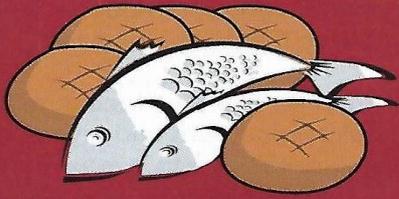


Fund for Human Need

Registered Charity No. 208866



Where a little means a lot

No. 2 - 2022

THANK YOU We are very grateful to all who are supporting us in what is for everyone a very difficult time. Regular donations are especially helpful as we seek to meet a demand for help that is likely to be greater than ever in the coming months.

A special thanks to those whose gifts have been made anonymously or for whom we have no addresses to send our thanks.

Celebrating 60+ years of 'loving our neighbours'

Out and about Again.

One of the lessons we have learned over the last few years is that we need to keep FHN visible in all sorts of forums if we are to continue to grow our support and continue our work.

Most of us are out and about again as conferences and other events have restarted. The period after Easter has seen administrator Gill and treasurer Noel at ECG Scarborough and secretary David (with the able assistance of wife Sue) running workshops at The Methodist Women in Britain conference in Swanwick.

2022 has seen the last ECG at Scarborough, a wonderful celebration that include baptisms and renewals of baptism in the sea. We were made very welcome and were pleased to have the opportunity to meet many of the participants and discuss our work with them. It was interesting how far some people had travelled. Our thanks to everyone who took our leaflets to spread the news of what we do within their home churches.

Next year's event (14-16 April 23) will be 'Flourish' run by Yorkshire North and East Methodist district; we look forward to it.



Methodist Women in Britain

for women, for justice, for Christ

At the Hayes conference centre In Derbyshire the MWiB connexional conference was entitled 'Surviving by Hope'. Our secretary David accompanied his wife Sue and ran a workshop called 'Charity's easy – isn't it'.

After explaining how the Fund was started and the work we do David and Sue were able to give participants an experience, using real anonymised cases, of exactly what it is like to make decisions about the applications we get every month.

Everyone was very careful, and considered and debated the cases thoughtfully, demonstrating a deep understanding and sympathy for the difficulties faced. This led to an understanding of how difficult it can be to make the life changing decisions the possibility of award can bring to individuals in difficult circumstances. We would like to thank everyone who took part in our two sessions, our thanks also for the feedback on the sessions which will help us plan for the future.



Keeping in touch – we send our newsletter three times a year, by post or email, to all supporters and interested parties. We get in touch to find out your mailing preferences. If at any time, these change, please let us know. This and any other correspondence to: **Mrs Gill Mason (Admin):**

fundhumaneed@gmail.com Ph: 01325 244992 Post: 6 Newlands Road, Darlington, Co Durham. DL3 9JL

Running the Fund for Human Need

For this issue, I have been invited to share who I am as Treasurer and what it is that I do.

I am Noel Schorah. I joined the trustees last summer and then took over as treasurer in the autumn, after Alan had completed the year-end accounts.

About a year ago I saw the advert for this position in the FHN newsletter. The timing was good, as although I already have other voluntary roles (including as local church treasurer), I had recently retired and hence now have more time available. I was keen to get involved in such a worthwhile charity at this time of such great need and after re-reading the advert I felt this was a good fit with my skills and experience.

My role includes monitoring the bank and investment accounts, maintaining the financial records which feed into the year-end accounts, and providing a monthly update to the other trustees (which also informs those at the monthly awards meeting of the funds available). In addition, I prepare the claim for Gift Aid. Recently I've been busy arranging for a new account with the Co-operative bank. The previous (HSBC) account is now applying very high charges for all transactions - which we are keen to avoid. This new account also allows us to increase efficiency by making online payments to organisations (reducing delay and cutting postage costs), while maintaining the safeguard of dual authorisation.

I would like to thank all our supporters and request that if you are giving regularly via a bank standing order or making ad hoc bank credits, could you please change this to the "new" Co-operative bank account, if you have not already done so (details are below or you can find a form on the Resources page of the FHN website). Secondly, I would like to thank everyone who has completed a Gift Aid form; if you are a tax payer and have not already done so, please could you consider this - so that we can increase the value of your giving by 25p for every £1 you donate (at no further cost to yourself). Again, the form is on the website or available from Gill our Admin.

