

# Impact Report 2022



# MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

Such a different year to last, an extraordinary year for FareShare Sussex, one where we delivered food for an incredible 2.6 million meals and I am proud to say we stepped up to the relentless challenges that crossed our path.

Many of those 2.6 million meals were delivered to stop the short term threat of hunger, and in doing so stopped the most vulnerable from falling into more complex situations of food poverty and debt. However, the recent combination of events have caused a catastrophic rise in fuel prices, energy, rent, food, and council tax, culminating in a cost of living that is unattainable for the majority of our community.

We are now redistributing food volumes at twice the pre pandemic level and will see an increase in food demand as we support more people with increased economic and health needs.

TO MEET THE CURRENT NEED IS A MONUMENTAL CHALLENGE.

We are collaborating with councils, communities and charities to make sure we can deliver enough surplus food to meet demand. While so many struggle to make ends meet, we believe more than ever that no good food should go to waste

WE ARE CALLING ON SUSSEX AND SURREY FOOD COMPANIES TO STEP FORWARD AND SEND THEIR QUALITY SURPLUS FOOD TO US.

We know that the surplus model provides a sustainable and long term solution for front line organisations who feed the most vulnerable, but also it supports charities in a struggling third sector to get back to full strength. To operate this model at the levels needed, we will continue to rely heavily on donations, support from our community and crucially surplus food.



Looking forward and always mindful of our carbon footprint, we plan to add another electric van to our fleet, and hope to open a new depot in Surrey which will allow us to expand our routes further into the three counties ensuring we can reach the most deprived areas and the most vulnerable people.

“TO ALL OUR NEW AND EXISTING SUPPORTERS, WE THANK EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO OUR CAUSE.”

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Wilkins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jonathan Wilkins  
Chairman

# WE HAVE FIVE CORE AIMS



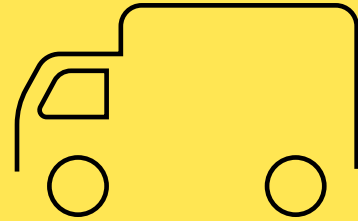
## WE FEED PEOPLE IN CRISIS

Food poverty is on the increase. Nearly seven million people are said to be going hungry in the UK, including two million children and nearly half of all people from ethnic minority backgrounds. That is an increase of 2m since the pandemic. Almost half of all children are living in families who are unable to meet the cost of some basic necessities. We reach hungry people in the region from all demographics.



## WE EMPOWER OUR VOLUNTEERS

who are the lifeblood of our organisation. Our 150 incredible volunteers assist on deliveries, drive vans and ecargo bikes, sort food and maintain the warehouse. Often they find us through our community projects and are on a journey to get a job.



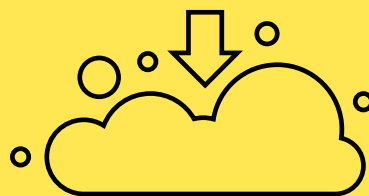
## WE DELIVER SURPLUS FOOD

from the food supply industries and prevent it from ending up in landfill or going to waste. In the UK, food production and waste creates 35% of total CO2 emissions... It is 17 times better to get surplus food to people than to use it for animal food, the next best option.



## WE'RE HELPING OUR VOLUNTEERS BECOME MORE EMPLOYABLE

We run an employability programme to get prepared for a future role in the food industry. We give them hands-on experience in addition to our individually tailored employability training in our food redistribution depot and personalised support with job searches. Last year we helped 21 volunteers find paid work.



## WE'RE LOWERING OUR EMISSIONS

In 2021 we diverted 1090 tonnes of food from being put into landfill – our model is a highly efficient way to manage surplus food. We recently launched our Green Team looking at ways to lower our carbon footprint. Our current operational CO2 emissions are 54.5 tonnes per year and we aim to reduce them by 30% by 2032. We have introduced an electric van and an ecargo bike and plan to add another van to our fleet this year. They allow us to deliver more food whilst decreasing air pollution and our carbon emissions, plus they cost less to run.

"WE HAVE BEEN RECEIVING FOOD FROM FARESHARE FOR APPROXIMATELY 15 YEARS. THIS HAS, AND CONTINUES TO HELP US SUPPORT FAMILIES FACING CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES BY PROVIDING NUTRITIONALLY BALANCED BAGS OF FOOD THAT ALSO ENSURE CULTURAL AND DIETARY NEEDS ARE MET. WE ARE A LIFELINE TO THOSE WHO NEED THIS SUPPORT IN OUR COMMUNITY."

Julie Warner, Project Manager  
FreshStart Brighton

# THE COST OF LIVING IS SKYROCKETING

While the pandemic may be easing, we know food insecurity is soaring. Nearly 7 million people in the UK (including 2.4 million children) are struggling to afford to eat enough food. This represents approximately 1 in 10 of the UK population. Food insecurity has more than doubled under Covid-19 and lockdown.

The Food Foundation found that 25% of people were worried about food affordability and 21% were cutting down the size of meals or skipping meals because they could not afford to buy food. The cost of basic goods and services needed by the average two-child household in the UK has risen by £400 a month (The Guardian, 23 May 2022).

46% OF PEOPLE ACCESSING FARESHARE'S FOOD (IN NOV 2021) VIA OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS HAVE GONE A WHOLE DAY WITHOUT FOOD.

Although located in the economically vibrant South East, we work in some of the UK's most severely deprived communities. We cover 25 LSOAs, a small area of deprivation according to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation, in parts of Brighton & Hove, Crawley, Arun, Littlehampton, Worthing, Eastbourne, Bexhill and Hastings where 37% of children are living in poverty.

Sussex has a range of health issues that are significantly worse than the national average, including problems related to alcohol and drug use, sexual health and self-harm. We also have one of the highest rates of homelessness in the country, which has increased sharply following the pandemic, and unemployment in urban areas of Sussex is higher than the UK average.

Surprisingly, according to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation 68% of families living in poverty include at least one working adult.

MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE NEVER PREVIOUSLY NEEDED HELP ARE FINDING THEMSELVES STRUGGLING TO MAKE ENDS MEET.

## WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

There have been a combination of recent events which have had a huge impact on household finances, everyone in the UK will feel the squeeze in the coming year, but none as much as low or no income households and pensioners:

- Universal credit was cut by £20 a week in October 2021
- Inflation is at the highest it's been in decades which means the cost of food has dramatically increased
- National Insurance rate is rising - this will have a greater impact on low income families
- Council tax and rent costs have increased
- The war in Ukraine has caused a rise in fuel prices, energy, and food

## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR FARESHARE SUSSEX:

Covid-19 has accelerated our growth - before the pandemic we were helping an average of 12,000 people a week, now we help around 22,000.

We have a waiting list of community partners who are desperate to receive food from us and due to the economic climate, we expect to be inundated with requests to join our network.

Our constant concern is making sure we have enough food in our warehouses to be able to provide a good service to our community partners. The supply of wheat and vegetable oils from Ukraine is a big threat to us as it affects all the food items containing those ingredients. With the increase in people needing food in 2022 and the supply issues of importing certain foods into the UK, we need to diversify our suppliers - we are always on the lookout for new local suppliers, if you think you can help, please get in touch.

# 2021/2 IN NUMBERS

WE HAVE SAVED AND REDISTRIBUTED  
**1090**  
TONNES OF SURPLUS FOOD

WE HELPED  
**21**  
VOLUNTEERS BACK TO WORK  
INCLUDING  
**5**  
PAID ROLES AT  
FARESHARE SUSSEX

WE LAUNCHED OUR HEALTHY EATING & COOKING WITH SURPLUS FOOD  
**WORKSHOPS**  
AND NOW RUN **5** EVERY MONTH

WE SUPPORTED  
**181**  
COMMUNITY GROUPS

WE SUPPORTED  
**12**  
VOLUNTEERS ON OUR EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAMME

WE DISTRIBUTED FOOD FOR  
**2.6** MILLION MEALS

WE PROVIDED ENOUGH FOOD FOR  
**21,720**  
VULNERABLE PEOPLE EVERY WEEK

WE SAVED OUR CHARITY PARTNERS AN ESTIMATED  
**£3** MILLION IN FOOD COSTS

OUR VOLUNTEERS DONATED  
**32,888**  
HOURS  
WITH AN ESTIMATED VALUE OF  
**£368,017**

**1383**  
TONNES OF CO2E SAVED  
THE EQUIVALENT OF  
**277**  
FLIGHTS FROM LONDON TO SYDNEY

# THE FORCE BEHIND FARESHARE SUSSEX

Our amazing volunteers are the powerhouse of our work here at FareShare Sussex, without them we simply would not exist. A recent survey showed that volunteering with us gave them a chance to give back to the community whilst also having a positive impact on their own wellbeing. Over half of our volunteers said that they felt fitter as a result, 86% agreed that it helped them to feel happier, 70% were feeling more satisfied with their life, and 98% reported that they felt they were doing something worthwhile. This highlights the need for our volunteer-led work in the community to ultimately alleviate mental wellbeing services. We are always excited to welcome new volunteers and are engaging more within the community to continue to diversify our team.

## THE ROTARY CLUB

We've been working with the wonderful members of The Brighton and Hove Soiree Rotary Club for over 15 years, they have been our longest serving volunteers donating an incredible 7500 hours of their time. At present Robin and Caroline come in three times a week and drive delivery vans out to the projects across the region. The Rotary Club also fund items in the warehouse such as high visibility vests and weighing scales (for portioning out bulk items of food); they also very generously pay a contribution towards the fuel they use on their deliveries.



"THE MOST REWARDING ASPECT OF VOLUNTEERING AT FARESHARE SUSSEX IS SEEING THE FOOD GETTING TO NEEDY PEOPLE AND SEEING WHAT A MASSIVE DIFFERENCE IT MAKES ... NOW MORE THAN EVER PEOPLE ARE HAVING TO MAKE HORRIBLE DECISIONS IN THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS. IT HAS ALSO BEEN WONDERFUL TO SEE SOME OF MY FELLOW VOLUNTEERS GAIN CONFIDENCE, MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND EVENTUALLY MOVE ONTO PERMANENT JOBS - WHICH IS ANOTHER VALUABLE FUNCTION OF FARESHARE SUSSEX."

Robin  
Rotary Club Volunteer since 2014

"I STARTED VOLUNTEERING AT FARESHARE SUSSEX IN 2016 AND HAVE SEEN IT CHANGE AND GROW A LOT OVER THE YEARS. I WAS CHOSEN TO BE LEAD VOLUNTEER, A NEW POSITION CREATED DURING THE PANDEMIC TO HELP MANAGE AND GUIDE NEW VOLUNTEERS. THIS ALLOWED ME TO USE MY SKILLS TO HELP SHAPE THE ROLE AND TO CREATE A MORE ORGANISED CHAOS DURING COVID. I'VE ENJOYED BEING ACTIVE AND MEETING DIFFERENT PEOPLE."

Myron  
Lead Warehouse Volunteer



"WORKING IN THE WAREHOUSE HAS HELPED US GAIN VALUABLE WORK EXPERIENCE. EVERYONE HERE IS SO HELPFUL ESPECIALLY WHEN FIRST STARTING, HELPING US TO FIGURE OUT WHERE AND HOW TO DO EVERYTHING. WE ENJOY VOLUNTEERING ALONGSIDE LOVELY STAFF AND FELLOW VOLUNTEERS."

Daisy, Nica, Maddy  
Active Student Volunteers  
Sussex University

# STORIES FROM THE FRONT LINE

Networkx is a charity based in Eastbourne, East Sussex, founded in 2015, with the aim of welcoming refugees and supporting them to integrate into the local community. Anna Reid, co-founder, started the organisation along with two friends who were concerned with the war in Syria and families fleeing their homes.

