

Southport Foodbank

The Foodbank is truly blessed by the amount of food we receive each week from churches throughout Southport. During the past month we have also received harvest donations from schools and churches. Sadly as the donations have increased, so has the need for help in the local community. I work at Lakeside on a Monday and Friday, the past few weeks we have seen many more clients every time we are open. Other centres in the town are reporting similar increased numbers.

We are in the fortunate position that we have enough food to meet the need at the moment. What would happen to the hungry in our town if the Foodbank were to close? This is a question we are now having to consider because although we have regular donations of food, we are very short of cash. What do we need cash for? Well, our manager, John works 5 days a week for the Foodbank and he needs to be paid. We are in receipt of a grant to cover one of the days he works but we need to pay him for 5 days. Just like any other organisation we have costs to cover. We pay rent for our office and for the two portakabins we use as our warehouse. We have to print vouchers for all the agencies who work with us and we have other stationary costs. We pay for our internet usage, I could go on.

I would ask you to prayerfully consider taking out a standing order to help us cover our costs, or if you are able, to give a one off donation. We feed many families locally, how would they survive if we had to close? The numbers will continue to increase as the benefits system undergoes changes. Many people still think of Southport as being affluent, how wrong they are. I thank God that I have a roof over my head and food on my table. I also thank God for the Trussell Trust who meet a growing need in this country. I want to be able to continue to do this work for God. Matthew tells us that when we feed someone who is hungry, we are feeding Jesus. Please help us to continue to help our neighbours.

Carol Drury