thrive

GET INVOLVED
Lots of ways to make a difference

IMPACT UPDATE
Changing lives

Charity Link 1876-2026

150TH BIRTHDAY BALL
Photos inside!

Sam's story

Sam was referred to us for help by a support worker at a local charity after fleeing domestic abuse.

Her husband had been abusive over many years, both physically and emotionally. He had isolated her from family and friends and had taken control of her finances.

Although she worked part-time, she had limited access to her money and had no savings when she found the courage to leave and seek professional help.

Sam was supported to find accommodation, but not having the funds to afford a washing machine was impacting her already low self-esteem and dignity.

We have now delivered and installed a washing machine, and this is playing a small but vital part in helping Sam to feel safe and comfortable at home and to help her move forward.

Thanks Aleena!

Congratulations to four-year-old Aleena from Leicester, whose artwork has been used to create a new bookmark to raise awareness of bed poverty.

Due to our innovative way of working (untapping funds from charitable trusts), a donation of just £35 is enough to help us provide a bed for a child in need. Aleena chose to highlight the importance of having a bed as: "I love my bed because it keeps me warm. I hope everyone can have a comfy bed."

We'd love to distribute bookmarks far and wide. Could you share some at your local school, workplace, library, or community centre?

Contact us, and we'll send you a batch.

CEO's message

I hope you will enjoy reading about some of the things the Charity Link team and our amazing supporters have been up to over recent weeks.

A recent highlight has been our 150th Birthday Ball in June, and a few photos are included here (more on our social media pages).

Massive thanks to everyone who supported this special event. We've still got lots to look forward to during our sesquicentennial year, and we hope you'd like to be involved. We can only continue to improve the health, wellbeing and dignity of people in need across Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire with your help.

Whichever way you choose to lend your support, we are hugely grateful.

Sue McEniff | Chief Executive Officer

Become a Friend!

Charity Link friends

To help more people in desperate need, we'd love to grow our Charity Link Friends Community.

A regular monthly gift provides a reliable source of income that helps us plan and deliver our services. Every Friend helps strengthen our ability to be there for local people facing hardship and crisis; their ongoing generosity helps us to plan for the future, respond to urgent need, and make a lasting difference to people across our community.

DONATE TODAY

Will you join the community?

Set up a monthly donation of your choice with your bank, and every £10 will help us provide £50 worth of essential items to those most in need.

Your £35 donation could help to provide a bed for a vulnerable child. £65 could provide a cooker for a family in need.

Business club relaunches!

PBS MEMBERS WANTED!

Join our special community!

Our Proud Business Supporter Club relaunched in the spring with two new levels of membership, ensuring it is suitable for businesses of all sizes that want to make a tangible difference.

DIAMOND MEMBER – £200pm Membership

GOLD MEMBER – £100pm Membership

SILVER MEMBER – £65pm Membership

BRONZE MEMBER – £35pm Membership

MEMBER – £15pm Membership

We are thrilled that Better-It and Chef and Spice Restaurant quickly signed up for our new **Diamond Membership**.

Thanks also to CBA Business Solutions (**Gold**), AQCroft.com (**Bronze**), James Ross Risk Solutions (**Bronze**), and Reach Business Coaching (**Bronze**) who have also recently joined the Club.

The Charity Link team and many supporters have enjoyed fabulous food and fundraising at the Indian buffet restaurant, Chef & Spice.

Restaurant Founder Syed Rahman was passionate about supporting charities, believing that "a restaurant should be more than just a business. It should use its premises to give back to the community by providing a venue to celebrate the hard work that charities do."

The Leicester Restaurant is well-known for helping to raise over £1M for many good causes, and we are delighted that the team is furthering their support through Diamond membership of our PBS Club.

Every month, their support will help us provide essential items to set up home for a family after a period of homelessness.

Get active!

As part of our quarterly challenge series, from July-September, we are asking you to get active to raise funds. Whether running, supporting our Leicestershire 3 Peaks, cycling, swimming, or taking on squat or virtual 'climb Everest' challenges, we'd love your support.

Run London & Leicester!

If you weren't successful in the London Marathon public ballot and would like to run in April 2027 to raise funds for Charity Link, contact us for an application form. We also have places in the Run Leicester Festival this October and would love you to be part of Team Charity Link!

Raise £150?

To mark our birthday year, could you join our 150 Club by raising £150? Due to our innovative way of working (untapping funds from charitable trust) we can turn this into £750 of essential items for those most in need, so together we'll make a big difference.

Delicious fundraising

Join us for 'all-you-can-eat' curry (plus pizza, noodles, desserts!) at Chef and Spice, on 1st December. Thanks to the Leicester restaurant, tickets for our guests are just £20, with £10 directly supporting our work. Tickets online or email/call for details. All welcome.

Shop with Easyfundraising

Asda, M&S, Amazon, TUI, Very, Booking.com – just a few of the retailers who donate when you shop with them via easyfundraising.org.uk at no extra cost to you. We'd love to see more people using this great fundraising tool. Please check it out!

