

***Covid-19 Community  
Response and Recovery  
Grants***

# ***Successful Projects***

*Up to 30/11/2020*



**Working for a *brighter future* together**



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### **Cheshire Streetwise CIC – Awarded £2,500**

Existing service that has been running a foodbank for over 3 years.

Demand has increased throughout this period of COVID from delivering 80 to 300+ food parcels a week. They have given out over 3400 parcels in the lockdown period to date. Volunteers have also made their own meals to distribute to the community – over 100+ meals.

They continue to offer a food delivery service to those who are vulnerable and shielding. Consultation with the community has identified that they want this service to continue. These are families suffering from a range of needs including suffering bereavement, job losses, furloughing, on reduced pay, unable to claim benefits and more. Partnerships are developing.

Shop foodbank is open Mon - Fri 10am - 12noon at 72 Mill Street

Call 07719 509061 or email [info@cheshirestreetwise.co.uk](mailto:info@cheshirestreetwise.co.uk) for service information or referrals

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### **Source Youthwork (Wilmslow Youth) - Award £4,958**

One-to-one mentoring service for young people. A free-to-access provision in partnership with Wilmslow High School which provides individual, tailored support for students struggling with their emotional wellbeing. Wilmslow Youth mentors meet with the young people for one hour per week to help them identify areas in which they struggle and offer support.

The proposal is to bring on board an additional youth mentor for one full day per week, who can specifically work with young people who have been particularly affected by Covid-19 or are struggling to readjust to the school environment. This will reduce waiting times and help to minimise the impact of lockdown on young people's wellbeing.

Website: <https://sourceyouthwork.com/>

There are three ways that young people are able to access the support in the project, as the mentoring takes place in the Wilmslow High School building they need to be a student studying at the school, and can access mentoring through:

1. Referral from a member of staff (form tutor, pastoral manager, teacher etc)
2. Self referral by visiting the school's wellbeing hub and asking for an appointment
3. Self referral / parental referral by emailing us at [hello@wilmslowyouth.com](mailto:hello@wilmslowyouth.com)

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### **The Royce Court Residents Association - Award £2,000**

Meet the Neighbours Project idea, which is to improve mental health by bringing older people together for various wellbeing sessions.

These include physical sporting activities, outdoor community arts projects, Large outdoor games, and chair-based exercise classes. The key aims are to promote wellbeing and healthy lifestyles, and activities would involve practicing safe social distancing within the communal gardens space.

Activities will be open to residents within the sheltered accommodation scheme and older people from the wider community.

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### **Act It Out CIC - Award £4,000**

Me Myself and Everyone Else' - mental health and wellbeing project for Children and Young people.

Developed last year in response to identified need as school workshops giving strategies to develop Positive Sense of Self, Emotional Intelligence and Emotional Resilience in a fun and engaging way, giving rise to discussion and activities which stay with the participants enabling them to have coping mechanisms going forward.

Covid response is to adapt these workshops for virtual delivery to be able to send out a package containing video presentations on a USB, activity sheets, stimulus and bespoke support for the staff to as many school as possible within Cheshire East but identifying those in deprived areas first, across the age range so we adapt accordingly for Children from KS1 to those in upper High School years.

Details can be found on [Live Well](#) and any school wishing to receive a virtual 'workshop in a box' package can request one by contacting via any of the following sources:

Email: [act.it.out.performances@gmail.com](mailto:act.it.out.performances@gmail.com)

Phone: 07805443595 or a facebook message via our page @ActitoutCIC

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### **Inner Trust CIC - Award £4,946**

Mental Health Support for Young People using a unique approach.

This project aims to undertake 2 sessions per week for 6 months - giving children & young people with disabilities a creative outlet using words and music to share their feelings and see that they are not alone during this time and will provide them with access to services where a need is identified during the sessions.

<https://www.innertrust.co.uk/>

### **Congleton Education Community Partnership - Award £2,500**

The project will offer online 1-to-1 emotional wellbeing sessions and online group wellbeing sessions for the children and young people living in Congleton who have been affected or are currently being affected by COVID-19. Where GDPR may be a concern the schools have offered their premises to host the online sessions, supported by school staff.

Being able to talk to someone other than a parent or family member is helpful for children. It offers a safe space to talk either 1-to-1 or via groupwork sessions. The groupwork would allow them to share their worries and anxieties with others who are experiencing something similar. The 1-to-1 sessions are for those who do not feel comfortable sharing their worries or anxieties within a group setting.

Referrals are being made by the schools as they are in direct contact with children and families that require the support.

### **Motherwell Cheshire CIO - Award £3,928**

Due to Covid-19, usual women's services have been disrupted. There is currently a large waiting list in Crewe for women. Motherwell would like to offer this counselling on-line by offering sessions with volunteer qualified counsellors who would operate from the premises in Crewe. This service will take pressure off the area's GP Practices as women who come to, and benefit from, the service would usually attend the GPs instead. This grant request is for communication platform costs, placement counsellor volunteer expenses and rental overheads associated with providing the service to improve mental health and wellbeing.

Visit: <http://motherwellcheshirecio.com/>

Referral: [referrals@motherwellcheshirecio.com](mailto:referrals@motherwellcheshirecio.com)

### **Cheshire Learning Partnership CIC - Award £1,975**

Changing methods of delivery so that they can still help people remotely. This included setting up Zoom sessions for one-to-one careers advice and help with CVs and applications, popular cookery classes were recorded and put on YouTube and developed website with help and support from a local agency.

Going forward there is a need to further develop the digital offer. Funding needed to develop the website and online booking systems. Another challenge is to get back to face to face delivery. Risk assessments have been completed but now things need to be in place to ensure the safety of staff and learners. To do this PPE needs to be purchased and everyday consumables to ensure working practices are safe and hygienic.

To refer any clients to courses please use the booking system online at [www.springboard.me.uk](http://www.springboard.me.uk), email [beth@springboard.me.uk](mailto:beth@springboard.me.uk) or call Cath on 07580 724 932. You can also leave a message on the office line 01260 290 682.

### **The Upton Youth & Community Project - Award £4,000**

During COVID-19 an operation to deliver food parcels for those in need was established. As the lock-down restrictions are eased, this project will be into the next phase of response, which is to establish a food pantry on the Upton Priory estate. This will enable continued support.

The food pantry will enable members to lower their food shopping bills whilst maintaining access to good food, meaning that budgets will stretch further.

Advice and support will be provided to help members avoid food poverty and develop new skills by sharing recipes and cooking tips, as well as providing education around the dates used on food packaging and how to distinguish for oneself whether food is suitable to eat or should be discarded.

People in the local community of Upton Priory can access the service by completing a membership form. During the next few weeks letters will be sent to all those who have previously accessed the response service explaining the next steps of the project and inviting them to become members of The Core Community Pantry. People can join at any point and can self-refer or be referred to us through other stakeholder organisations.

<http://www.church-of-the-resurrection.org.uk/>

### **The Silk Heritage Trust - Award £1,500**

Have a Dabble, (HAD) is a weekly art class, run for a number of years by an experienced teacher, with a growing audience of 30 - predominantly women, over 65, with multiple physical and mental health difficulties.

Classes stopped with Lockdown – restarting them remains problematic due to the participants' vulnerability – and this has contributed to the isolation and loneliness experienced by older people. Funding is required for monthly creative activities delivered by experienced professionals: 'Art Classes in a Bag' - containing instructions and materials for a set of activities.

For participants with internet access, an online community will be developed through video meet-ups and an online gallery. For participants without internet access (most Macc 'Live at Home' members) there will be phone support.

People interested in the Have a Dabble At Home project should contact Natalie Lane at [education@silkmacclesfield.org.uk](mailto:education@silkmacclesfield.org.uk) Lesson plans can be found on the website - <https://macclesfieldmuseums.co.uk/have-a-dabble-at-home> where people can sign up, by emailing, to receive e-newsletter updates when there are new sessions available.

**Just Drop In - Award £4,117**

This project seeks to help children and young people to get back to sleep, so they can get back to life and to start to recover from the Pandemic. More young people are struggling to have healthy sleep patterns as a result of poor routines and anxiety brought about by Covid-19. Without good sleep children and young people will struggle to re-engage with 'normal life' and our project aims to tackle this.

