by a grant of £1,000 from the Broughton Society. The ramp is needed to access the Garden from the Outreach Centre as a number of activities are held in the Garden and access for visitors with disabilities and wheelchair users was lacking. The Centre welcomes many people, both local and those who have joined the community from other countries, including Ukraine, Turkey, Syria and Poland, activities include Knit and Natter, Arts and Meditation, Tai Chi and singing specifically for people living with dementia.

The Centre is run by volunteers and guests are always offered a warm welcome, refreshments and a chat.

High Five is a play and support group run by volunteer parents, providing activities for Children with severe disabilities and their families.



The Broughton Society have provided £300 to help engage young people with ordering food on line or making sandwiches to enjoy.



The money has helped purchase a Hostess Trolley, afternoon tea items, sandwich making equipment and a screen to create a café environment, over 40 families are regularly supported.

Photo Sarah Kiley being presented with the Cheque by President John A Holland. Canon Peter Stanley and Secretary Peter Van Parys

Our Ladys Catholic College (Lancaster) were granted the sum of £2,400 to enable them to take pupils from low income families in Lancaster to Uganda, to work with link schools and clinics there. The trip is a life-changer for many of our students, they develop a number of soft skills and gain confidence – all of which improves their chances of employment on return. They grow in faith and learn to appreciate aspects of our life in the UK which they may have taken for granted. Our Lady's Catholic College Sixth Form have supported and worked with school and church communities in Uganda for over 15 years. Since 2014, we have led biennial projects which culminate in a visit to Uganda to meet and interact with the people in these partner communities. Prior to the trip the students do a massive amount of fund-raising which is ring-fenced for the communities we visit.



ACE Project - Assisted Community Engagement



Received £2,000, completing £14,000 in grant aid from the Broughton Society since 2019.

The ACE Project supports ex-offenders with multiple and complex needs to lead more independent and abstinent lifestyles. All have been through the criminal justice system and most also experience poor mental and physical health, along with histories involving substance abuse, being in care, unemployment, social isolation, and homelessness.

The Society provided another grant of £2000 to support this rehabilitation work. Although a reduction on the previous year, the programme could still provide that vital and flexible support.

The money means the team can respond quickly and flexibly to meet someone's immediate needs in a moment of crisis. This could mean putting £20 credit on someone's electric meter, getting someone £10 phone credit, helping with relatively minor travel costs, or paying for an overnight stay in a B&B. The intention here is to give people a leg up, so that they are then better able to help themselves.

In 2024, The Ace Team received 239 new referrals. Many of these men and women benefitted directly from the donation.

Gary Welsh, Manager of the ACE Project, said: "We're very grateful to the Society for its support these past years. It allowed us to use often just small sums to make a real, material difference to someone's life – particularly important given how the cost-of-living crisis intensified the needs of our beneficiaries.

It's no exaggeration to say that the generosity of BCCS has been a massive asset and will be greatly missed going forward.

Although, what some would think as a minor expense, it's knock on effect often provides the opportunity to rebuild".

Impact Youth Group (Castlerigg Trip)

The Society has supported IYG with a grant of £1,500 to help towards the accommodation, food and travel costs for 10 young disadvantaged people to travel to a Castlerigg Residential Weekend. The residential is an opportunity for these young people to experience catholic faith and spirituality, and to help them develop both personally and socially. Edie and Amelia ran a workshop on 'Body Image', Ava and Izzy a workshop on 'Dreams and Aspirations', and Molly led one on 'Being Ourselves'.