150th Birthday Ball

Devonshire Place, 5th June

Patron Lord-Lieutenant of Leicestershire

Raffle and auction

A special night marking 150 years

Our magician host Eddie Young

CEO Sue McEniff

Chair George Oliver

Members of the Charity Link staff team

Guests at the tables

Leicestershire Sinfonia opened the evening

Trust Administration Service

Our Trust Administration Service supports charities, not-for-profit organisations, charitable and philanthropic projects and schemes, offering a range of clerkship, grant administration, charity management, governance reviews, training and consultancy services.

Team Leader Jackie Earl is supported by team members Anna, Sal and Sophie, and together they help a wide range of clients. Jackie's own focus is "supporting a national charity, local charities, and offering consultancy services like governance reviews. I enjoy meeting people and helping charities achieve their objectives."

Offering bespoke services, Jackie and the team are always keen to hear from organisations that we may be able to assist.

Profits from the Trust Administration Service are fed back to support Charity Link's core work.

Charity Link

Trust Administration Service

Expert support for charities, trusts & not-for-profits

★★★★☆ 4.4 Average Rating

Service news

Our casework team has been busy reviewing client applications from our wide network of referring partners, unlocking vital funding by preparing applications and appeals to charitable trusts, as well as accessing our own in-house funds.

They continue to award and arrange the delivery of hundreds of essential items to those in need each month. The team has also been actively engaging with the community, attending events and meetings and visiting both new and existing partners, to ensure our support reaches as many people as possible.

If you work for an organisation that supports people in need and would like to learn more about our work or explore partnership opportunities, our team would be delighted to hear from you.

Over the last 6 months...

With your support, we helped over **2,241** people and provided items worth **£504,364**:

Note: Other items also distributed.

Household Goods
67

Cookers
610

Washing Machines
635

Clothing
77

Fridge Freezers
472

Beds
451

Ways you can get involved...

- Become a Charity Link Ambassador
- Payroll giving
- Ask your local school to fundraise to change lives
- Join our Parkrun 150 Challenge
- Community lottery
- Be part of the 150 Club
- Nominate us for support at your place of work, club or local supermarket
- Organise a gift in your Will
- Ask if charities and support agencies know of our services
- Encourage companies to join our Business Club
- Use Easyfundraising when shopping online
- A one-off donation
- Sign up to our monthly e-newsletter
- Become a Charity Link Friend
- Organise your own fundraising event or challenge... or support one of ours
- Help spread the word by distributing leaflets and posters in your community

We'd love to hear from you if you are interested in supporting our work in any way. Email hello@charity-link.org or call 0116 222 2200.

Birthday Messages from our Partners

Partnership is at the heart of what we do, and it has been heartwarming to receive birthday messages from many of the charities and organisations we work alongside (more messages on our social media pages).

"I am writing to offer my heartfelt congratulations to you and the entire Charity Link team on the incredible milestone of 150 years of service. In my role at Women's Aid, I have had the privilege of witnessing first-hand the profound and life-changing impact of your work. For the women and families we support, many of whom have escaped severe domestic abuse and arrive with nothing, Charity Link is not simply a furniture provider, but a vital part of their journey towards recovery, stability, and independence. Your support transforms empty properties into safe, dignified homes where our clients can begin to rebuild their lives. It restores not only practical comfort, but also a sense of security, self-worth, and hope, elements that are essential for healing from trauma. The difference this makes to the wellbeing and long-term outcomes of the families we work with cannot be overstated.

As someone representing Women's Aid, I want to express how deeply valued your partnership is. As a Women's Aid Refuge practitioner, I am personally grateful to work alongside an organisation whose compassion and commitment so clearly align with our mission to empower survivors and break cycles of abuse and poverty. Reaching 150 years is an extraordinary achievement, and it reflects a legacy of compassion, resilience, and community impact that continues to change lives every day.

Congratulations once again and thank you for the vital role you play in helping our clients rebuild their futures."

Marina Saridaki, Refuge Practitioner, Women's Aid Leicestershire

"Congratulations on your 150th Anniversary. We value the contribution that Charity Link makes to the community and across the wider sector. It is inspiring to see such a long-standing organisation continue to grow and adapt whilst remaining true to its purpose. We at LOROS wish you every success in the future and hope you enjoy celebrating this significant occasion. With warm wishes from everyone at LOROS, may you continue to make a difference in people's lives."

LOROS Social Work Team

Elijah's story

Elijah was referred to us for help by his support worker. He became homeless when his marriage ended after many years.

He spent a period of time sofa surfing before he and his adult daughter, who suffers from cerebral palsy and is a wheelchair user, were rehoused together but the property was unfurnished.

Elijah managed to buy a number of the items the family needed for the home but quickly ran out of the few savings he had.

A cooker was desperately needed for the family's health and wellbeing, and we were delighted to be able to provide this vital item.

The Goods Depot

There are lots of exciting things happening at our social enterprise, The Goods Depot, including new product lines being added to support Charity Link clients and external customers.

A new website is being developed to help us reach a wider customer base (part of our strategy to create a sustainable income stream to support Charity Link's core work), and our delivery van will be updated with our new branding soon – so keep a look out for it on the road!

If you know a housing association, charity or support organisation that procures household essentials for service users, get in touch with the team to see how we can help.

EST. 2019

THE GOODS DEPOT

Supplying Organisations Supporting Communities

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Charity Link's Leicestershire 3 Peaks Challenge

27/09/2026

Take part in our award-winning challenge and help mark 150 years of our vital work!

charity-link.org/leics3peaks