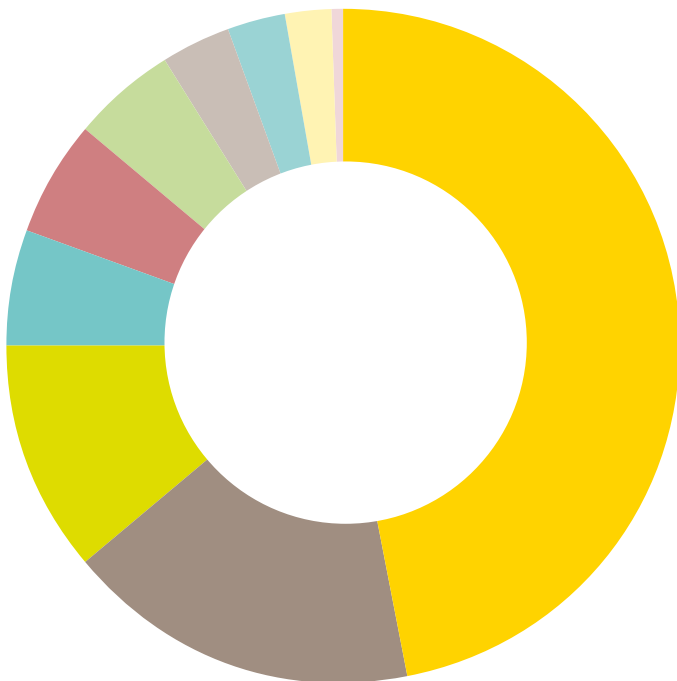
"AT NETWORKX, WE WANT PEOPLE TO FEEL INCLUDED AND BELONGING, WE DO THAT BY GIVING WHATEVER HELP IS REQUIRED, FOR EXAMPLE MAKING SURE THEY HAVE NUTRITIOUS FOOD, ACCESSING MEDICAL AND COUNSELLING SUPPORT INCLUDING IMMIGRATION ADVICE; AS WELL AS ENGLISH LESSONS, DRIVING OR WORK OPPORTUNITIES."

After seven years working with refugees from around the world including Afghanistan, Iran and Morocco, the challenges and uncertainties Networkx faces are greater than ever. Now the Ukrainian war is creating more refugees and, nearer home, the fuel crisis, universal credit cut, and the cost of living skyrocketing makes it harder for these vulnerable people to find a safe place to call home.

"THE FOOD WE RECEIVE FROM FARESHARE SUSSEX IS LITERALLY A LIFESAVER, AS IT HELPS US PROVIDE WEEKLY FOOD PARCELS TO VULNERABLE PEOPLE WHO EXPERIENCE INSECURITY."


Anna Reid  
Networkx Co-founder

## FARESHARE SUSSEX ARE REACHING THE MOST VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY:



- FAMILIES ON LOW OR NO INCOME OR LONG TERM UNEMPLOYED
- HOMELESS PEOPLE AND ROUGH SLEEPERS
- OTHER\*
- ISOLATED ELDERLY PEOPLE
- PRE SCHOOL AND SCHOOL CHILDREN
- PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS
- PEOPLE AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- REFUGEES AND THE PEOPLE FROM ETHNIC MINORITY BACKGROUNDS
- PEOPLE WITH DRUG OR ALCOHOL ADDICTION
- THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY

\* Ex offenders, NEETs, People with physical health problems or living with life limiting conditions



"WE ARE A FAMILY OF 4 WHO LIVE IN A ONE BEDROOM FLAT, WE WERE LATE ON BILL PAYMENTS AND RENT. WE COULDN'T AFFORD THE BASIC LIFE NEEDS DUE TO OUR LIMITED MONTHLY INCOME. BUT OUR LIFE HAS CHANGED THIS YEAR, THANKS TO THE HELP WE RECEIVED FROM NETWORKX, WHO HELPED US TO MANAGE OUR BILL REPAYMENTS, HELPED US WITH FOOD DONATIONS AND GAVE US REASSURANCE TO CARRY ON LIVING WITH NO FEAR OR WORRY ABOUT THE FUTURE"

# SAVING SURPLUS FOOD FROM LANDFILL

We've been receiving weekly deliveries from Barfoots of Botley's since 2014, they provide much needed fresh produce including sweet potato, squash, green beans, broccoli, asparagus, sweetcorn and rhubarb all of which is surplus to requirements or out of spec.

It is part of our mission to provide healthy nutritious food to those struggling to feed themselves or their families. At present almost 40% of the food we deliver is fresh produce and a large proportion of that comes from Barfoots.

Since the start of our partnership Barfoots have donated surplus food that has supported the FareShare Sussex warehouse to redistribute an estimated 29,248 meals to local communities. This support is in addition to their wider work with FareShare UK to redistribute surplus and imperfect good to eat food, where their support has meant that Barfoots have redistributed a grand total of almost 1,076,350 meals.

We met up with Thomas Bennet, Technical Account Executive from Barfoots to talk through why they chose to support us.

## WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO DIVERT SURPLUS FOOD TO FARESHARE SUSSEX?

Before we started collaborating with FareShare Sussex the produce would have been used to generate energy using our on-site Anaerobic Digester. Some of the waste we produce is still good to eat, donations to you mean that we can divert the majority of our edible food waste for redistribution while still producing energy using the waste that is not edible. Reducing waste and providing nutritious vegetables to those in need is a win-win.

## ARE THERE ANY BENEFITS TO DONATING SURPLUS FOOD?

There are many benefits in addition to the obvious one, providing food for people in need. I think the most important thing is creating links, having people work together and work with an external organisation brings new ideas, energy and positivity.

## DOES WORKING WITH FARESHARE SUSSEX SUPPORT ANY ENVIRONMENTAL OR SOCIAL AIMS OR ACTIVITIES YOUR BUSINESS HAS?

In addition to the direct benefits of redistribution we also achieve a number of other environmental and social benefits including forming links with the wider community, reducing food waste, water loss and limiting CO2 emissions. We actually produce more energy than we need using non-edible waste in our Anaerobic Digester plant and aim to reduce the volume that is directed to this.