Two staff members will be trained to become sleep specialists by accessing an accredited three-day sleep practitioner course through the Sleep Charity. This course will equip practitioners to support families using a behavioral approach to sleep. Once trained they will deliver Sleep Workshops to parents throughout the year.

Each Workshop will cover the science of sleep and sleep hygiene and will be complimented by 1-1 advice and support. The project will achieve improved sleep patterns for young people which will lead to better routines, better access and achievement at school and improved emotional health.

The majority of the funding will be for training which will enable the project to be sustainable in future years

Contact: [www.justdropin.co.uk](http://www.justdropin.co.uk)

**Mobility and Access Group - Award £3,000**

Now in a position to try and start the service up again but it will take some considerable time because of the vulnerability of the people that are carried. Most of the elderly passengers have become completely isolated, lonely and afraid also their spirits are at an all time low.

Many have been in Lockdown with no human interaction from the beginning of the lockdown and even though trustees telephone as many as possible, the need for companionship is paramount. Looking to take small steps by going on shopping trips as most of the shops are practicing distancing guidelines, also most of the coffee shops are opening. It will be essential to provide protection for everyone while traveling on the bus for the foreseeable future also hand sanitation.

Sustenance will also be necessary on the trips as due to the distancing guidelines and the length of time waiting in queues, also including the travelling time. Becoming hopeful that quite soon they will be able to resume social events.

Referrals can be made by telephone: 01625 525567

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**Marys Church PCC - Award £675.59**

In order to open the church for individual quiet time or prayer, and also for services now that these are allowed, the Church have had to purchase 3 hand sanitiser stations for the public to use on entry and exit to the building.

The church is in the process of planning to open for visits by tourists or local people interested in the building.

Church open to the public.

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**Redshift Radio - Award £4,850**

RedShift Radio has adopted a strong leadership role in response to Covid-19 acting as a Volunteer Coordination Point supporting the mobilisation of volunteers throughout Nantwich and Rural by effectively communicating and engaging with those residents wishing to volunteer and helping them to support those residents most likely to benefit from additional support.

The funding is needed to sustain the VCP role that has been provided so far without grant funding. It will ensure that they can continue to develop and coordinate volunteers, nurture current, and create more, links into local networks and support. They will endeavor to meet the changing needs of people as we go from response to recovery, including issues such as mental health, anxiety, fear of going out, unemployment etc.

To support, mobilise and upskill volunteers to develop further ways in which they can help those vulnerable residents during the Recovery Phase for Covid-19 and beyond they propose hosting a Virtual Nantwich Volunteer Skills Event that will bring together a network of people (Nantwich Buddies) who have been involved in the response to deliver a series of virtual training workshops that will increase the skills of the volunteer workforce and provide it with ongoing pastoral support.

The workshops will be delivered through a series of Zoom events over a week for people to access. The sessions will then be hosted on the RedShift website once viewed so they can be accessed on demand.

The event will also formally launch Nantwich Buddies as a membership organisation to continue to support vulnerable people in communities in the future through the promotion of positive volunteering.



### **St John's Community Centre - Award £1,698**

Procure & install the following equipment

- Install 2 x Wall mounted automatic non-touch hand sanitizer in the entrances
- 500ml hand sanitizers in all wash rooms
- Automatic change toilet seat covers on all 5 toilets
- Fit roller blind transparent screen for the kitchen hatch
- Users provide their own face visors for use in the kitchen if they wish to
- Remove all aprons and supply individual St John's aprons to volunteers for their use only
- Provide anti-bacterial disinfectant / wipes for users to clean surfaces

The investment in the protective equipment will keep the risks of transmission of this virus to an absolute minimum together with the signage at the hand sanitiser stations and the toilets. The community centre had a footfall of just over 15,000 last year and therefore the benefit to all regular & occasional users is that the cross-infection rate should be kept to a

### **Holmes Chapel & District Community Partnership - Award £3,000**

The project will offer recovery support to those families who have been affected or are currently being affected by Covid-19. We will commission a family support worker via Visyon who will provide early intervention and support thus preventing a situation from escalating. This would include support such as:

- Advice if a child or family is struggling with their mental health or has anxiety about Covid-19
- Worries and concerns regarding a child returning to school and coping mechanisms to support this
- Support for parents who are co-parenting and struggling with this
- Advice and guidance for families where there has been family tension or a family breakdown during Covid-19
- Signposting to appropriate agencies for professional support ie. domestic abuse, financial support, employment agencies, bereavement counselling
- Strategies for adapting to family life during Covid-19

The charity supports villages in rural areas where the access to services and provision is limited. For many the school is the hub of the community and the first port of call when support is required or they are heading towards a crisis. Over the past few weeks, there has been a large increase in parents/carers making contact with the school asking for support with issues that have transpired since Covid-19 such as anxiety or depression.

Referrals will be made via the SENCOs/school staff.



### **Mentell - Award £4,900**

Mentell offers free support for men suffering from anxiety, depression or any mental/emotional discomfort. The charity provides safe and confidential spaces for men to talk, free from advice and judgement. Mentell functions as a 2-hour peer to peer support group promoting inclusion and a sense of shared commonality.

Mentell had a monthly support group running out of wild & wild café (Congleton). The impact of Lockdown has seen all our services move online. Even with a surge of extra signups (+300%), we are experiencing a low level of conversion rate compared to the physical service. Currently, only 10% of the new signups make it to an online support group.

The funds requested will allow Mentell to pay for a telephone on-boarding process, the creation of an online on-boarding video and professional training to develop local facilitators. We currently use an automated email service which is cheap and ineffective.

By implementing a telephone and video on-boarding approach, we will dramatically increase conversion by easing concerns, setting correct expectations and covering off technical questions for the vulnerable men looking to access the service for the first time

The Mentell signup process is super simple all you need to do is click on this link: [Mentell Online Support Link](#)

The service user (Male 18+) will then sign himself up and once complete a member of the support team will make contact initially via email and pass on all relevant info including weekly reminders and Zoom login details for the support group.

### **Space4Autism - Award £4,000**

A charity that provides a range of clubs, activities and services for children, young people and adults with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) and their families. They support over 1,900 families. During lockdown, a wide range of interim outreach services including an emergency helpline were launched. Now that they are able to meet face to face, they want to replace our helpline with a new 1:1 counselling service for parents and carers and adults with ASC.

- Tackle issues caused by Covid and provide action plans to support people to recover
- Reduce social isolation
- Develop a support network
- Provide information about our services and signpost where appropriate
- Provide advice about employment and volunteering
- Provide support to access statutory services, e.g. obtaining carers assessments.

Space4Autism has seen an unprecedented increase in families reporting high levels of stress and anxiety. The crisis line is incredibly busy supporting people with these issues, and they are signposting many people to mental/social care health services.

This project will be advertised on social media platforms and the website as well as being shared with members.

You will also be able to refer directly into [Space4autism](#).

### **Age UK CE - Award £4,000**

To fully adapt to the challenges of COVID-19. To cover the costs of additional PPE and to enable Home Helps to provide over 200 hours a week of safe support within the homes of around 150 older people. The PPE will also be used by staff and volunteers in our charity shops when sorting donated goods, which are vital to ensure we protect those in the shop from any possible exposure to COVID-19. In addition, PPE will be used when providing ad-hoc services, including home visits for our Information & Advice service, Scams Awareness project and deliveries of mental health wellbeing packs.

The second element of the funding will be used to purchase IT equipment to enhance our ability to work remotely, directly supporting four staff on our Information & Advice Service, Keep in Touch Befriending Service and dementia club carers support, all being delivered remotely. Currently, some staff are using their own IT equipment at home, hindering their ability to be fully effective.

If anyone is interested in accessing one of these services, they will need to in the first instance contact main reception on 01625 612958 or email [enquiries@ageukce.org](mailto:enquiries@ageukce.org). This will then enable the formal assessment process to start. Details of these and our other services can be found at <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/cheshireeast/our-services/>

In addition, some of the funding was to support shops. Details of shops can be found at <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/cheshireeast/shops/>

### **Friends for Leisure - Award £1,000**

When lockdown measures were introduced Friends for Leisure had no option but to cancel all face-to-face activities, youth groups and buddy meet ups. They are successfully delivering online activities and postal activity packs to replace these, but now need to try and return to a new 'normal' and introduce face-to-face meet-ups again. They are therefore making plans to start many activities again (5 youth groups in Congleton, Macclesfield, Crewe; drama club; Saturday club).