Co-operative Bank, Sort Code: 08-92-99

Account Number: 67234233, Account Name: Fund for Human Need

If you need any further information, you can contact me at: fhntreasurer@gmail.com or Gill at the usual contact address.



Like most Charities the pandemic caused a serious drop in our income. As churches, families and individuals try to adapt, we understand many are wondering about their own financial future but can you help us help the most desperate?

How You helped:

Several organisations we work with specialise in helping those recognised under the National Referral Mechanism. This is a framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support.

Modern slavery is a complex crime and may involve multiple forms of exploitation. It encompasses: human trafficking, slavery, servitude, and forced or compulsory labour. Victims may not be aware that they are being trafficked or exploited, and may have consented to elements of their exploitation, or accepted their situation. Adults in England and Wales who are recognised as potential victims of modern slavery through the NRM have access to specialist tailored support for a period of at least 45 days while their case is considered, which may include: access to relevant legal advice, accommodation, protection, independent emotional and practical help.

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-trafficking-victims-referral-and-assessment-forms/guidance-on-the-national-referral-mechanism-for-potential-adult-victims-of-modern-slavery-england-and-wales#:~:text=Adults%20in%20England%20and%20Wales,protection>)

Akira* was such a destitute Lady referred to us by Hestia MSRT team, she had been trafficked to the UK and then abandoned under circumstances that left her particularly vulnerable, struggling to meet her own basic needs on the £39 per week allowed for under the mechanism. She needed warm clothing and help to travel to essential counselling sessions to help with the trauma suffered. She was also keen to take up English courses to become independent and learn again, but during lockdown needed a basic internet device to access the course.

Award £90. A HUGE thank you for this very kind sum. Really appreciate it as it will make a huge difference. Best wishes. Outreach Advocate Hestia Modern Slavery Response Team (*name changed)

How You Helped:

Domestic Violence throws up many issues, some even after a legal case.

*Marianne's application came to us via an outreach worker at First Love Foundation. The court case was finished and the perpetrator was incarcerated but Marianne was struggling under the weight of debts run up in her name by her now ex-partner. She was dealing with multiple companies and agencies and having to make payments while the unauthorised illegal use of her name etc was under investigation.

Unfortunately, while she was waiting for an offer of housing elsewhere, she was unable to leave her home due to continued threats from associates of her ex-partner, unhappy at the outcome of the case. **Award £90**

Where there are children involved housing is often provided relatively quickly, but it is often empty and the families are starting from scratch. "We are looking for support with a payment for some household essentials - Kettle, toaster, plates, cutlery etc. for a client with 3 children. I am currently supporting Sandra*who has fled domestic violence. She has been rehoused in council housing but has no goods. We are supporting her and asking for help to buy kitchen essentials and bedding" From Guinness Partnership: **Awarded £100.**

Those with immigration complications have often stayed in bad situations as they know it will be more difficult as they must establish their residence status as well.

*Ariana is a migrant with No recourse to public funds (NRPF). She has fled domestic abuse. She has two small children. They are currently housed by a family but that is not long term. Ariana has no regular income but survives on food bank parcels and donations from church members. Having enough money for food, toiletries and clothing is challenging. In addition, the children have recently started pre-school however that requires a daily bus journey and hence a bus pass. She is also trying to pay off an NHS debt for birth of her twins at £20/month. Kings Arms Project (Bedford) **Awarded £100.**

(*Names changed)

Charity Cards

To raise funds during this difficult time we have produced some greetings and Christmas cards shown below.

Greetings cards: A great way to keep in touch, suitable for birthdays etc. Pack of 5 large quality cards with envelopes suitable for any occasion (blank inside) with original artwork by Pete Bradshaw. (<https://petebradshaw.pixieset.com/drawingchallenge/>) Minimum suggested donation £3.50 per pack. Additional Postage and Packing £1 per pack up to a maximum of £3.

There is now only a very limited supply of these left, but look out for our next edition coming soon.



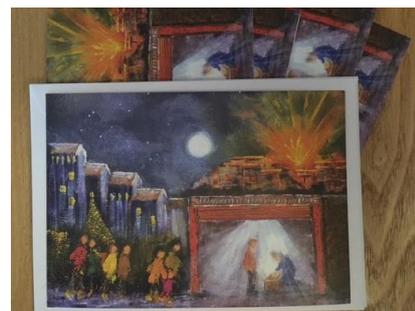
Christmas Cards.