## HAVE YOU HAD TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO YOUR OPERATIONS IN ORDER TO DIVERT SURPLUS TO FARESHARE SUSSEX?

Although there have been some alterations to the way we work in terms of organising collections, storage and packaging of produce for redistribution these are offset by the indirect benefits we see. This has been helped further with the weekly collections that we have been able to arrange with FareShare Sussex. Regular weekly collections mean that the production teams can prepare produce over a few days knowing that a regular collection will be made.

## WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR OTHER FOOD BUSINESSES WISHING TO DONATE SURPLUS FOOD?

I think the best advice is following standard business advice of taking things one step at a time. Start with one product or collection, listen to the advice from the people at FareShare Sussex and see where it takes you. There are a lot of benefits that you may not realise until you start and you may be surprised at how keen people are to make it happen.

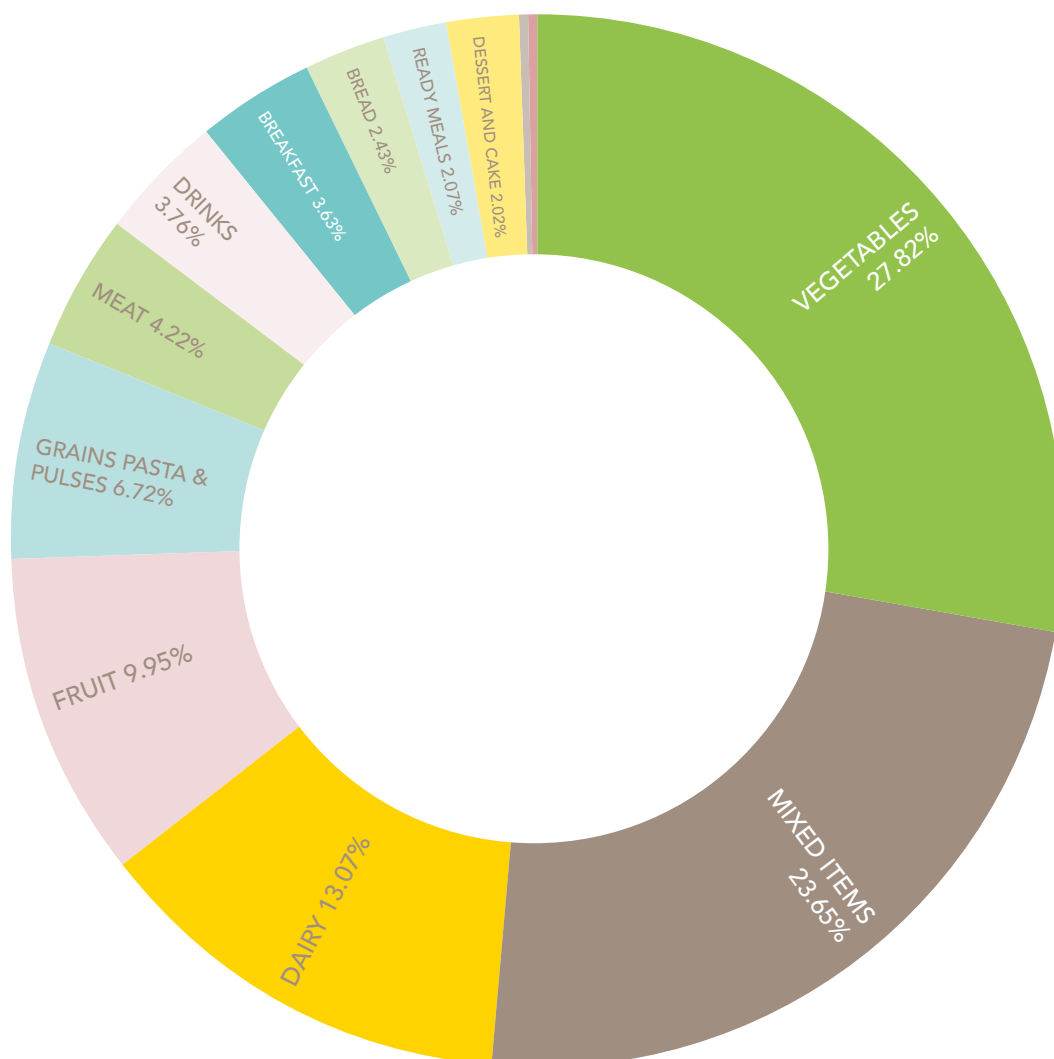
If you are interested in supplying us with surplus food please contact our Operations Manager Nathan Catt on [nathan@faresharesussex.org.uk](mailto:nathan@faresharesussex.org.uk)



# MAKING SURE WE DELIVER HEALTHY, NUTRITIOUS FOOD TO THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST

We are committed to delivering healthy and nutritious food to our community partners so that we can help to improve the health and well being of those who are struggling to put food on the table. We are pleased to report that 51% of the food we delivered last year was fresh fruit,vegetables and dairy products.

NON-FOOD	0.43%
FISH	0.12%



# EMBEDDING FOOD SUPPORT INTO THE COMMUNITY

We are committed to building long term, strategic and sustainable models such as Food Clubs and Pantry schemes which embed food support into communities, meaning people can access quality food in a dignified setting, alongside wraparound support.

The varying models are reaching the working poor, those who are close to being in food poverty as well as those who cannot afford to eat. Sadly, as the 2022 cost of living crisis begins we will only see the demand for these clubs increase exponentially.

*"AS A NEW MUM I WAS STRUGGLING WITH THE GUILT OF HAVING LITTLE MONEY AND WANTING TO PROVIDE GOOD FOOD FOR MY BABY. SINCE I JOINED, I HAVE HAD ACCESS TO A WIDE RANGE OF FRESH FOOD WHICH HAS REALLY HELPED ME. ALSO, THE STAFF ARE SO KIND AND SUPPORTIVE AND REMOVED ANY STIGMA I FELT."*

JP

In the Surrey Borough of Reigate and Banstead, working with the forward thinking Community Development Team we have supported five new Food Clubs in Horley, Merstham, Redhill, Woodhatch, and St Marks serving Preston and Tattenhams.