To do this they need to make sure everyone is completely safe, and aside from additional risk assessments, social distancing, signs, more regular hand washing etc. they need to provide considerable PPE, particularly because many of the service users are disabled children with long-term health conditions or disabilities that put them at increased risk were they to contract COVID-19.

The service is available to all disabled children and young people across Cheshire East aged between 5 and 21 (up to the day before their 21st birthday). The young person does not need a formal diagnosis but must be struggling to access mainstream social provision because of their disability/condition.

The registration form is available on the website [www.friendsforleisure.org.uk/](http://www.friendsforleisure.org.uk/) and must be signed by the young person and/or their parent/carer.

Enquiries are welcomed from all other services, including Family Service workers, Social Workers, SENDCOs, Health professionals, other VCFS organisations, etc. who may be working with the families and supporting them to register their child.

### **Wrenbury Together - Award £2,700**

Wrenbury Together began in early 2020 to support vulnerable people in their community. The growth of the organisation has been accelerated through the response to Covid19. Wrenbury Together (30 volunteers) has been supporting the vulnerable residents to stay safe and well and connected in the community. They have worked closely with both GP practices and Cheshire East Council who have referred into response support. Through our project we want to further develop the partnership model developed by Wrenbury Together in response to Covid 19 to enable better communication and more support for vulnerable residents in the Wrenbury, Aston, Broomhall Green, Newhall and Ravensmoor areas.

They now want to continue to improve the social and mental wellness of those living in Wrenbury and surrounding parishes, supporting them in their own environments. Their objectives are to reduce loneliness and isolation, encourage access to community services, and increase capacity and confidence to cope with the challenges of everyday living. They want to provide a practical befriending service that is a blend of activities that matches our community need including: wellness calls, meal delivery and transport solutions.

Through direct contact with volunteers, they have highlighted the need for the support that they have been able to access during the pandemic to continue, but also the need for other support to enable them to re-connect with their community (e.g. local transport support

Contact: [wrenburytogether@gmail.com](mailto:wrenburytogether@gmail.com)

### **Forest Tribe Theatre - Award £2,500**

The purpose of the project is to support children through the current pandemic where they cannot access interaction. It will deliver virtual resources to support workshop delivery for vulnerable children with autism from Springfield Special School within their homes across Cheshire East. There are 118 children at Springfield Special school with a high proportion on pupil premium. The class of 7 (13-19 years old) non-verbal autistic children, plus 30 parents and teachers, require virtual resources to support them during the pandemic whilst they are unable to attend school. Parents and teachers have reported the change to routine and the isolation from school has had a huge detrimental impact on the mental wellbeing of the young people. The resources will combat isolation.

The virtual resource needs to be developed by a story writer to create a virtual tour live show which takes the children on a journey, and then filmed with effects that are consistent with the live show, hence requiring a fog mister, camera hire and lighting. The 360 Visual which enables an immersive experience is vital for the children as they benefit from prior information to ease any anxiety. It is crucial that the virtual resources can be accessed to the children so they can engage with carers, parents and teachers. The resources will also provide necessary information due to their needs as non-verbal children on the autism spectrum. "New World" is reaching the children at Springfield school who rarely get to experience high quality live theatre.

Project specific to Springfield School in Crewe.

### **Creative Action Team CIC - Award £4,750**

Creative Action Team is a CIC based within a large social housing estate in the West End of Crewe which works directly with children, young people and their parents/carers with complex needs, emotional needs, ASD and attachment issues. We will use the emergency funding to help with the cost of virtual emergency services to help our local families who have been affected directly/indirectly by the virus. The emergency funding will enable us to share our expertise, experience and skills in the delivery of a Programme of online peer support groups, 1:1 virtual sessions; as well as provide small Zoom group work and the offer of direct support/guidance to parents/carers. All the children/young people/their families in our project will benefit from: Raised confidence and positive mental health, improved fine motor skills, Improved balance, Increased focus and attention, Increased self-esteem and ability to care for oneself, Reduced anxiety, grief and isolation, Increased trust, Greater self-control, Enhanced problem-solving skills and Improved social skills. Solutions we use include: Animal Assisted Therapies Art and Creative Interventions Play Therapy Talking Therapies Training The most significant difference our project will make is to improve the emotional wellbeing and mental health of ALL the children, young people and families/carers who participate in our activities/sessions.

People can access the services via

[admin@creativeactionteam.com](mailto:admin@creativeactionteam.com)

Facebook page - creative action team cic

Telephone 07563937214

Or website [www.creativeactionteam.com](http://www.creativeactionteam.com)

### **Cre8 Macclesfield Ltd. - Award £3,500**

To deliver a cross-generational project linking our present service users with clients that we have come into contact with during COVID-19 as a result of our Grocery Project who are from across Macclesfield. Our project will deliver small group sessions to explore the different issues facing our younger and older generations. Our hope is that our younger generation service users will be able to share and make links with older generations who they can learn from and grow with. The aim of the project is to build community resilience and support connectivity between groups that have been socially isolated as a result of the COVID-19 lockdown. Our young people have not been at school. Older people using our Grocery have been isolated at home and many are facing the threat of unemployment.

The intention would be for small groups of 2 or 3 young people and 1 or 2 older people to meet. The individuals would be matched through common connections or interests. An experienced youth worker from Cre8 would facilitate the session alongside specialist session leaders. We would also use our network of volunteers and supporters to share their experiences with the groups, sharing experiences and planning joint activities together is part of the project. This will enable the group to include visits to other places. This will let everyone in the group have common experiences to strengthen their well-being. By interacting together and with support from Cre8 workers there is also the potential to sign-post individuals to further help from linked agencies should they need this support.

Website: <http://www.cre8macclesfield.org/>

### **Scoop and Scales – Award £489.84**

Scoop and Scales is providing the opportunity for the people of Macclesfield and surrounding areas to buy products, free from single-use plastic. They buy items in bulk and then sell on to members and also members of the general public. With a town centre location people can collect items while carrying out other business in the town, so reducing carbon footprint and air pollution. They have raised awareness of environmental issues, raised funds for groups such as the Hope Centre and donated funds and products to help feed vulnerable groups.

In order to operate safely in these times, they need to buy more hand sanitiser, cleaning products, masks and Perspex screens in order to keep volunteers and members of the public safe.

People can access the service through the pop-up shop. From October they will be open several days per week.

### **Central Cheshire Buddy Scheme – Award £4,400**

The project CCBS are proposing is to get disabled children out and about and active again. During the pandemic a large number of disabled children have been socially isolated, some have been shielded. 50%-70% have not been out of the house for over 12 weeks and physical activity levels have decreased by 70%-80%. This has effected children's physical health and emotional well-being. CCBS have successfully piloted some sessions over summer which we would like to extend.

We would like to deliver 4 activity clubs (as described below) from September 2020 to March 2021 at the weekends and in the evenings:

- 1) Tatton Buddies- 1 per month, 6 children to visit Tatton park 10-2pm (x6 sessions)
- 2) Hanley park Buddies- 1 per week, after school 3-6pm (x6 sessions)
- 3) Brereton Canoe Buddies- 1 per week, after school 3-6pm  
(x6 sessions working in partnership with the Oakhanger project)
- 4) Cycling Buddies- 1 per month, Saturday 11-3pm at Wythenshawe (x 6 sessions)

Cheshire Buddies want to support the children to get out and be active again, whilst following social distancing guidelines and staying safe, groups will be very small (6 children per group), resulting in high staffing levels.

The project will support over 100 disabled children, young people including sibling young carers aged 8-18years. The project sessions will take place after school and at the weekends and will be open to disabled children and young people.

Parents will need to be able to get children to pick up points for activities (especially cycling on a Saturday). The organisation is happy to work with social workers and health professionals but would need a conversation with them about the child before they make a referral, this will help to work out the most suitable group or activity for the child.

