

# Fund for Human Need

Registered Charity No. 208866



*Where a little means a lot*  
**No 2 - 2023**

# 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.**

## Back on the Road.

Over the spring and summer each year we attend events to maintain our profile and recruit new support. Recently Gill was welcomed to Flourish at the Scarborough Spa, a lively weekend of study and teaching hosted by the Yorkshire North and East Methodists. A great time to make the Fund known to new people and renew our appeal to supporters.

On the same weekend Secretary David, ably assisted by Sue were leading workshops at the Methodist Women in Britain conference in Swanwick. Participants looked at how difficult it is to survive on asylum allowance and the rules and conditions we must meet if we are to help people in this situation who are some of the poorest and most disadvantaged in our society.



The Stall in Scarborough at Flourish



David and new friends, and Sue with the stall at MWiB.

As the year continues, we will be at Cliff College Festival, Methodist Conference and Greenbelt where we hope to attract a lot of attention. If you are at any of these events please stop by and say hello, pick up leaflets or buy cards. Our regular work continues to be very busy. The Citizens Advice Bureau and various NHS branches are applying or referring people regularly as well as agencies such as the Red Cross branches and projects featured on page 2. We continue to be one of the few charities who can provide cash to solve some of the immediate issues in people's lives. Recent Methodist Representative Synods were all provided with and shared a report that detailed how in 2021/22, the continued high level of applications for support meant £72,600 was paid out and how this was the highest figure of any year. There are no signs of anything slowing down.

## How You helped:

\*Adrian was made unemployed when the company he worked for shut down due to the after effects of the pandemic. He did not work for them long enough to be entitled to anything for redundancy etc.

His last wages were paid to him in February and he promptly applied for universal credit, issues over his previous employer's payment of national insurance deductions led to delays and even once these were resolved there was going to be the standard 6 week waiting on period before anything was paid to him.

Having previously struggled with mental health issues the issues surrounding his unemployment were causing extreme difficulties. Given our details by Citizen's advice he applied himself. (\*Name changed)

Award £120 March 2023

**"I have just received a payment of yourselves and I can't thank you enough, it will help me a lot and already has, I won't forget yous and when back on me feet I will gladly donate back to your causes to help other individuals, thank you again"**

## Working partners-

*The Fund for Human Need is small but we believe it is also efficient. Gill, the administrator, is the only (part-time) employee and the trustees and friends are all volunteers. We make the majority of our grants through organisations on the 'front line,' many of whose staff are also volunteers. Over the next few newsletters, we will be sharing some of their stories about the people they refer to us - people whose circumstances they verify and help to access our services.*

**British Red Cross Leicester Refugee Support is amongst the top 3 busiest services in the UK. They cover Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire areas. In 2022, the Refugee Support Leicester attended to 3537 service users (main applicants and dependants included) and the monthly awards obtained via Fund for Human Need has enabled them to support various vulnerable beneficiaries during their continued hard times.**



- Families with limited leave to remain on NRPF who were contracted or on zero hours contract lost jobs due to the Pandemic and this had a deep economic impact on the family. With no access to welfare benefits due to the condition attached to their immigration status and limited access to foodbanks.
- Post pandemic there were acute needs arising from a lack of winter clothing, especially in remote areas where there are no food or clothing banks available. So, the hardship grants enabled them to obtain essential food items and/or warm clothes. It has also allowed other destitute service users to top-up for electricity during the cold winter and this has helped to sustain warmth in their house.
- Asylum seekers who were granted leave to remain had subsequently their NASS support (including accommodation) terminated. They then had to process for universal credit application and/or look for employment. During their move-on process they were at risk of street homelessness and destitution. FHN awards enables them to cope with the welfare crisis e.g., food, transportation, etc.
- Individuals or families who are in the process of long residency (20 years in the UK) or family life applications have no access to accommodation and financial support except charities who are limited to providing interim destitution support. Some of these individuals have serious medical conditions but are treated as overseas visitors meaning they will have to pay for their treatments while in no possession of any financial means.

**Moments like these is where the Fund for Human Need provides some relief to individuals when going through intense and critical situation. It provides them with a bit of breathing space during such hard times.** Abil Amir, Casework Coordinator, Refugee Services, British Red Cross

*As well as local branches the Red Cross also has some specialist services, an example of which is the Young Refugees service.*

*"For those supported by the British Red Cross Young Refugee Support Service, the Fund for Human Need grants offer a life-line to people who have arrived in the UK as unaccompanied minors and young adults.*

*Our service has been able to turn to the Fund for Human Need to support young, age disputed, asylum seekers living in the UK. An age disputed person is one who's declared age has not been believed by the Home Office or a Local Authority. When this happens, unaccompanied minors cannot access guardianship and foster care, and are left to support themselves often in unsuitable hotel and hostel accommodations, sharing bedrooms and dormitories with people much older than themselves. The Fund for Human Need grants enable young people to escape these settings to meet with charities, law centres, and engage with education in dignity.*



A Fund for Human Need award can make the difference to young people eating with friends, and travelling via public transport to community and youth groups. **Without this many of the young people we support would not be able to combat isolation, improve their mental wellbeing, and keep positive through times of crisis."**

Benjamin Coulson (He/Him) Casework Coordinator – Young Refugee Support Service

## Fundraising Charity Cards

We have teamed up with **The Pen and Camera Club of Methodism** to produce a set of fundraising cards. These are A6 cards, in packs of 5 using images from the club exhibition of 2022. The cards are suitable for all occasions being blank inside. Minimum suggested donation £3.00 per pack. Postage and packing £0.55 per pack up to a maximum of £3.50. Contact Admin to buy or for any further information.