## THEIR FOOD CLUBS SUPPORT:

- A whopping 328 registered households
- Including 192 families
- Supported by 53 industrious and caring volunteers

Households who are a mixture of in work and out of work. A high number of single person households (particularly pensioner households) and high number of people unable to work due to ill health or caring responsibilities.

*"AS AN OLDER PERSON, I HAVE A LIMITED INCOME BEING ON A PENSION AND HAVE TO MAKE DIFFICULT CHOICES, HOWEVER, I WOULD NEVER GO TO A FOOD BANK BUT BECAUSE THIS IS ALSO SUPPORTING CUTTING DOWN OF FOOD WASTE, I FEEL HAPPY TO JOIN IT."*

TJ



We have also supported the set up of seven Food Clubs in Brighton and Hove that support over 300 households (500 adults and 285 children) as well as the Burgess Hill Local Pantry, Littlehampton Community Fridge, ShopWise in Woking, Mid Surrey Community Fridges, Knaphill, Old Town, Merstham, and Dorking Community Fridges, Eastbourne NetworX (you can read about this on P.8) and Peacehaven Community Supermarket.

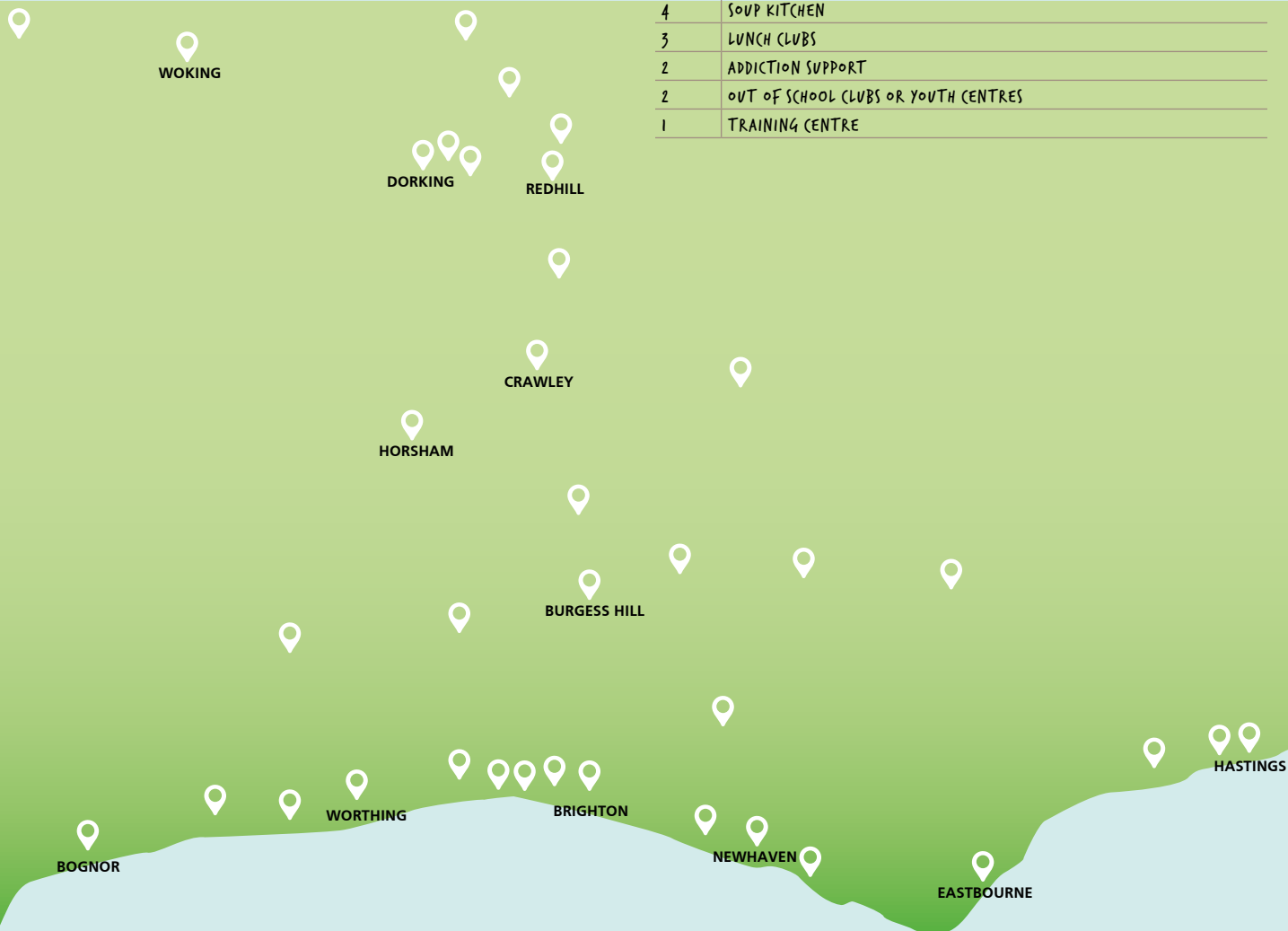
*"I WAS HAVING TO MAKE A CHOICE OF FOOD OR FUEL AND AS A RESULT OF FOOD CLUB I CAN NOW DO BOTH."*

BR

# WORKING WITH 181 GRASS ROOTS COMMUNITY PARTNERS

We deliver food to organisations supporting the most vulnerable across our area. Using the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), we target communities with the highest levels of deprivation within our region. Our partner organisations are embedded in the local community – using local expertise and lived experience, they transform the food we provide into healthy meals whilst providing wrap-around support such as advice and guidance, health support, counselling and befriending, to help break the cycle of poverty and use food as a vehicle for good above and beyond alleviating hunger.