To chat about making referrals, call 07873423389 or email [cheshirebuddies@outlook.com](mailto:cheshirebuddies@outlook.com)



**St Paul's Centre, Crewe - Award £4,926**

Using the funding provided will enable us St Paul's to continue working with the increasing numbers of households who need food support during the crisis. Clients are referred directly by a range of agencies that ensure they target and supply those experiencing food poverty in the community. Pre Covid-19 they gave up to 3 crisis parcels per household (9 meals per parcel) in any given 6-month period but they have found that now a longer period of food support is needed in many individual cases.

There has been an increase in demand for services over the Covid-19 period. This will increase even further as lockdown is eased, and shielding is removed.

The funding will contribute to staff cost needed to ensure that the increase in demands are successfully met. They will add a contribution toward the increase in the need for PPE.

St Paul's Pantry is a sizeable service costing St Paul's center over £25K in staff and volunteer costing overheads per year to operate, pre Covid-19 it was supported by other projects running at St Paul's. They do not generate or receive any regular income for this vital work.

Website: <https://stpaulscentre.org.uk/>

**Nantwich Foodbank - Award £3,637.50**

To enable those accessing Nantwich Foodbank easy access to financial inclusion support to address; income maximisation, budgeting and debt and to reduce the hardship and stress these cause.

**Objectives:**

- Maximising income by identifying benefits entitlement, grants and other options e.g. lodgers, increased working and assisting with applications for benefits and grants.
- Minimising spending by using budgeting tools to identify best tariffs, understanding priorities and other options such as changes to lifestyle/spending habits.
- Checking for debt, dealing with emergencies and supporting people to access and implement sustainable debt solutions.

**Impact:** We expect to see the following results for our clients accessing the service:

- Improved financial situations (including increased income and decreased outgoings).
- Improved skills and confidence in managing money.
- Clients using skills to achieve sustainable economic well being.
- Improvement in feeling of personal well being.

At a time where the impact of covid 19 means more people need help with financial issues than ever before, the service will fulfill a vital need for those in crisis,

Website: <https://nantwich.foodbank.org.uk/>

### **League of Friends (Macclesfield & Congleton Hospitals) - Award £1,500**

The League of Friends charity shop has been raising money for Macclesfield and Congleton hospitals for 45 years. The income from this retail activity, plus regular donations, aims to provide grants in order to enhance the care and welfare of patients, staff and other users of health services in the Macclesfield and Congleton areas. The rented shop closed due to the pandemic and requires work to be carried out to ensure that it meets the government guidance in terms of social distancing etc. to allow reopening. The aim is to reopen the shop to continue trading and raise funds that will then be available to use in pursuit of our charitable aims and objectives. To reopen the shop and fall in line with HSE guidance and their own risk assessments, they will need to change the layout, provide a number of elements of PPE and information notices, together with COVID-19 related supplies for customer use, and increased storage facilities.

The charity shop is now reopening and customers are encouraged to return to support their fundraising.

### **Time Out Group (North West) - Award £4,922**

This charity supports over 18's with learning difficulties. During lock-down they launched a series of social phone calls, Zoom and Facebook activities. They now wish to recruit a mental health worker to provide recovery from the pandemic.

Social and sporting activities are available for adults with learning disabilities within Cheshire East and the surrounding area. They are running sessions but numbers are limited. They are starting up new and different sessions will rota people on to sessions, so new members are welcome.

Support workers will speak to anyone interested in joining and explain everything to them. For more information visit [www.timeoutgroup.org.uk](http://www.timeoutgroup.org.uk) To access services, call/leave a message on 01625 520652

### **Ruby's Fund - Award £4,000**

Ruby's Fund is supporting children and settings using a new Sensory Play Bus. The focus is on 'Recovery' post Covid-19, supporting early years children with SEND during the transition back to educational settings after the Covid-19 lockdown. A pilot scheme will offer sensory outreach alongside Cheshire East Council to target 10 settings across each town with highest numbers of children age 2-8 on EHCPs or SEN Support plans. They will be spending a full day at each identified setting. Offering an individual play session for 5 children in each setting working with teaching staff to identify who would benefit the most. For ages 2 to 5 years they offer a Portage style relaxing play and for ages 5 to 8 and may introduce some Relax Kids methodologies to help focus on recognising and managing their feelings.

Website: <https://www.rubysfund.co.uk/>



### **Nantwich Museum - Award £4,985.60**

The project will enable the museum to safely re-open in autumn in adherence to government and museum sector guidance. It will allow the museum to meet the needs of all of visitors, volunteers and staff and continue to provide a heritage and cultural offer, be a centre for ongoing research and to contribute to the health and wellbeing of users and volunteers. Funding will enable them to purchase safety equipment, including hand sanitiser station, perspex screens and clear informative signage. Critically, funding will also be used to increase the hours of the cleaner, necessary for the implementation of a more rigorous cleaning procedure and essential in enabling us to maintain key facilities such as toilets.

Government guidance, museum sector and visitor attraction networks have highlighted the need for key safety measures to be in place before they can safely reopen. Given significant reductions in income streams, funding is needed to enable the purchase of the necessary equipment.

Website: <https://nantwichmuseum.org.uk/>

### **Audlem and District Community Action – Awarded £5,000**

To provide two additional lunch clubs from October 2020 for 6 months to meet new demand as part of ADCA's Recovery Plan. They will provide for 20 places each week which will provide places for 40 people each fortnight. A two-course hot lunch followed by a hot drink will be provided. The lunch clubs will be supported our staff and volunteers.

By expanding the lunch clubs in this way, it will be building on the success of the Home Support Service [which continues to provide food/prescription delivery and telephone befriending] to combat the impact of the pandemic.

Services can be accessed via [ADCA webpage](#) or main contact number 07984 785907

### Hope House Children's Hospice – Awarded £2,972

Adapting services during covid-19 has been and remains complex. In order to continue to provide care during this time, it has been essential for to increase the number of nursing staff caring for each child, and to provide a huge amount of personal protective equipment for the care team and family members. This raises the costs of providing nursing care for each child significantly.

The grant will pay for full PPE for our nurses caring for the 8 children looked after from Cheshire East. This care will be either at Hope House or for within their family home depending on their needs.

Anyone can refer a child or young person to Hope House - a doctor, another health care professional or a family member. The referral panel then decides whether or not the referral is accepted. The panel must see that in the opinion of the medical professionals involved, the child or young person is not expected to live beyond the age of 25.

<https://www.hopehouse.org.uk/>

### Crewe and Nantwich Talking Newspaper – Awarded £1,912.85

The project will support connectivity by ensuring that the Talking Newspaper can remain operational during Covid-19. The Talking Newspaper was established in 1977 to provide spoken-word news to blind and visually impaired people. The service has been adapted to offer online listening options, and they have continued to produce a newspaper each week throughout lockdown. This has highlighted that 75% of new and existing listeners still have a need for equipment to be provided to enable them to access the service. The listener base has increased by 25% since lockdown, and there are now no boom boxes to loan to those who need them. A grant will be use to purchase this equipment to loan to new users.

To ensure the safety of volunteers and listeners, PPE is required and sanitiser to sterilise USB sticks and wallets that are returned each week via Royal Mail. This ensures that the risk of infection is minimised when USB sticks and wallets are sent out to listeners.

Website: <https://cntn.org.uk/>

Since the shutdown related to Covid-19, the charity has introduced and developed a service to allow vulnerable adults access to a hot meal, delivered daily with a choice of menus (also considering food sensitivity). The service has been maintained by utilising volunteer drivers and support staff, utilising volunteers and minimal paid staff in the community kitchen.

The Charity aims to continue this service until February 2021 when most of the client group will hopefully feel safe to go outdoors and will no longer be required to shield. They aim to provide a 2 course hot meal to vulnerable adults within the Crewe and Nantwich area.

Access services via email: [info@hopesandbeams.org](mailto:info@hopesandbeams.org) or by contacting 01270 255355. For the attention of Iain Chalmers

### Chance Changing Lives – Awarded £5,000

Post lockdown Chance returned to a social supermarket model where members choose their own shopping for £3 a week (actual value estimated well over £15). A colour coded system encourages people to learn budgeting skills. Often members are referred by food banks as the next step towards financial recovery with dignity. The core approach is to offer financial advice, debt counselling, blood pressure checks, podiatry, employment advice as well as food. By shopping weekly at the social supermarket, Chance can advise members whilst saving them money – this can mean that they can pay off debt, pay their rent and council tax arrears or remain in their rented homes without falling into arrears and subsequent homelessness. The grant will be used to purchase: additional food, cleaning products and nappies to last through the winter stored appropriately in commercial freezers or storage pods. Items that are hard to source from donations are meat, cheese, eggs, meals in a tin e.g. hot dogs, stewing steak, chicken in a sauce, ham; nappies and household hygiene/cleaning products.

