

Changing lives throughout the COVID-19 pandemic

With your support we've helped thousands of people who have been directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and also continued our work across the wider community.

Together we have made a huge difference!

March

Quickly adapted procedures to ensure we can continue to get help to those who need it, when they need it.

Begin providing emergency COVID-19 support, particularly to vulnerable clients moving from hostels to unfurnished tenancies to make way for those living on the streets.

April

Major fundraising drive to replace the expected 40% loss of income due to COVID-19.

Launch the There With You Fund with Leicestershire Live, The Leicester Mercury and The Randal Charitable Foundation to raise funds for those facing hardship due to the pandemic.

Meeting the Need Campaign also launched to ensure our continued support for clients across the community.

May

51% of requests for help are from those directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We've helped a total of 998 people helped (including 408 children) since the start of the pandemic.



June

The There With You Fund reaches £125,000 raised.

This month sees a 19.71% rise in the number of clients needing our help.

July/August

We've now received 1,329 requests for help (521 from those directly impacted by the pandemic).

2,766 people have been now helped, 1,159 of which are children needing support.

1,952 essential items worth **£273,378** have been distributed.

September

We've now helped 3,303 people, 41% of which were children.

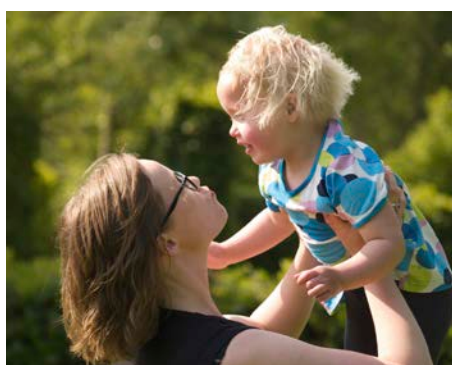
Since the start of the lockdown, 37% of clients have been directly impacted by the pandemic.

The There With You Fund has now provided over **444** essential items worth **£60,663**.



October

Funding from the National Lottery enables us to begin extra development work to help us provide further support to harder to reach communities.



December

29.66% increase in requests for help in December 2020 compare to December 2019.

The There With You Fund reaches over £134,500 raised.

£93,525 of essential items have now been distributed by the There With You Fund to those in need due to COVID-19 – supporting 1,396 people (620 children).

Overall, during the period, 4,934 local people (1,995 children) have been helped with **£611,260** worth of essential goods provided.

November

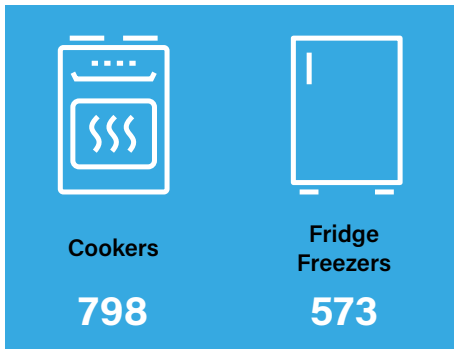
UK enters second national lockdown – we remain open and ready to provide support.



A huge impact at a glance...

Thanks to your support, between 23rd March and 31st December, £611,260 worth of essential goods have been distributed and 4,934 local people have been helped – 1,995 were children.

33% of all requests for help have been COVID-19 related.



January 2021 and beyond

During 2021 we expect a further increase in people in financial hardship as the impact of COVID-19 continues.

We know from experience that even when economies start to pick up it can take a significant time for those benefits to reach those most vulnerable in our communities.

We will continue to offer support across the community; we'll help those who have lost jobs and businesses due to COVID-19 and we will – as we've done for over 140 years – work to ensure that all local people in crisis and hardship have the basics in life that we all deserve.

We are here to help, but we simply can't do it without you. Thank you for your vital support during this difficult time.

Read more about our COVID-19 impact: charity-link.org/covid-19

Helping during the toughest of times

Shelly had escaped an abusive relationship, leaving most of her possessions behind. Due to the pandemic and working in hospitality, **Shelly's** hours were cut and then she lost her job. She was unable to afford the essentials she needed for the unfurnished property she'd moved to. Your support provided **Shelly** with a cooker.

Due to his health issues it was vital for **Grant** to self-isolate at home after he was released from hospital. As he was waiting for his next benefit payment, **Grant** couldn't afford food or to put the heating on. The There With You Fund provided food and support with utilities.

Ajay was suffering from anxiety and depression since the breakup of his relationship and his mental health deteriorated due to the isolation of lockdown. After a period of homelessness he was rehoused by the council but he couldn't afford a bed as his Universal Credit only covered basic outgoings. The There With You Fund provided **Ajay** with a bed.

Sam lost her job due to the pandemic and money was tight. She was trying to shield as she was pregnant but when her fridge-freezer broke she needed frequent trips out to buy food as she couldn't afford a replacement. Your support provided **Sam** with a fridge freezer.

* Real clients but names have been changed

Special thanks

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported our vital work and donated to the There With You Fund, including:

- Leicestershire Live & The Leicester Mercury
- The Randal Charitable Foundation
- The National Lottery
- Leicestershire and Rutland Community Foundation
- Leicestershire's Police and Crime Commissioner's fund
- Wooden Spoon
- Skipton Building Society
- Hastings Direct Community Grants
- Severn Trent Community Fund
- Leicestershire Communities Fund
- The Sears Group Trust
- Better IT
- Designeering
- Our Proud Business Supporter Club Members


CHARITY LINK

20a Millstone Lane
Leicester, LE1 5JN

0116 222 2200

info@charity-link.org

 @charitylink

 /charitylink

 @charity_link_official

www.charity-link.org