36	FOOD BANKS
27	COMMUNITY / DAY CENTRES
18	SUPPORTED HOUSING
16	COMMUNITY FRIDGE / SUPERMARKET / FOOD HUB
13	ADVICE / RESOURCE DROP IN CENTRES
12	CHILDREN AND FAMILY CENTRES
11	COMMUNITY CAFE
8	PLACE OF WORSHIPS
7	REFUGES
6	HOSPICES, CARE HOMES OR MEDICAL FACILITIES
6	SCHOOL BREAKFAST OR AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
5	RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION CENTRES
4	HOSTELS
4	SOUP KITCHEN
3	LUNCH CLUBS
2	ADDICTION SUPPORT
2	OUT OF SCHOOL CLUBS OR YOUTH CENTRES
1	TRAINING CENTRE







# THE FLAVOUR PROJECT

## BOOSTING CONFIDENCE IN THE KITCHEN

Last year was a very busy and exciting year for the FLAVOUR team here at FareShare Sussex. Our Product Developer tested and developed new recipes to extend the shelf life of surplus produce. These included pear jam, raspberry jam, pumpkin jam, caramelised milk spread, as well as some savoury items including parsley and coriander pesto, sauerkraut and kimchi.

We launched a series of cookery and preserving workshops for our volunteers and community partners aiming to boost people's confidence in the kitchen, give them new skills, ideas and inspiration to being more creative and adventurous in their daily meal prep at home, helping them to reduce their food waste and create simple, nutritious and delicious meals on a budget.

We now run 5 practical cookery workshops a month including: bread making, pizza class, gluten free desserts and baking, cooking on a budget and cooking with surplus.

As the project progresses, we hope to distribute our treats to our community partners, engage new keen learners and helpers to join the processing team and attend our future workshops.

If you would like to join a workshop please contact our FLAVOUR team on 01273 671111 option 5.

*"PARTICIPATING IN THIS CLASS HAS HELPED ME DEVELOP SO MANY INCREDIBLE AND VIABLE SKILLS, ALONGSIDE BEING WITHIN A WONDERFUL CROWD, I HAVE LEARNED THAT THERE ARE ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES WHEN IT COMES TO COOKING."*

Theo  
Cooking on a Budget workshop attendee





# FARESHARE FUTURES: OUR EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAMME

Despite all the Covid induced ebbs and flows and the overall uncertainty of the last year, we managed to reach out and engage with over a dozen of people at risk of long term unemployment and enrol them onto our six week course, thanks to FareShare Futures employability programme supported by Interreg 2 Seas Mers Zeeën.

## LAST YEAR WE HELPED 21 VOLUNTEERS FIND PAID WORK THROUGH FARESHARE FUTURES

The project uses tailored individual learning plans and aims to deliver a programme which supports people holistically into sustained and meaningful employment or further education at the same time as improving their general wellbeing.

Over a 12 week period, we provide a fluid programme of work experience, accredited training modules and one to one support which increases the candidates chances of finding future employment. The participants received food hygiene training, manual handling training as well as taking part in group work sessions that build their confidence. They all gain first hand volunteering experience in our busy warehouse and get a real life introduction to the food industry.

Our Training Coordinator, helps them with the job application process, signposting them to potential employers operating locally and other community organisations where they can develop and practise their newly acquired skills.

Our collaboration with Hays Recruitment has just launched, they run workshops every other month for candidates at our depot:

*"WE IMMEDIATELY WANTED TO GET MORE INVOLVED, AND IT MADE TOTAL SENSE FOR US TO COLLABORATE ON THE FARESHARE FUTURES INCREDIBLY SUCCESSFUL EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAMME BY HOLDING WORKSHOPS FOR THE VOLUNTEERS ON CV WRITING, JOB SEARCHING, INTERVIEW ADVICE AND PREPARATION AND HOLDING MOCK INTERVIEWS. OUR CONSULTANTS AT HAYS BRIGHTON ARE ENJOYING BEING INVOLVED, AND OUR THANKS TO ALL AT FARESHARE SUSSEX FOR YOUR WARM WELCOME AND FOR HELPING US USE OUR EXPERTISE TO HELP OTHERS – BEING ABLE TO HELP OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY IS A GOOD FEELING"*

Stephanie Coombs  
Senior Business Manager  
Hays Recruitment



# CONAL'S STORY

In July 2021, Conal signed up for the FareShare Futures employability course.. He was out of work for a while due to health reasons and needed a boost in confidence, as well as some help regarding his CV and interview technique.

Conal really got stuck in as soon as he arrived, volunteering three days a week whilst completing the course.

In August, he successfully completed his Level 2 Food Hygiene certificate and decided to stay with FareShare Sussex and continue volunteering three days a week. At the beginning of September he was nominated to become a Lead Volunteer and, by the end of September, he was nudged towards applying for a six-month contract as a Warehouse Assistant which he did and secured full time employment with the Warehouse team.

Conal showed extreme commitment and enthusiasm and today he is an invaluable member of the staff, supporting the operations team and all the volunteers in our busy warehouse..

"GETTING ON BOARD WITH THE EMPLOYABILITY COURSE WAS AMAZING. IT TAUGHT ME A LOT REGARDING WHAT EMPLOYERS ARE LOOKING FOR AND HOW TO GO INTO INTERVIEWS WITH CONFIDENCE WITHOUT OVERTHINKING TOO MUCH WHICH WAS AN ISSUE FOR ME FOR A LONG TIME. IT TAUGHT ME TO JUST BE MYSELF AND PLAY TO MY STRENGTHS. IN THE END, IT SEEMS TO HAVE WORKED CONSIDERING NOW I WORK FOR FARESHARE SUSSEX AS A WAREHOUSE ASSISTANT."

# LOWERING OUR EMISSIONS

## WE ARE LOWERING OUR CARBON EMISSIONS ABOVE AND BEYOND THE FOOD WASTE.

Stopping climate change is at the core of what we do. Over 33% of human climate emissions arise from food production. Yet 33% of food grown is wasted or dumped into landfill. To solve this across the UK, our surplus food operations need urgent expansion. We need to partner with more local food companies who have no means of getting large scale surplus to those in desperate need. In 2021 we saved and redistributed over 1090 tonnes of perfectly fresh and delicious food across East and West Sussex. For every tonne redistributed we save 1.6 tonnes of CO2 and 1.5 million litres of water, but this is only a part of our work to reduce our emissions.