To access services:

1. Request electronic referral form [chancetrustees@gmail.com](mailto:chancetrustees@gmail.com)
2. Telephone 01270 211000
3. Attend the supermarket at 9.30am-2.00pm any Monday or Friday
4. Contact/message via Facebook: Chancechanginglives2

### Holy Trinity Church, Hurdsfield, Macclesfield – Awarded £5,000

Holy Trinity Church is one of the largest community spaces in Hurdsfield and is used both by the church and community groups including Active in Retirement, Alcoholics Anonymous, Trinity Toddlers group, Hurdsfield School, Higher Hurdsfield Parish Council, CVS, Youth groups. Given the current social distancing requirements, it is very difficult for community groups to meet due to a lack of space. The Church have been proactive in hosting community groups in the church and want to extend this to helping them live stream their activities and meetings for those who cannot come to the building to join in. This project will equip the church building for live streaming. The facilities will be available to everyone using the building and enable groups to connect with some of the most isolated and vulnerable; whether that be due to being house bound, self-isolation or lack of transport; to join in with events from their own homes. This will help combat isolation, improve mental wellbeing, promote community connectivity and resilience.

The church already has a sound system and hearing loop for those in the building, but needs to upgrade it to enable live streaming. To do this they need to purchase and install a new digital mixing desk, video camera and software.

Once it is installed, community groups can get in touch with about using the church for community meetings and live streaming them to members that can not attend by contacting the church office on: [hello@hthmacc.com](mailto:hello@hthmacc.com) and 01625 424 587.

2. Telephone 01270 211000
3. Attend the supermarket at 9.30am-2.00pm any Monday or Friday
- Contact/message via Facebook.

### **MoCoCo House (Middlewich Community Church) – Awarded £2,558.74**

To help the young people of MoCoCo House readjust to a new way of living and help build confidence and personal skills now, as well as just offering something fun to look forward to. A programme of fun activities and outings will be offered moving into winter. By offering the opportunity to come together as a group and share some positive activities it will give the opportunity to talk and rebuild confidence so that they are ready to face the next step of their journeys. There will be 5 activities including and Alton towers trip, Chester Zoo, Trampoline park, Ice Skating and Xmas market/shopping trip. 4 members of staff will be required so that groups can be set up according to covid guidelines.

Website: <http://www.mococo.org/>

### **Motherwell Cheshire CIO – Awarded £4,340**

Many of the families supported by Motherwell have been impacted financially due to job losses, their own mental/ physical health issues or caring for someone during the crisis. Starting a Motherwell Community Share Hub, they will redistribute donated school uniforms, winter coats as well as maternity start up packs. The hub will be open 2 days a week and based at the YMCA Crewe. The hub will also take referrals from local agencies.

The hub wants to help support families who are currently struggling the cost of uniform and other associated school costs.

An improvement to the mental health of many mums is expected to be seen, the project will prevent them become stressed and anxious with the pressure of getting the right uniform in very difficult times. Children will also feel comfortable going to school in the correct uniform and not feel singled out.

Email [uniformexchange@motherwellcheshirecio.com](mailto:uniformexchange@motherwellcheshirecio.com) or call into the hub at YMCA Crewe on Tuesdays and Saturdays

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### Cheshire Streetwise CIC – Awarded £5,000

To continue our support: there is still a need within the community for the vulnerable, shielding, isolated people to have food and essential supplies delivered.

Cheshire Streetwise wish to continue this service, plus the twice weekly service from the town centre shop. People can collect food parcels on a Monday and Friday between 10-12. They are working in conjunction with Calvary Church, who are providing kitchen facilities and are preparing the ready meals that we give out during the food parcels delivery.

Shop foodbank is open Mon - Fri 10am - 12noon at 72 Mill Street

Call 07719 509061 or email [info@cheshirestreetwise.co.uk](mailto:info@cheshirestreetwise.co.uk) for service information or referrals

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### Nantwich Brookfields Allotment Association – Awarded £5,000

A growing space for people in need of support - starting with those suffering from isolation, loneliness, stress. It will be a tranquil place for community to come together through volunteering opportunities - new skills (training and employment). Bringing together local organisations - networking. A healing space for both individuals and the broader community. Participants will be offered the chance to grow and eat fresh fruit and vegetables - tackling obesity, improving nutrition and health, feeding local sustainable food culture, fitting with the development of Nantwich as a specialist local food centre and specialist economy.

Links between soil health, carbon sequestration (climate action), wildlife and biodiversity.

Operating on organic principles, exploring environmental innovation - including no-dig horticulture (maximising carbon capture), composting, recycling/resource awareness.

Plans for solar panels and battery storage on existing Association shed, powering green gardening equipment - modelling environmental sustainability. Including a wildlife pond and insect rich beds - encourage appreciation/delight in the natural world. There will be further opportunities for engaging schools in allotment gardening, environmental sustainability and environmental education.

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/NantwichBrookfieldAllotments/posts/>

Cheshire East LiveWell Page: <https://livewellservices.cheshireeast.gov.uk/Services/1603>

There is currently capacity to operate at 150 referrals a month but this is not capped at this time

### **Looking After the Homeless Group (LATH) – Awarded £5,000**

Some families in the Crewe area are in need of food support for their children on a regular basis. This is particularly important during school holidays, but for younger children and in general, food delivery would be welcomed at all times by some families. LATH currently provides a food pick up and delivery service for vulnerable adults, they would like to also help families with children.

Families will be identified through teachers at schools, or Homestart for younger children. LATH will liaise with school co-ordinators to provide funds for food parcels, and some of volunteers (under 70 years of age) will help with delivery as well, if necessary.

Website: <http://lathgroup.org.uk/>

Facebook Page: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/LATHcrewe/>

### **Adelaide School – Awarded £5,000**

With a high percentage of pupil premium and free school meals, the school provides a large number of our pupils with breakfast, healthy snacks at lunch etc. Adelaide School would like to set up bubble breakfast/ snack storage and supply areas in each bubble. Aiming to buy small fridges/toasters, disposable crockery and cutlery (those bubbles do not have access to washing up facilities). The school would also buy increased supplies of easier to store and prepare items such as cereal bars, fruit bags, individual cereals, porridge pots and juice.

Website: <https://www.adelaideschool.net/>

### **Disability Information Bureau – Awarded £5,000**

In the know' project. Aimed at supporting those with disabilities and long term health conditions who struggle with digital and financial literacy.

A handbook will be produced outlining everything that the cohort need to know about using online tools and accessing online information. Additional support will supplement the handbook in the form of 1 to 1 sessions which can be pre-booked and will adhere to current government guidelines with regard to social distancing.

Paid transport will be arranged for those unable to get to the centre to attend workshops. Workshop themes include banking and financial safety, social media, using emails, accessing government and local council information, virus and online fraud awareness and many more.

Website: <https://www.dibservices.org.uk/>

Telephone: 01625 501759 or 01260 295725

Email: [info@dibservices.org.uk](mailto:info@dibservices.org.uk)



### **The Old Saw Mill CBS Limited – Awarded £3,000**

The Old Saw Mill Connected Communities hub is well established as a place to meet and eat. It is also the place where Congleton community apple juice is made and distributed. The Big Heart Lunch Club is delivering about 30 meals at £6 per meal every Friday to those that are isolating due to COVID or just fancy a day off from cooking. It is run in conjunction with Congleton Town Council.

For those who are keen to visit a café in town then why not come to the Old Saw Mill, they are open 9 till 2 every weekday and have a reduced menu but still plenty of choice.

They are providing meals on a Friday to people who have requested this through Congleton Town Council. There are many places available on this scheme, contact the Council for details. They are going to re-start our cake delivery service and also do pies and apple juice/cider in bottles.