Pack 2



Pack 1



## How You helped:

An application came from a refugee family of 3 who had been moved several times even once they came to the UK. Recently receiving their full refugee status and hoping to finally settle they had been living on £40/week each. This was stopping and although they had started looking for work and had submitted a claim to universal credit, it would be a minimum of 6 weeks before any payment is made, meanwhile they were in an empty property with a toddler. Needing some household basics as well as food. **Award £120 March 2023**

**I confirm that I have received the payment for my FHN Application. I couldn't believe that it was possible and I so appreciate it. It's a big money for me now and they will really help us. We are happy, thank you.**

## How You helped:

This application came from one of our partner organisations - The Money Management Service. It was for a family who were struggling with basic living costs. Living in an isolated area their rent and utility bills were using up most of their income. One of the children was also seriously ill in a hospital some distance away and the only place she could receive specialist treatment for her condition, and where she had to be resident for some time. The mother of the family, who also had some serious medical issues was trying to visit as much as possible and occasionally stay but the cost of travel was proving prohibitive and limiting the time she could spend with a very poorly child. **Award £100 March 2023**

**Thank you for your letter containing a cheque I've received today with the amount of £100. We greatly appreciate this very much. Please don't apologise for the amount we received we are extremely grateful for this kindness and understand that this is a difficult time for a lot of families. This is more than we can imagine so we are touched by this amount we've received from you.**

## Can you help us with Fundraising by sponsorship?

**Our small awards are classified under charity rules as 'grants' this makes it very difficult for us to access any funding as many of the major trusts and funds are restricted by their deeds and rules from supporting grant giving bodies.**

We are always looking for ways to cover our costs so that as much of the donated funds as possible go to those who need our help while maintaining a public profile.

We now have a sponsorship package which would give the opportunity for small businesses / traders to sponsor an event we attend, or one of our publications. The sponsor can claim the value of the donation as a business expense (<https://www.gov.uk/tax-limited-company-gives-to-charity/sponsoring-a-charity>) and will get publicity from acknowledgments such as a banner displayed at an event, logo and acknowledgment in video displays, a poster prominently on any display and on publications an acknowledgment and / or logo on every item.

We need this information to go out to as many companies as possible, and this will work best where there is an introduction. Do you or any family members or friends work with / for or know of any company or trader who may be able to help? Does your church or circuit use a trader who you can ask? A complete package will be provided with space for personalisation. Further details from Gill or any trustee.

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## FREE WILLS

We are all regularly reminded how important it is to have an up-to-date Will so we've partnered with FreeWills.co.uk to provide all our supporters with the opportunity to make their own fully comprehensive Will for free. You can make your personalised Will online in three simple steps, from the comfort of your own home and with live support from their Will specialists. There is no obligation to leave a gift to us, but we do hope you do so to enable us to continue our work.

<https://freewills.co.uk/charity/fundhumanneed> or make a will over the phone on 0333 188 5688.

Thank You

### How You helped:

Status: Mustafa\* is a vulnerable young asylum seeker of about 15 years. He was originally in the care of older brothers but they became separated during a harrowing journey to the UK. Since he arrived, he has been unable to trace family members who were reported to be here. He was homeless when picked and passed to social services and is now in temporary accommodations. Support for basics, food toiletries and clothing. **Award £120**

\*Nisar is from Afghanistan, he is awaiting an initial interview by the Home Office and a subsequent support decision, currently he is living with friends who can barely support themselves but are trying to help. He is also awaiting an operation on a bullet wound. Support for basics, clothing, and travel to hospital appointments. **Award £120 March 2023**

**Thank you so much for the continued generosity of Fund for Human Need. One of the young people has already collected his grant and the other will soon. Your continued support is very much appreciated. These grants will have a very positive effect on these young people's wellbeing. Warm wishes, Youth Caseworker / South London Refugee Association**

\*Names change to protect identity

**Keeping in touch** – The newsletter is sent 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): [fundhumanneed@gmail.com](mailto:fundhumanneed@gmail.com)  
**Ph: 01325 244992. Post: 6 Newlands Road, Darlington, Co Durham. DL3 9JL**

**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](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](mailto:fundhumanneed@gmail.com) Ph: 01325244992

**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 below.

**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](http://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 **Give as you live**, if you nominate us, a percentage comes to us with no cost to you.

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

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

**Wills and codicils** - If you already have a will made and would be happy to add a bequest to Fund for Human Need a simple codicil form is available on the Website (or from our Admin).

**Friends in Districts-** we still have need of people in many of the districts to advertise us at district events and synods, giving out leaflets and putting up posters, getting information into publications etc. (all supplied and supported). Can you help.