Last year we analysed our carbon footprint, and following from this we launched the FareShare Sussex Green Team. This group includes volunteers, trustees, our CEO, our Senior Management Team and other staff members from across the business who have a passion for sustainability. Together, we have created a comprehensive action plan to cut our carbon footprint by at least 30% by 2030.

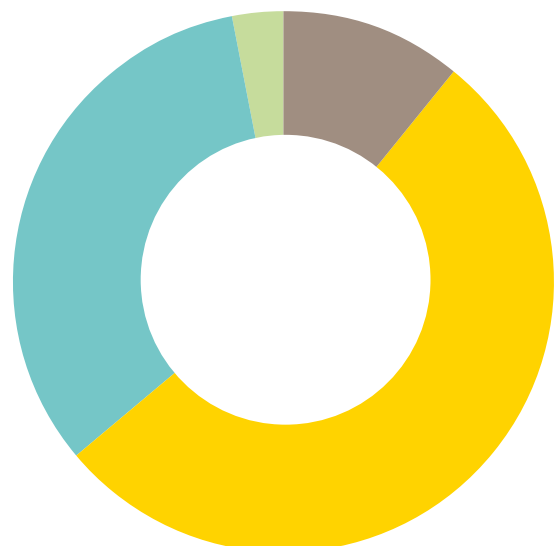
Although we are unable to gain B Corp Status we are working towards having the same standards across our business.

We have a list of long term goals; the biggest being to change our fleet to electric vehicles, but here are 6 things we are already doing to cut our emissions:

1. WE USE AN ELECTRIC VAN AND CARGO BIKE TO CUT TOXIC FUMES AND CARBON EMISSIONS. IN ITS FIRST YEAR OUR ELECTRIC VAN AND CARGO BIKE SAVED 2806KG OF DIRECT CARBON DIOXIDE!
2. WE BANK WITH THE CO OPERATIVE AND TRIODOS BANKS WHO ARE BOTH ETHICAL AND DO NOT INVEST IN FOSSIL FUELS AND OUR PENSIONS ARE WITH THE MOST ETHICAL PROVIDER NEST.
3. WE RECYCLE 37.6 TONNES OF CARDBOARD AND BIODEGRADABLE WASTE PER YEAR.
4. WE USE SURPLUS, SURPLUS FOOD (FOOD THAT WE CAN'T GET TO PROJECTS AS IT'S ALMOST PAST ITS BEST) TO COOK HOT, HEALTHY LOW CARBON LUNCHES FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS.
5. WE PROVIDE A VOLUNTEER PANTRY CONTAINING SURPLUS, SURPLUS FOOD.
6. WE ARE RUNNING COOKERY WORKSHOPS TO HELP VOLUNTEERS AND MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY UNDERSTAND HOW TO STOP FOOD WASTE IN THE HOME.

## THE LARGEST PARTS OF OUR OPERATIONAL CARBON EMISSIONS ARE:

- Diesel for our vans that deliver the food to our Community Food Members - 53%
- Gas and electric - 33%
- Volunteer and staff commuting - 11% (despite more than half of our staff cycling to work)
- Other - 3%



WE'VE JUST STARTED A NEW PROJECT  
COLLABORATING WITH FARESHARE SUSSEX ON  
SUSTAINABILITY - SHARING THOUGHTS, IDEAS AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE TO HELP US  
BOTH TAKE STEPS TO BE BETTER, FOR THE SAKE OF  
PEOPLE AND THE PLANET.

Sarah Jackson  
Marketing & Sustainability Director,  
Higgidy



# WHAT'S NEXT FOR US IN 2022?

**1** WE PLAN TO MAKE OUR OPERATIONS MORE SUSTAINABLE BY MAKING ALL 6 VEHICLES IN OUR FLEET ELECTRIC BY 2025. THIS YEAR WE HOPE TO SWAP 2 DIESEL VANS FOR ELECTRIC MODELS, ALLOWING US TO DISTRIBUTE MORE FOOD TO VULNERABLE PEOPLE USING A MODEL THAT DECREASES AIR POLLUTION AND OUR CARBON EMISSIONS PLUS COSTING US LESS TO RUN.

**2** WE PLAN TO INTRODUCE ROUTE OPTIMISATION SOFTWARE TO SHORTEN OUR ROUTES, CUT DOWN ON DIESEL AND MAKE THE DRIVE EASIER FOR OUR VOLUNTEER DRIVERS.

**3** WE ARE WORKING ON PLANS TO OPEN A DEPOT IN SURREY IN 2023 TO FEED THE EVER GROWING NEED. STRATEGICALLY LOCATED, THIS NEW WAREHOUSE WILL ALLOW US TO SERVICE 50 COMMUNITY GROUPS IN THE FIRST YEAR AND THE NEW VAN ROUTES WILL ENABLE US TO REACH PREVIOUSLY INACCESSIBLE REGIONS IN SURREY.

**4** WORKING WITH LOCAL FOOD MANUFACTURERS, WE ARE BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS TO SECURE A 20% UPLIFT IN DONATED SURPLUS FOOD TO ENSURE WE HAVE ENOUGH FOOD TO DISTRIBUTE TO VULNERABLE PEOPLE.

**5** WE ARE WORKING TO IMPROVE THE NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF THE FOOD WE PROVIDE, LAST YEAR JUST OVER 50% OF THE FOOD WE PROVIDED WAS FRESH FRUIT, VEGETABLES AND DAIRY - WE'RE PASSIONATE ABOUT GIVING THE PEOPLE WE SERVE THE BEST POSSIBLE HEALTH AND WELL BEING IMPACT.