The Old Saw Mill is open Mon - Fri 9.00am – 3.00pm at Back River ST, Congleton CW12 1HJ  
Call 01260 277658 or email [info@theoldsawmill.org](mailto:info@theoldsawmill.org) to order or for service information

### **The Old Saw Mill CBS Limited – Awarded £4,888**

Congleton has a long established 'Big Lunch Club' serving meals to socially isolated people by volunteers providing lunch at 2 locations – United Reform Church and St John's Community Centre. During the pandemic these meals have been provided via a 'meals on wheels' service, up to 80 meals per week. Participants pay £4 per meal for a main and pud delivered chilled with cooking and allergen information. Congleton Town Council support the scheme £2 per meal up to 76 lunches per week.

People on Pension Credit or Universal Credit may have provided the meal for free.

They are seeking to provide meals from now until end of March 2021 to see people through the winter – aiming to deliver a total of 120 meals a week.

The Old Saw Mill is open Mon - Fri 9.00am – 3.00pm at Back River ST, Congleton CW12 1HJ  
Call 01260 277658 or email [info@theoldsawmill.org](mailto:info@theoldsawmill.org) to refer or for service information

For details about the fund and for application forms please visit  
[www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/communitygrant](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/communitygrant)

For enquiries, please email  
[communitygrants@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:communitygrants@cheshireeast.gov.uk)



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**St. Mark's Church - Award £5,000**

A community café that is open one day per week in the hall at the rear of St Mark's church. It is a place of welcome for people of all ages, the purpose of which is to tackle the problem of social isolation which has been significantly exacerbated by the pandemic. The café is also a place where other community organisations can come and share information with residents and enable them to access advice and support in friendly and informal surroundings. The café functions as a 'community hub' as well as a social meeting space. In addition, we hope to install Wi-Fi in the building in order to provide a free service to people using the café and we would therefore hope to widen access, as well as offering people support to get online.

<https://allsaintsandstmarks.com/>

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**All Saints' Church - Award £5,000**

A community café that is open one day per week in the hall at the rear of St Mark's church. It is a place of welcome for people of all ages, the purpose of which is to tackle the problem of social isolation which has been significantly exacerbated by the pandemic. The café is also a place where other community organisations can come and share information with residents and enable them to access advice and support in friendly and informal surroundings. The café functions as a 'community hub' as well as a social meeting space. In addition, we hope to install Wi-Fi in the building in order to provide a free service to people using the café and we would therefore hope to widen access, as well as offering people support to get online.

<https://allsaintsandstmarks.com/>

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**The parish of All Saints' Weston with St Mark's Shavington - Award £1,800**

The churches in Shavington and Weston have a long history of serving the needs of the local community through a variety of activities, including toddler groups, friendship lunches, coffee mornings, activities for primary school children and social groups for older members of the community. Many of these activities were temporarily suspended in March due to Covid-19. However, the Church buildings reopened to the public in a safe manner and resumed some of those activities. They aim to launch a new community cafe in the near future and to re-open activities for children, families and older people which are currently closed.

<https://allsaintsandstmarks.com/>

### **Haslington Support Group (Haslington Volunteers) - Award £4,900**

Haslington Support Group developed the innovative partnership model of community support adopted in the SMASH area in response to the outbreak of Covid-19. The partnership is a mix of VCFSE and Town Councils who work together supporting the mobilisation of 4 Volunteer Coordination Points (VCPs), led by each Organization in the Partnership, organising those people wishing to volunteer and matching them with those residents most likely to benefit from additional support.

1. [www.Haslingtongroup.co.uk](http://www.Haslingtongroup.co.uk)
2. Facebook: Haslington Support Group
3. 01270 419119
4. Street Champion

### **Enterprise & Education Alliance Ltd - Award £5,000**

This project is supporting Barnies Community Café Lunch Club based at St Barnabas Church Hall, West Street, Crewe.

They are now working to recover and rebuild the community café at Barnies and to offer to the participants a Barnies Lunch Club on Wednesdays and Thursdays each week. At Barnies, they work weekly to support their participants who suffer from mental/physical health illnesses, stresses, and anxieties or are not in employment or training and mainly are in receipt of a range of benefits and income support which means that they most suffer from low incomes and are financially constrained.

Facebook page: <https://m.facebook.com/BarniesHub/>

### **BTG, Mind Matters CIC - Award £2,000**

BTG Mind Matters CIC provides holistic treatment for mental illness that is effective and saving lives. The services are completely free to anyone who is out of work or signed off sick. We are continuing to provide a service in Cheshire east that will never have waitlists.

Our initial programs are 6 weeks and consist of 1 talking therapy session and up to 3 physical therapy sessions (PT or small group).

Outcomes:

1. Mental health support: anxiety, depression and other metal illnesses have seen a dramatic rise due to the Covid-19 outbreak causing: redundancy, relationship breakdowns, family grievances, lack of ability to exercise, lack of ability to socialize and social anxiety.
2. Physical activity: being overweight and other chronic health conditions increase the risk to health posed by Coronavirus, our programs provide physical exercise that increases physical fitness, cardiovascular and respiratory health alongside improving mental health.

There is no referral required, users can simply visit the website and fill in the application form to gain access to the program. [www.btg-mindmatters.org.uk](http://www.btg-mindmatters.org.uk) email: [info@btg-mindmatters.org.uk](mailto:info@btg-mindmatters.org.uk)

### **Making Space - Award £1,360**

This project helps to keep vulnerable people living in East Cheshire safe and supported.

East Cheshire Mental Health Floating Support Service supports 60 people with mental health conditions to live independently in their own home. The service is focused on preventing vulnerable people from losing their home and from entering residential care. They work in partnership with people, their carers and families as well as other supporting agencies to provide them with the best possible care. Support workers help people with mental health conditions to maintain their tenancy as well as establish personal safety and security. They provide information to promote independence and wellbeing and signpost to additional support services. Similarly, East Cheshire Supported Housing service provides accommodation and support to 8 people living with mental health conditions at Brindle Court.

The Covid-19 pandemic has been a challenge to continue supporting people in the community whilst maintaining social distance. In addition, many people living with mental health conditions have come close to relapse due to anxiety around the virus and increased isolation. They now wish to extend support for this vulnerable group of people during the next stages of the pandemic.

Service can be accessed through referral from a reablement worker, a social worker or a mental health professional.

Bridle Rd, Crewe CW2 7EL, Phone: 01270 257089

### **Cheshire Association of Local Councils (ChALC) - Award £1,080**

The project aims to share examples of local councils taking the initiative, working in close collaboration with other organisations and individuals, and creating locally focussed volunteer led projects and initiatives to address the impacts of the lockdown on vulnerable people in rural parishes through the commissioning of some short videos/films.

Each film will be professionally produced and edited and will consist of short interviews with a small number of key individuals. Their accounts will highlight the actions taken by the local council to engage with local volunteers and create initiatives to address the needs of local residents.

The project will achieve the following outcomes: -

- Highlight the important role of collaborative volunteering across a parish area
- Better understanding of how rural councils can mobilise local volunteers
- Showcase the practical actions taken by local councils during challenging times
- Provide examples of partnerships and collaborative working
- Inspire local councils to learn from these experiences and adopt similar initiatives
- Encourage key stakeholders and partners to work more pro-actively with local councils
- Ability to effectively share any learning across social media platforms

ChALC has identified initiatives across parishes in the Gawsworth Ward and in Holmes Chapel that are suitable candidates for filming.

Website: <https://www.chalc.org.uk/>

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**Macclesfield Bereavement Support Service - Award £2,000**

As a bereavement support service, the team of 18 volunteers offers one to one support to adults aged 18 and over who are bereaved for any reason in this area of Cheshire East. Until the pandemic most of the sessions would take place in a client's own home. For Covid-19 safety reasons for the foreseeable future home visits are no longer possible. We monitor the system to maintain stringent safe practice and ensure the whole operation runs smoothly and remains Covid safe.

The service is listed on the [Live Well](#) website of Cheshire East Council. Clients call 01625 439333 & calls/messages are returned within 48 hours.

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**New Life Church - Award £4,450**

New Life Church has been operating a food bank for over ten years which until Covid-19 lockdown was run by a group of volunteers.

The Storehouse Foodbank is open Monday to Friday 10.00am – 3.00pm but does operate outside these hours for emergency requests.

The primary outcome is to provide food and essential toiletries to individuals and families many of whom are destitute and sometimes homeless. They serve many permanently sick and people with disabilities and the elderly who are in isolation.

