Newsletter



April 2024

We've moved!

We hope that you'll forgive the radio silence since our last newsletter. We have been in the process of relocating our office and warehouse, which as you can imagine has taken up quite a bit of our time.

Now that things are starting to settle down, we'd like to share some photos and give a shout-out to everyone who helped us. We have been so blessed with offers of help, support from local businesses and generosity of donors and volunteers.

Firstly, we must say a huge thank you to Aspire Housing, who have accommodated us for the last 5 years, and to Newcastle Borough Council who, having supported us from the outset with additional storage rooms, are now the landlords for our new premises.



We also must say thank you to our amazing volunteers who helped with cleaning, packing, moving, and sorting, particularly:

- Peter, Phil, Carol, Marion, Hilary, Tony and Sara, who cleaned everywhere ready for the decorators to arrive
- Cheryl, who helped move all the stock from the Winpenny Units to the new location
- Peter, who helped on warehouse moving day
- Jake, who borrowed a van from work to move the bigger items that we couldn't fit into a car
- Martin who has put up noticeboards, fixed a wall and still has a to-do list!
- Kevin, a friendly plumber who came and fixed the toilet flush for us, and checked the boiler & radiators
- Phil, who has helped to clear rubbish, build equipment and align the mechanism on the roller shutter door

A shout-out to.....



for helping with the removal from Brick Kiln Lane to our new premises, for building all our warehouse racking, and for fixing door handles and shutters – all free of charge.

JMC Decorators Limited

for decorating the whole place from top to bottom for us, absolutely free of charge.

CONGLETON CARPETS

for supplying a new carpet in our office at cost price and fitting it for free.



for supplying led strip lights at cost price and fitting them for free.



for providing a van (and some helping hands) to move the warehouse stock from Brick Klin Lane to the new premises.



And thanks to the Trussell Trust, who have awarded us a Strategic Facilities grant to cover the cost of setting up the new space, and funding the increase in rent for the first two years.

Helping Local People In Crisis

Our new place





A warehouse space which is fit for purpose, enabling us to store all our stock in one place rather than in 5 separate rooms across 2 sites. Deliveries and collections are made easier by a roller shutter door at the back of the premises.

A dedicated space for weighing, dating and sorting donations, before taking them through to the warehouse space for storage





And a bigger office space which will support the work we are doing to support our community in practical ways, inform decision makers and

campaign for change, as well as improving staff and volunteer wellbeing.

Goodbye.....

We also said goodbye to our Customer Service Apprentice Sophie, who has moved on to a new job – thanks for all your hard work Sophie and best wishes in your new role!

The work goes on

In the midst of a relocation, we still kept our six centres operating to meet the need in our community – providing food parcels for people who don't have enough to buy the essentials. Our Financial Inclusion project which gives access to Citizens Advice continues to go from strength to strength, but we still have increasing numbers of people coming through our doors. Our next newsletter will have a report from the Trussell Trust on their end of year stats, and some local data too.

Our donations have remained steady, and thanks go to all our donors who keep us topped up week by week, but the need has increased to the extent that our surplus is much reduced, and we are having to plug the gap by purchasing more and more to ensure that we can continue to provide balanced food parcels.

Our current shortages are below. If you are able to boost our stocks of any of these things, we would be really grateful. You

Cold Meat		Теа
Long Life Milk		Coffee
Tinned Vegetables		Cereal
Tinned Fruit		Custard
Jam	Noodles	Soup
4		

could drop off at our new premises on Mondays between 2 and 4pm, or Wednesdays between 10am and 12noon – we'd happily show you around our new space too!

If you can share our appeals on social media too, that would be much appreciated!

Connect with us!

Instagram - @newcastlestaffsfoodbank Twitter - @NewcStaffsFB Facebook - @NewcastleUnderLymeBoroughFoodbank

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

Newcastle-Staffs Foodbank Unit 18, Brock Way

Knutton ST5 6AZ

0300 102 9088

Registered Charity No. 1194404 Registered in England & Wales info@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk www.newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk

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