



Euston Foodbank
St Pancras Church House ground floor
1 Lancing Street (off Eversholt St)
Near the east side of Euston Station
London NW1 1NA

Charity number 1172880 Patron: Sir Keir Starmer QC MP
Chair: Revd Dawn Savidge, Bloomsbury Baptists Secretary: Dorothea Hackman, St Pancras Parish Church
Treasurer: Fr Jeremy Trood, St Aloysius RC Church Somers Town

Euston Foodbank Annual Report December 2019

Website: www.euston.foodbank.org.uk **Email:** info@euston.foodbank.org.uk

Our current distribution sessions:

Clients need to bring a voucher or letter, which they can get from the job centre, citizens advice bureau, support worker, frontline professional etc

Our location and opening times: We are on the ground floor, St Pancras Church House, 1 Lancing St NW1 1NA Near Euston Station, off Eversholt St.

mobile telephone during distribution sessions **07400 053 838** but please email as well, as we are a small mainly voluntarily run charity, and cannot always answer every phone call. We are normally open as usual over all holidays, including Christmas New Year 2019/2020.

- Saturday 11am-12:30pm
- Sunday 2pm-3:30pm
- Tuesday 12noon-4pm
- Thursday 5:30pm-7pm

Last financial year we supported nearly six thousand people, a quarter of whom were children, distributing over sixty thousand kilos of food. The main reason clients attended was due to low income, but benefit delays and changes come a close second and third as the reason for the emergency need for food, followed by debt. So far this year in the six month period to the end of September we have seen a 90% increase in demand since 2017, and this is set to rise as universal credit and austerity continue to be implemented.

- Between 1st April 2018 and 31st March 2019, 5,694 three day emergency food supplies were provided to local people in crisis by Euston Foodbank, a 23% increase, of this number, 1,257 went to children.

- Nationally for the U.K. the figure is 1.6 million a 19% increase, more than half a million of them went to children, this is from Foodbanks that are part of the Trussell Trust Network.
- In the last five years food bank use nationally has increased by 73% from 913,138 to 1,583,668
- For London the figure is 166,512 a 21% increase, 59,775 of them children.
- For Camden including Euston Foodbank the six month figure to Sep 2019 rose 28% to 4,512 including 986 children
- The main reason people attend a food bank is low income, which was 27% of attendances, with benefit delays at 25% followed by benefit changes at 23%.

This continued increase has put significant strain on the Foodbank, and we have been fortunate to continue consolidating our growth by appointing two of our volunteers: a Co-ordinator: Deseline Djiayep, and a Manager: Helena Aksentijevic. It is of course unfortunate that foodbanks are necessary in this country at all, and we look forward to when they will no longer be necessary.

Our main referrers are St Pancras Parish Church, Camden Health Improvement Practice + Margarete Centre, the Job Centres, the Citizen Advice and Law centres, the Cold Weather Centre, and Camden Council Floating/Housing/Support/etc sections.

The next volunteer training session will be 1:30-4pm Saturday 11 January 2020 at the foodbank 1 Lancing St NW1 1NA off Eversholt St on the east side of Euston station. Please email if you want to book a place on this training. The following opportunity would also be a Saturday afternoon probably 15 February 2020, but check nearer the time.

Local Donations are essential for this Foodbank, as we have no enormous supermarkets nearby and we do not benefit from the national collections. We do have smaller supermarkets of course, three wonderful Waitrose's, an amazing network of Co-operatives and generous individuals, but the supply chain is very important, as we often redistribute five tons a month and collect only 3.5, so we end up buying shortage items and being rescued by other Foodbanks, mostly in the home counties, who are admirable at collecting.