This service can be accessed mainly through referral agencies such as Social Workers, Health Visitors, Mental Health Team, Social Housing, Library, Citizen Advice, Hostels, Schools, GPs or self-referrals.

Website: <https://www.nlchurch.org.uk/>

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### **The Wishing Well (Phone Befriending Service) - Award £2,640**

Through this project, CEC helped to sustain the phone befriending service that The Wishing Well developed during the pandemic. If the phone line was to close within the coming weeks, it would leave approximately 100 of the most vulnerable people without a contact point in Cheshire East. Whilst unable to provide contact services, the phone befriending service has become a crucial way of keeping in touch with the loneliest people in our borough.

Contact the team on 01270 256919

Website: <https://www.wishingwellproject.com/>

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### **The Upton Youth & Community Project - Award £5,000**

A Food Pantry on the Upon Priority estate has recently been established. Food and household items are secured from networks including FareShare and Neighbourly and through donations. For a small weekly subscription, members can choose a number of food and other household items depending on what is available, which enables them to lower their food shopping bills while maintaining access to good food, meaning that budgets will stretch further.

The-Core Macclesfield Pantry is open as usual on Thursday from 12.15-2.45pm at the Church of the Resurrection in Upton Priory. Members and visitors pay £3.50 per visit and can choose up to 15 items and as much fruit and veg as they want.

Churchway Sk10 3HT Macclesfield

[www.church-of-the-resurrection.org.uk](http://www.church-of-the-resurrection.org.uk), phone 01625 820337,

Facebook: The Core Community Hub Macclesfield, Contact The Core Community Hub Macclesfield on Messenger

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### **The Wishing Well (Meal Delivery) - Award £4,920**

The Wishing Well will continue COVID response to reach those most vulnerable residents in the southern areas of the borough of Cheshire East. Through the meal delivery provision they are able to reach approximately 150 people every day. This will provide vulnerable residents with freshly made meals, a friendly service and a contact point for those who are experiencing loneliness and isolation. We are experiencing some of the most challenging times and the service with the support of Cheshire East can continue to support those most vulnerable.

Contact the team on 01270 256919

Website: <https://www.wishingwellproject.com/>

### **Alsager Community Church - Award £5,000**

Alsager Community Support Centre provides local people with a free, accessible, drop-in service offering practical help, information, confidential advice and emotional support.

Some regular volunteers are fully trained by Citizen's Advice, so are able to offer help and advice for people who have lost their regular income. They work alongside Alsager Foodbank, and run a school uniform re-use scheme, local job vacancies board, and a Christmas Toy Appeal.

The Church have recently set up a hardship fund, to assist with one-off costs where a comparatively small amount would make a real difference to support people in need. Examples of this might be help towards gas or electricity meter top-ups, money for essential appliances, contribution for taxi fares where someone cannot use public transport and no volunteer help is available etc.

Phone 01270 876605,

email [info@alsagercommunitysupport.org.uk](mailto:info@alsagercommunitysupport.org.uk)

visit the Centre Mon, Wed or Fri mornings 9.20am - 12.30pm

### **Plus Dane Housing - Award £5,000**

Plus Dane is looking to provide emergency food and other essential assistance like fuel poverty support to vulnerable customers living in CE. A joint and coordinated effort will be established with front line staff, various teams within Plus Dane, and community partners to ensure we reach those who will be struggling during the winter months and be at risk of significant hardship.

#### **Service aimed at following customers**

- Mental health
- Social isolation
- Low income households, food and fuel poverty
- Those affected by COVID restrictions
- Potentially shielding tenants
- Single parents, low income families

#### **Support**

- Assembly and distribution of food hampers and winter essentials.
- Using Union St Community Centre as a collection and distribution point for the hampers and toy appeal.
- Christmas parcels (afternoon tea) to be delivered to vulnerable elderly residents living in sheltered schemes, to help combat isolation and support wellbeing. This will also include any elderly residents who live on their own.
- Welfare calls to vulnerable tenants and triaging to staff for them to deliver essential goods to tenants.
- Referring tenants to Welfare Team re budgeting and fuel poverty, benefits support.

#### **Outcomes**

- Alleviate financial pressures on households
- Help reduce stress and mental health problems
- Support community resilience
- Tackle food and fuel poverty, making sure children don't go without

Phone: 01270 500591, Email address: [crewe@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:crewe@salvationarmy.org.uk)

Address: Worrall St, Congleton CW12 1DT, Phone: 0800 169 2988, <https://www.plusdane.co.uk/>



### **The Open Arms Youth Project - Award £4,800**

The Open Arms Youth Project would like to provide emergency healthy cooked meals for members of the community. The meals will be prepared by volunteers including young people. The meals will be frozen for storage and cooked with healthy ingredients sourced from local suppliers.

The meals will be prepared in foil sealed containers and will be available in different sizes, meal for 1,2,4 and 6. The meals will be available for families and individuals that require short term support. An example would be an individual that has been in hospital and needs very short-term assistance by having access to precooked healthy meals for a maximum of three main dinner meals. The meals will be available via a referral system. The project will not be a food bank.

Criteria for access to the food will be formed by a group of individuals from the Connected Communities Team.

SK9 2SH, Howty Close, Colshaw Farm Est, Wilmslow, Cheshire.

### **Cheshire Without Abuse – Awarded £2,960**

Three COVID-19 Wellbeing & Recovery programmes for adults affected by domestic abuse in Cheshire East. These are not focussed on domestic abuse. The emphasis is on the additional pressures people are experiencing as a result of COVID-19.

Each programme will start with a one to one discussion with the client about the challenges affecting them directly. This individual work will be used to co-create a practical programme to meet the group needs. Every session will begin with a check-in exercise offering the opportunity for people to discuss their feelings.

Website: <https://www.mycwa.org.uk/>



### St Mary's Church, Wistaston - Award £750

The main objective in is to seek help with costs incurred in making the Church Hall Covid Secure and ongoing costs to keep it a safe environment for people to come to for their social, physical and emotional wellbeing. The Church Hall prior to lock down was a bustling place that was booked fully for the whole week and our income from hirers has dried up. The hall is very versatile and is a much used social hub for a Toddler Group, Guides, U3A (Painting, Table Tennis etc); Drama Group and Dancing Classes and is used by our Community Council for the Annual Flower and Produce Show. La Maternelle have used the main room for their Christmas performance. The Howe Room within the hall is used by our local PCSOs and they hold surgeries there. There is a Church Office within the building where part time administrators deal with all room bookings. It is hoped that the building will once again be used to bring much needed companionship for local residents, particularly those who live alone and will find the winter months challenging without their groups.

Website: <https://www.stmaryswistaston.org.uk/>

### Cheshire Agricultural Chaplaincy – Award £2,500

Cheshire Agricultural Chaplaincy covers Cheshire & Wirral offering support 24:7 to the farming community with a listening ear for as long as required, pastoral support and can bring in supporting agencies when required. Many clients are suffering from depression, mental health issues or financial difficulties. They visit individual farms, attend livestock markets and agricultural shows. Farming as an occupation has a high rate of suicide; many farmers are suffering with difficult issues like financial pressure, isolation, adverse weather, family disputes, government regulations and inspections, administration, poor harvests & livestock disease all combined with long hours of work. All this contributes to serious levels of hopelessness and depression, even self-harm.

During the pandemic they are maintaining contact: Telephone/Text/Email/Videolink support for clients with issues including mental health. They expect to see an increase in need for mental health support during the crisis, and enforced isolation. They are making socially distanced visits to a number of clients. Staff and volunteers who are not themselves vulnerable, are shopping and delivering for more vulnerable clients. They have begun provision and delivery of food and other essentials as hampers to clients in financial difficulty as a direct result of Coronavirus crisis.

The Neuromuscular Centre would like to be able to offer Talking Therapy sessions to Cheshire East  
Telephone: 07967 559694  
Email: [talk@agchap.com](mailto:talk@agchap.com)

Individuals will be identified by NMC clinical experts through a triage process and referred to the talking therapies service delivered at NMC.

Website: <http://www.nmcentre.com/>

**AgeUK CE – Awarded £3,500**

Working in partnership with Age UK Cheshire, this project “We won’t forget you at Christmas” brings together the two local Age UKs which provide services in the borough to put together and deliver food and welfare packages for approximately 200 older people who are, in the main, accessing both charities’ befriending services.