If you want to be super organised for Christmas, let us help. Pack of 5 (A6 approx.) quality Christmas Cards with envelopes, message inside 'Happy Christmas'.

Original Artwork by J Sams.

Minimum Suggested Donation £3 per pack.

Additional Postage and Packing £0.50 per pack up to a maximum of £3.00



Our grateful thanks to both of the artists.

Contact Admin to buy or for any further information.

How you helped: "Hi have been given ur number by shelter and told to apply I am homeless living in a car I don't have absolutely anything right now and told to come to you guys x"

This message was received from Debra*, who had been in this position for some time, fortunately her teenage children had been housed initially in the care of a family member – but there was no room for her and after sofa surfing round friends for a while she ended up living in her car which constantly had to be moved. **Award £90.** After some initial difficulty trying to get the award to her, we managed to transfer it electronically.

"I want to say thank you very much!! I woke up freezing and miserable this morning and then I got a text off my bank to say I had recieved 90£ off you guys. That made my day I got a big breakfast a new duvet Im gonna use the rest for underwear and wash stuff it's makes such a difference - thanks so much" (*name changed)

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FHN are delighted to see our new patron the Rt Hon Lord Paul Boateng is speaking at the Methodist Conference fringe.

Lord Boateng became involved with FHN as his experience as a lawyer, CAB worker and constituency MP had shown him how there was a need for one-off payments in the past and he knew of the growing need today.

The Beckly Lecture
2022

Britain: Global Power or Good Neighbour?

with The Rt Hon Lord Paul Boateng

Monday 27th June
8:00pm to 9:30pm

A fringe event of
The Methodist Conference,
at Telford International Centre

Also livestreamed online

Register to attend at bit.ly/Beckly2022



DONATE. If you can help us in supporting individuals who have no access to relief funds or benefits, please see our website at:

http://fundforhumanneed.org.uk/?page_id=111
There you will find all the information you need on making a donation or regular gift.
Or you can contact us at:
fundhumanneed@gmail.com

The backbone of any charity is its fantastic committed supporters who, whatever the amount they can donate, give regularly. Is this something you can consider?

Standing Order – Regular giving is so valuable and if you can Gift Aid, it adds 25p to every £ donated. Details on the website or from Gill M.

Cheque - if you prefer to donate by cheque, these should be made out to 'Fund for Human Need' and directed to Gill Mason (Admin) at the address on page 1.

Other ways you can help

Other news outlets- Is there a local news outlet that you could pass our information to? Church or Circuit notices or magazines?

Resources - Our film, copies of this news sheet and other resources are available on the website – www.fundforhumanneed.org.uk

Electronic giving- We are on 'Just giving'.
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundforhumanneed>



Try our QR code to go to the Just Giving site. (just point the camera of a smart phone at it.)

Home shopping- we are on **Smile Amazon** and **Give as you live**, if you nominate us, a percentage comes to us with no cost to you.

60th Birthday card appeal - As with everyone's lockdown birthdays we are keeping this going until everyone has had chance to celebrate. Can you check if your church has considered this?

Synods - Do you go to Synod? Could you take some leaflets, staff a marketplace table? Maybe you could speak for us? All materials provided.

Cards- could you send for and sell on some of our greeting's cards? Its more cost effective to send a big pack to one person. Phone Gill to discuss.

How you helped:

From - Room to Heal, North London. *Aran has been an asylum seeker who now has received full 'leave to remain' (in the UK). The trauma of his escape to the UK and subsequent long process of the asylum system have left him particularly vulnerable and with medical issues. He has applied for universal credit but this will not start for 6 – 8 weeks, however his asylum subsistence (of £39/week) has already ceased. Can FHN support him to get food and other basic necessities though this gap

Award for Aran to Room to Heal £110

Dear FHN

I'd like to thank you on behalf of our member for the grant received which is going to assist him enormously while he is awaiting Universal Credit payments to begin.

The timing was excellent as he had just run out of food and did not have money to travel to the job centre or other essential appointments so was walking on foot for over an hour in all weather.

He's very relieved indeed.

Thank you, best wishes, Caseworker, Room to Heal

(*name changed)