	2017/2018	2018/2019	Half year to Sep 2019
Stock donated kg	45,394	65,467	36,709
Stock distributed	50,838	68,433	43,248
People supported	4,642	5,694	3,196
Nationally	1,332,952	1,583,668	823,145
London	134,244	166,512	88,379

PEOPLE SUPPORTED BY CAMDEN WARDS, AND WITH NO FIXED ADDRESS			
	2017/2018	2018/2019	Half year to Sep 2019
Belsize	142	176	65
Bloomsbury	187	251	98
CamT w PH	120	205	91
Cantelowes	154	219	81
FortuneGreen	52	28	26
FrognaFJ	31	36	6
Gospel Oak	130	99	40
HampsteadT	117	52	30
Haverstock	229	137	56
Highgate	126	82	22
HolbornCovG	169	250	110
KentishTown	115	59	50
Kilburn	97	90	36
KingsCross	197	363	195
No Fixed Address	632	810	822
RegentsPark	541	662	192
StPancrasST	587	590	377
SwissC	43	80	14
WestH	38	37	14

Donations – collecting food and funds for Euston Foodbank

We appreciate donations of all in date non-perishable foods + unopened toiletries.

- Festive items, especially involving chocolate, are popular too.
- **We always need: tins of meat, fish, vegetables, tomatoes, fruit, soup, baked beans and pulses.**
- Spreads – honey, jam, peanut butter
- Juice (longlife - apple, orange etc)
- Instant coffee, hot chocolate, tea
- Oil (sunflower, olive etc)
- Cereals, Rice and pasta
- Biscuits, Custard and rice pudding

We also need donations of toiletries and household items:

- Toilet paper
- shower gel and shampoo
- Deodorants
- shaving cream
- sanitary pads with wings
- Dishwashing liquid
- laundry tablets
- petfood

And we always need funds - money which we use to buy items we are running short of so we can make up a full emergency package to give people. You can donate through the button on our website and standing order and gift aid forms are also available on www.euston.foodbank.org.uk

It's always the right time for a festive "funds and food" collection. You could collect in the in the summer before people go away on holidays – we are always very short of supplies in June, July, August, September and October. Then Harvest, and in November Mitzvah and Sadaaqa weekends. "Reverse advent" collection time in the run up to Christmas: on each day instead of opening a window and receiving a treat, people in a school or office bring in an item or the equivalent money donation, to builds up into an emergency package. You could have a Spring Collection, in the run up to Easter, with chocolate eggs as the treat.

If you are making an office collection for Christmas 2019, please deliver the collection to the foodbank by Friday 13th Dec if you were wanting it distributed in time for Christmas. Donations continue to be welcome past that date of course, we really need them in the new year when the seasonal generosity dries up, so it is never too late to donate!

Sometimes we can find a volunteer with a car to fetch your collection, but if delivering it to us is going to be a problem, focus from the start on collecting lighter items and money. Tins of food become rapidly very heavy, and if you collect money which you can BACs or send via the “donate” button on the website, we can order exactly the items we need.

We are planning a “Friends of Foodbank” group, to keep you informed about Foodbank activities such as shortage items, supermarket collections and fundraising. To join this group to receive updates, please email eustonfoodbank@gmail.com You can find our newsletters and other updates on our website, and in twitter, facebook and Instagram.

Also we are building up a pool of people who are willing to help with supermarket collections encouraging food donations from customers, usually Fridays and Saturdays, for instance at Waitrose and Tesco. And if we have the required permissions in place, collecting money at railway stations and events.

People also offer to organise non-perishable food collections at their schools, around their neighbourhood and at their places of work and study, and for students going home for the holidays, at the student union. Usually they cover and decorate boxes and use our shopping list of the items we most need, and deliver to us at a distribution session. We always need tins of meat (stews, frankfurters, fray bentos pies etc).

People also organise collections of money at their workplace or school which is really helpful because as well as buying shortage foods such as meat, we can cover running costs like printer ink and paper and zipvan hire. Some people take out standing orders, and sign gift aid forms, let us know if you would like to do this and we can send the forms and account details, these are also available on our website.

Teams of people often want to come and volunteer which is something we appreciate – and we arrange this when we can, but it does involve our volunteers in a lot of work, and they are not necessarily available to look after the team on specific dates for corporate team building days. We of course welcome this when we need to reorganise the stores by date for stock rotation, or do the monthly deep clean, when there has been a big collection that needs sorting, and when it is time to do a complete stocktake. So what we need are volunteer teams who are willing to work, and able to be very accurate about checking dates on food, and cleaning and following food hygiene and health and safety.

Dorothea Hackman
Euston Foodbank Secretary and Trustee