



HOW TO SUPPORT

**BLACK COUNTRY
FOODBANK**

LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST



PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

HOW CAN YOU HELP



Every day, families across the Black Country are facing an impossible choice...

Do they put the heating on, or do they put food on the table?

That's where Black Country Foodbank steps in with food, toiletries, kindness, and a little breathing space when it's needed most ❤️

With your support, we can help make sure no one in our community feels alone, forgotten, or judged.

And the best part? There are so many ways to get involved - whether you're a big fundraiser, a quiet supporter, a workplace team, a school, or someone who simply wants to do a little good locally.

Because here at Black Country Foodbank, we're all about people helping people.

These are some of the ways you can support us - read on to find out more.

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ABOUT US

Black Country Foodbank (BCFB) first opened its doors in 2006 from Chawn Hill Church in Stourbridge as a Christian based charitable organisation. Today, we have a network of foodbanks across the Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall boroughs supported by over 300 volunteers.

Our mission remains the same as it was in 2006: to help vulnerable individuals and families in crisis through the provision of emergency food and toiletry supplies while a longer-term solution is developed. The services we provide have an enormous impact on the people who use them, giving them important breathing space at a time of great need.



OUR VALUES

Love people
Connect communities
Invest in everyone



WHY WE NEED YOU

- We continue to distribute approximately half a million meals each year which is equivalent to a bag of pasta being handed out every minute
- We support over 80 partner projects across the Black Country with food and toiletries - these organisations work with some of the most vulnerable people in our communities
- We deliver a variety of projects that help to combat food poverty - these include community food gardens, cookery sessions, support services within our foodbanks, and much more

The need continues, and we cannot do this without you. So how can you help...

MAKE A DONATION

Every donation helps us provide emergency food and toiletries when people need them most. To find out what food and toiletry items you can donate, have a look at our shopping list or shortages list on our website www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/support.

Or you can donate financially:

- Online www.blackcountryfoodbank.org.uk/support/how-to-donate
- By post (cheques payable to Black Country Foodbank)
- By standing order for regular support

These are some ideas of financial donations and the impact it can have.



£2,803 is the cost to keep a van on the road for one year



£73.74 is the cost of an emergency food parcel for a family of four for three days

£171.60 is the cost of carrier bags for food parcels for one month



£11,104 is the cost to open the warehouse for one year



FUNDRAISE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Fundraising is a great way to bring people together - spreading awareness as well as raising money.

Here are some easy, exciting ideas:

- Coffee morning as cakes are always a win!
- Bake sale/bring-a-treat day
- Quiz night
- Sponsored walk or fitness challenge
- School collection/non-uniform day
- Charity collection at your place of worship/community group
- Workplace dress-down day
- Nominate us as your charity of the year
- Sponsored sky dive



"It was good to be dealt with by people who really care about us. It is not easy having to use a foodbank but thank goodness that you exist for the likes of me and my family."

PARTNER WITH US

We love working with local businesses, community groups, and organisations who share our commitment to ending food poverty.

Partnership opportunities include:

- Sponsorship opportunities - sponsoring a van, fleeces for our volunteers, hi-vis jackets, etc.
- Become a collection point - host one of our branded collection bins
- Attend a tour of our warehouse where you can learn more about the work we do and ways to get involved

Together, we can work to support our communities.



"My support worker signposted me to this foodbank as my Universal Credit simply isn't enough and it doesn't last the month. I honestly don't know what I would do without this foodbank. The people are so friendly and helpful."



"My family wouldn't have survived without this foodbank. They helped me with clothes too and with a grant for white goods. They're a place of welcome where nobody is ever judged or turned away."

LEAVE A LEGACY OF HOPE

Leaving a gift in your Will is one of the most meaningful ways to support our work. After you have provided for your loved ones, even a small gift can make a lasting difference.

- A residuary gift - a share of what remains after other gifts are made
- A pecuniary gift - a fixed sum of money
- A specific gift - such as an item of value

We recommend speaking to a solicitor when writing or updating your Will. If you would like to include us, our details are:

Black Country Foodbank
Albion Street, Brierley Hill, DY5 3EE
Charity number: 1136676

Your legacy will ensure that more people continue to receive the support that they need.

GIVE IN CELEBRATION OR MEMORY

Marking life's special moments can be even more meaningful when you help others.

- In celebration - ask friends and family to donate instead of gifts for a birthday, wedding, or anniversary
- In memory - honour a loved one by making a gift in their name, creating a lasting tribute that supports families in need



A Mum and her children moved to the area with nothing but the clothes they were wearing after suffering domestic abuse. They were signposted to a foodbank who stepped in to give support. She now feels in control of her life and is a regular volunteer at the foodbank as she wants to give something back to the community that she has come to love.



DONATE YOUR TIME

As a first step to becoming a charity partner, we encourage you as a group, as a representative of your business/school/agency, or as a stakeholder of BCFB, to visit our central warehouse in Brierley Hill and have a tour.