**6** FOLLOWING ON FROM LAUNCHING OUR GREEN TEAM WE ARE EXCITED TO BE INTRODUCING QUICK AND LONG TERM SOLUTIONS TO CUTTING OUR CARBON EMISSIONS

**7** DELIVERING STRATEGIC TARGETED REGIONAL PROGRAMMES ACROSS THE WHOLE OF EAST AND WEST SUSSEX AND SURREY - WORKING COLLABORATIVELY WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES, FUNDERS AND PARTNER CHARITIES.

**8** ALTHOUGH WE ARE UNABLE TO GAIN B-CORP CERTIFICATION, WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS HAVING THE STATUS TO ENSURE WE ARE WORKING AS SUSTAINABLY AND HOLISTICALLY AS POSSIBLE.

**9** RECRUITING MORE VOLUNTEERS - OUR PROGRAMME IS OPEN TO EVERYONE, 50% ARE RECRUITED FROM OUR CHARITY PARTNERS INCLUDING HOSTELS, RECOVERY PROJECTS, AND REFUGES. HELPING DEVELOP EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SKILLS IN A WELCOMING WORK ENVIRONMENT, LAST YEAR WE PROVIDED ACCREDITED TRAINING FOR 42 VOLUNTEERS.

**10** IMPROVE OUR EMPLOYABILITY OFFER TO REACH AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE. ANNUALLY WE ARE SUPPORTING OVER 20 DISADVANTAGED PEOPLE AND PEOPLE WHO NEED ADDITIONAL SUPPORT WHO ARE EXPERIENCING BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT, TO ACCESS TRAINING, SKILLS, AND A SUPPORTIVE WORK ENVIRONMENT.

"WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT FARESHARE SUSSEX'S VERY IMPRESSIVE FOOD COLLECTION AND REDISTRIBUTION SERVICE, WHICH HELPS TO ADDRESS THE SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF FOOD WASTAGE IN THE UK. ON OUR VISIT WE WERE DELIGHTED TO SEE OUR DONATIONS ARE WELL USED TO ENSURE VULNERABLE PEOPLE ACROSS SUSSEX ARE PROVIDED WITH NUTRITIOUS FOOD; ALL THE MORE CRUCIAL AS THE COST OF LIVING INCREASES AFFECTING MORE FAMILIES OVER THE COMING MONTHS."

Sally Case, Director  
The Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust







# INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

We are happy to report a modest surplus in the face of a challenging economic climate following the pandemic. The team has continued to work exceptionally hard to drive healthy voluntary income levels, even though we face a drop off in grant funding. Supporting charitable activities remains our primary focus, despite increased costs across the board. We have brought on some new experienced fundraising staff, which has already produced positive results and look for further improvements to fundraising in the next financial year. Full accounts will be available from the Charity Commission. All figures are subject to auditing.

## INCOME

90.99%	£581,497	Voluntary income (grants, donations etc)
9.01%	£57,567	Charitable activity

## EXPENDITURE

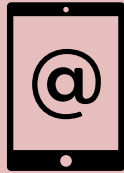
95.44%	£578,620	Charitable activities
4.02%	£24,359	Cost of generating income
0.54%	£3,274	Governance costs

"WE ARE DELIGHTED TO OFFER OUR CONTINUED SUPPORT TO FARESHARE SUSSEX IN THEIR VITAL WORK TO ADDRESS FOOD POVERTY FOR THE MOST DISADVANTAGED IN OUR COMMUNITIES – SOMETHING THAT WE AS A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ARE ABSOLUTELY COMMITTED TO. A SMALL INVESTMENT FROM US AS A LOCAL FUNDER MAKES A HUGE IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE. WE ARE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL FOR THE WORK YOU DO AND THE PROFESSIONALISM OF YOUR TEAM AND VOLUNTEERS IN THESE CHALLENGING TIMES."

Hannah Clay  
Head of Grant Programmes  
Sussex Community Foundation

FOR EVERY £1 SPENT,  
97P IS SPENT ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES.

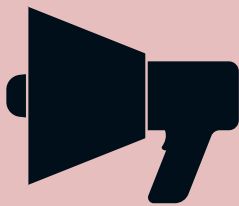
# TOGETHER WE MAKE GOOD THINGS HAPPEN



KEEP UP TO DATE  
WITH OUR  
NEWSLETTER



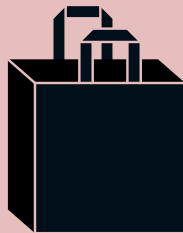
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REGULAR DONOR



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SUPPORT



DONATE  
FOOD



VOLUNTEER  
WITH US

WE'VE NEVER NEEDED OUR COMMUNITY MORE ...  
FIND OUT HOW TO GET INVOLVED AT  
[WWW.FARESHARESUSSEX.ORG.UK](http://WWW.FARESHARESUSSEX.ORG.UK)

# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

We are ever grateful for the enduring generosity of our supporters and volunteers who have donated their time, food and money so selflessly during this particularly challenging time, your support ensures our stability.

29TH MAY 1961 CHARITABLE TRUST

AIR PARTNERS PLC

ALBERT HUNT TRUST

ARNOLD CLARK COMMUNITY FUND

AUSTIN AND HOPE PILKINGTON TRUST

BARFOOTS

BETSY FOUNDATION

BOOKER

BRAKES

BRIGHTON AND HOVE COUNCIL

BRITISH HUMANE ASSOCIATION

CHALK CLIFF TRUST

CHARLOTTE MARSHALL TRUST

CLARK CHARITABLE TRUST

COMMUNITY TRUST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

COOP HOVE

COTMORE TRUST

CROUDANCE ASSET MANAGEMENT

DESMOND FOUNDATION

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ERNEST KLEINWORT CHARITABLE TRUST

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FEBRUARY FOUNDATION

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SOUTER CHARITABLE TRUST

SOUTHERN WATER

SUSSEX COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

SUSSEX CRISIS FUND

TESCO COMMUNITY FUND

THE ROTARY CLUB

VERVATE



# 2002 - 2022 20 YEARS OF ALLEVIATING HUNGER IN SUSSEX

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Since our inception in 2002, we have been trading through our parent charity, City Gate Community Projects.  
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