

# NEWSLETTER

## Summer 2024



### Our Stats (as of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024)

3,335	children given food parcels in the last year by Hatfield Foodbank	
857	people given emergency food parcels by Hatfield Foodbank each month on average	
425	vouchers issued by our partner front-line care professionals each month	
6,400	kg of food required each month to feed people in crisis	
328	hours given by our volunteers every month	
13,988	emergency food parcels given out since we opened in October 2017	

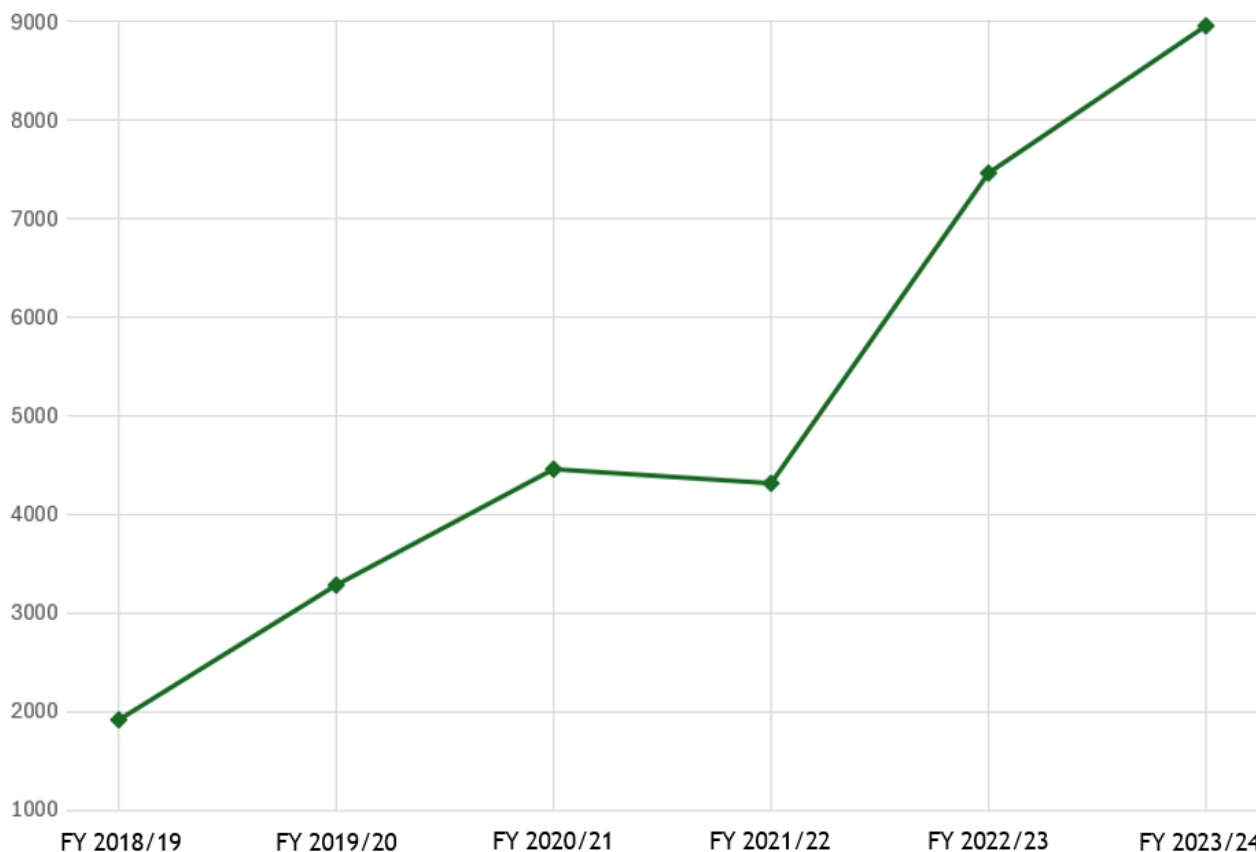
### Financial Inclusion Project

We don't just provide emergency food. Since April 2022, we have partnered with Citizens Advice Welwyn Hatfield to give people access to advice and support. Our Citizens Advice worker connects people with longer-term support to make it less likely they won't have enough money for essentials in the future.