"They're always good here, the volunteers are always pleasant and polite to me. In the past they have signposted me for extra help and advice, with things I have struggled with like paying my bills."

This is the perfect way to find out about what we do and connect you to the charity.

You can see first-hand how our model works - how we receive donations, how they are processed, the demand on our warehouse to maintain stock at our network of foodbanks, and the scale of volunteering we need to ensure we can meet that demand.

We hope that a tour will provide you with the opportunity to understand how important your support is, provide a space to ask any questions, and work towards us building a great relationship.

Tours can be arranged during office hours, Monday to Friday, 9am til 2pm.



BECOME A COLLECTION POINT

Not everyone can get to a foodbank or the central warehouse to drop off their food donations, so we are fortunate to have a network of collection points – these are a mix of foodbanks and local organisations who provide a place to which our supporters can take their donations i.e. similar to the concept of the foodbank trolley in your local supermarket.

You have the option to:

- Set up an in-house only collection point for your staff/colleagues/customers
- Become an advertised BCFB collection point

We can provide you with a collection point bin and some signage detailing who we are and what we would like donated, or you are welcome to create your own collection point - we actively encourage you to make it your own. Please send us some pictures!

If you became an advertised BCFB collection point, your address and opening times would be included on our website, and we will of course come and collect the donations from you once your collection bin is full if you are unable to deliver it to our central warehouse.



CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING

During our busier periods of the year around Harvest and Christmas, we benefit from additional support in the warehouse to process the influx of donations.

We invite up to five corporate volunteers a day to come and work in our warehouse alongside our dedicated team of volunteers, helping to date stock, stack shelves and visit a distribution centre (if possible).

Full training is given, we just ask for a donation to be brought along on the day.

You can either:

- Bring a donation off our shopping list to enable you to experience first-hand our model
- Make a financial donation to enable us to purchase any items in short supply
- Take some empty recipe bags and fill them with the necessary ingredients

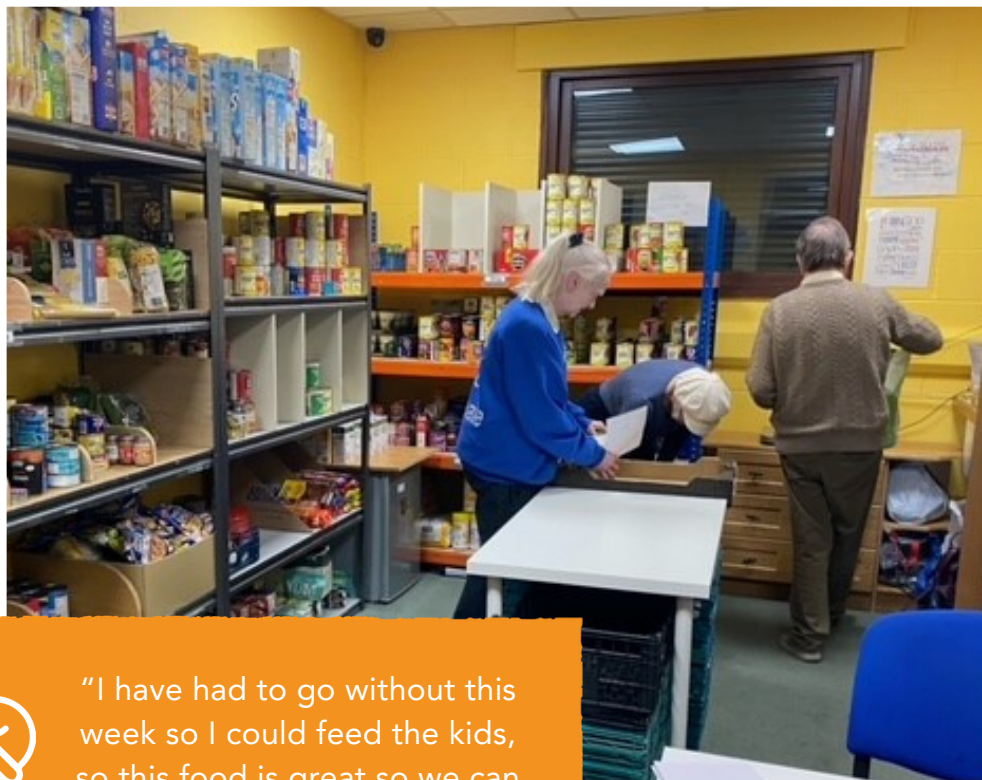


"I absolutely loved today, this foodbank works in my local community and it was insightful to see the great work they are doing for it"



TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Whatever way you choose to support, whether a donation, a fundraiser, a partnership, a celebration gift, or a legacy, you are doing something amazing to help your community.



"I have had to go without this week so I could feed the kids, so this food is great so we can all eat together tonight."

Let's work together and restore hope where it's needed most.

Thank you ❤️

Every gift counts | Every action matters | Let's do it together



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