In the last quarter: 48 new people have accessed this service; over £80,000 financial gains were made for people using the service; £18,000 debt was managed for people; and 24 people no longer need to use the foodbank as a result of the support.



### NUMBER OF EMERGENCY FOOD PARCELS GIVEN OUT OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS



*"The foodbank has helped massively! Everyone is so friendly and non-judgemental."*

## Give Help

We are so grateful for the ongoing donations from the public, organisations and corporate businesses which enable us to keep helping people in crisis. It means so much to us and those who receive the food.

We have been greatly blessed by financial donations and grants we have received recently including those from: Great North Business Centre, Hertswood Rotary Club, Old Hatfield Residents Association, One Welwyn Hatfield Community Lottery, Potters Bar Tangent Club, "The Cookery Swap" organised by Dheeraj Parashar and Aniket Dhivar, The Red Lion Hatfield, The Salisbury Pool (Hatfield House), Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council and Welwyn-Hatfield U3A.

We are so pleased that the Mayor of Welwyn Hatfield, Councillor Pankit Shah, chose us as one of two local charities to support during his term of office. He raised an incredible £3,400 for us.



Thank you to everyone who donated during our supermarket collection events over the last few months. You donated a total of 819.4kg of food and toiletries at these.



In addition to donations from the public, we are grateful for the continued support from Arla, Asda Hatfield, BT Hatfield, Digihaul, Hatfield Rotary Club, Simmons Bakery, Tesco Extra Hatfield and Waitrose Welwyn Garden City. Thank you, too, for the significant donations from Cadbury, Earth Breeze, Fodabox, Love Hatfield, North Mymms Parish Council and St John of God.

For details of what, how and where you can give (including financial gifts), please see the [Give Help](#) section of our website. Our social media is kept up to date with most needed items.



Don't forget: *Bank the Food* app can keep you updated about what we need.



You can also give food and toiletries via <https://www.givetoday.co.uk/hatfieldfoodbank/>

We want to see a future where food banks aren't needed and we know that together, we can make that happen.

## Shopping list

Items we most need are...



## Volunteers

Our wonderful team of volunteers do an incredible job serving the local community. It seems that they love volunteering with us too.

For the second year, they gave an average score of 9.9 out of 10 in response to a set of questions that measure engagement, satisfaction and belief in the foodbank.



*"It is a lovely place to volunteer. Everyone is welcoming and all work as a team. The clients reward us with their happy smiles as they receive their food."*

*"It is a friendly and safe place, excellently managed and with a clear and fulfilling mission."*

*"More companies and government should have these ethics."*

## From our clients...

(\*names changed)

*Marcus\*: I stopped working due to mental health and I am type one diabetic. This left me in a position where I was in need of the food bank due to not being able to pay all my rent and bills. The first time I came, I felt really embarrassed but I soon realised I wasn't judged and everyone is here for the same reason. I found the volunteers to be really respectful and helpful. I realised that they all do this because they care for others in the community.*

*Bethany\*: The food bank has helped me a lot when it comes to food, toiletries and clothes. I always look forward to this day to get everything I need. Bless you! Thank you all.*

## Do you need help?

We are here for you.

So you can get the most appropriate help for the circumstances of your situation, we work with local agencies. If they feel you are struggling to put food on the table, they will issue you with a foodbank voucher as an electronic code. The local agency can also provide or signpost you to long term support, if needed, to help address some of the issues behind the reasons for your crisis.

A full list of our partner agencies can be found on the [Get Help](#) section of our website.

Hatfield Foodbank is run in partnership with local churches, facilitated by Gracemead Church, King's Community Church and Kingdom Light Church

### Hatfield Foodbank

Open Tuesdays, 11.30am-2pm  
Gracemead House, Woods Avenue,  
Hatfield, AL10 8HX  
(for SatNav use AL10 8EW)  
///loved.look.sums  
Registered Charity No. 1174288 (England & Wales)

07504 627359

[info@hatfield.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@hatfield.foodbank.org.uk)  
[hatfield.foodbank.org.uk](http://hatfield.foodbank.org.uk)

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