The packages will include non-perishable Christmas food items along with items to help with mental wellbeing – jigsaws, colouring books magazines etc. As well as the activities, they will work with a number of local primary schools to include hand written Christmas messages from pupils for the older people. They will distribute the packs about 10 days before Christmas, and because the two organisations are working together on this, the whole of the Borough will be covered with pooled resources. Some befrienders have volunteered to deliver to the person they befriend - the first time they will have met face-to-face which will add a lovely personal touch.

A key element, as well as providing older people with a much needed ‘lift’ as we approach Christmas, would be to raise awareness. They will undertake an awareness campaign focused on loneliness and the plight of older people, at Christmas time, made worse by the added threat of COVID-19. Age UK research highlights that Christmas is probably the worst time of all for lonely older people, especially those recently widowed because it can seem that everyone except them is having a fantastic time. Christmas can be a very lonely time for clients, with many living away from family. With the tightening restrictions due to COVID-19, many older people face a very lonely festive period.

Website: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/cheshireeast/>

### East Cheshire Hospice – Award £5,000

The Hospice identified a gap in the palliative care services for those individuals and their family facing End of Life and wishing to stay at home in East Cheshire. We discovered a vastly reduced access to healthcare professionals to support them during out of hours. In fact at night time, weekends and Bank Holidays there was only one NHS District Nurse on call for the whole of East Cheshire. The impact of Covid 19 has increased demand for our community based palliative care Hospice @Home service dramatically as more patients and their family have made a conscious choice to be at home rather than a more clinical environment.

Website: <https://www.eastcheshirehospice.org.uk/>

### Wistaston Green Allotment Site – Awarded £1,461

In order to support the local community, suitable facilities need to be introduced. A toilet would enable all to remain on site longer, remembering too that many of our older tenants have inevitable health issues, investment brings with it many C-19 benefits re hygiene, physical and mental health, all relate to this statutory council service.

40 tenants use the site to not only produce fresh fruit and vegetables, but it is also an opportunity and a great example of healthy living.

Traditionally tenants are 3<sup>rd</sup> generation, the most vulnerable C-19 of the population. Never has it been more important to keep fit and socialise in a safe environment. The allotments enables this to happen, plots are well spread naturally, so contact with other users is managed and affords the opportunity to communicate with others.

Many of the older tenants would have little, if any, contact with other people, especially at this time. Related mental health being so very important.

The service is intended to meet some of the needs of the 'hard to reach' people who previously attended our Saturday Night at Jubilee House in Crewe Town Centre. Complying with COVID-19 restrictions on large gatherings, preparing hot food at Jubilee House and takeaway from the kitchen entrance. Free, balanced meals, distributed to homeless/vulnerable guests who attended our

Additionally, we get approached by local schools, who wish to visit and learn about planting, growing produce and flowers, all important for their own personal growth.

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elain.webster@ansa.co.uk

Saturday night kitchen is open for homeless and vulnerable at Jubilee House, takeaway only.  
5pm-6.00 pm at the kitchen door.

74

**St Andrew with St John the Baptist Crewe PCC - Award £2,100**

Relaunching the very successful Saturday Café as a monthly delivery service, seeking to move to weekly. People will be able to order online or by phone to receive 3 courses (soup, sandwich and cake) and a hot drink. The café regularly had 40-50 people attending each week and was a great opportunity to meet others and have a healthy meal.

There will be some online element on the same day to allow people to connect with each other as well as receiving the food but no contact deliveries will enable a connection with the wider community to be maintained. Expecting to eventually be providing 40 meals each session.

Self-referral. Deliveries can be booked by phone / email / social media

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/standrewschurchcrewe/>

75

**Wilmslow Highschool - Award £5,000**

Assist in providing the opportunity for breakfast for those students in most need, based on the 170 free school meals (FSM) students during the winter months. The school are be able to provide 2 breakfasts per week until February half term for each FSM student. The outcome is to ensure that every FSM student has the opportunity to be provided with a simple breakfast at least twice a week at school which in turn will assist in their learning.

Free School Meals Students will be invited to attend Breakfast Clubs within their year group bubbles.

77

**Healthbox CIC (South) - Award £9,832**

Over 700 hot/reheatable, tasty, nutritious evening meals for vulnerable families in the south of the locality. Delivered from 11 accessible community venues (each serving 50-75 meals) over three months, Healthbox will provide food to vulnerable communities. All recipes have been designed by a qualified Public Health Nutritionist. Furthermore, this proposal will allow them to interact with vulnerable and/or hard-to-reach residents and provide them with the opportunity to connect with VCFSE support organisations and activities.

A referral process will be provided to schools so that they can refer families who would benefit most from this service.

Website: <https://www.healthboxcic.com/>

78

**Healthbox CIC - Award £3,530**

This proposal will allow Healthbox to provide food safety and processing support for over 60 VCFSE organisations across Cheshire East.

The aim is to provide the necessary training and one-to-one support so that VCFSE organisations who want to help feed people during the Winter months and school holidays are equipped and confident to meet the demand.

The plan is to deliver 4 x Royal Society for Public Health accredited level 2 food safety for VCFSE and Public sector organisations throughout Cheshire East. Additionally, they will offer ongoing advice and guidance for any organisations who wish to implement food processes, however large or small the operations. This support will be available to food network attendees and contacts during the Winter months when demand is expected to be highest (December-February). Advice and guidance will include food storage, food handling, disposing of food waste and signposting to other food-based organisations.

Any organisation that accesses the support and isn't already associated with a food network, will be signposted to their most relevant network.

Website: <https://www.healthboxcic.com/>

76

**Hope Central - Award £5,000**

To provide food parcels to people in need. Currently food comes from donations made at local churches and retail stores and through special events such as Harvest Festival and Christmas collections. Food is also bought to supplement this. To be certain that they can continue to do this is important, as giving fatigue setting in and the financial impacts of Covid will become ever more severe and their own costs continue to increase with the level of activity.

In addition they intend to provide Christmas parcels for clients and families over the Christmas period, to support the Welcome with their meals on wheels operation and to work with Knutsford Lions to deliver 60 Christmas meals on Christmas Day.

The food bank and all services are available through referral and application to Hope Central ([info@hopecentral.gov.uk](mailto:info@hopecentral.gov.uk)) or at the Welcome on Longridge in Knutsford or St Chads Church in Wilmslow.

80

**Chance Changing Lives - Award £5,000**

Saturday Kitchen - free, balanced meals, distributed to homeless/vulnerable guests who attended Saturday Night kitchen pre-Covid; now with social distanced queuing outside under supervision. Served in compostable packaging to approx' 55 people 5-6pm on a Saturday night. Additionally: warm clothes, foil blankets, toiletries, condoms and sanitary products. Signposting to appropriate agencies.

Saturday night takeaway (under current Covid-19 restrictions) 5.00pm-6.00pm at Jubilee House, Crewe.

79

**Healthbox CIC (North) - Award £9,832**

Over 700 hot/reheatable, tasty, nutritious evening meals for vulnerable families in the south of the locality. Delivered from 11 accessible community venues (each serving 50-75 meals) over three months, Healthbox will provide food to vulnerable communities. All recipes have been designed by a qualified Public Health Nutritionist. Furthermore, this proposal will allow them to interact with vulnerable and/or hard-to-reach residents and provide them with the opportunity to connect with VCFSE support organisations and activities.

A referral process will be provided to schools so that they can refer families who would benefit most from this service.

Website: <https://www.healthboxcic.com/>

### **Alsager Highfields Community Primary School- Award £5,000**

#### **BREAKFAST HUB CLUB**

There is a growing need to provide breakfast club support for families who are struggling financially due to Covid-19 but also emotionally.

A 'breakfast hub' was set up in the hall for children in Y2, 3 and 4 who were identified that would benefit from attending based initially upon the vulnerable family register but would be offered on a weekly basis based upon need and changing circumstances.

Year 5 and 6 children could be provided with cereal bars and a water/juice bottle and enter school ten minutes early to have the drink and a bar before the other children arrive, while this is not as nutritious as the breakfast hub offer it would help to ensure children are not hungry in school.

Reception and year 1 classes are one bubble in a separate building so this could replicate the 'breakfast hub' idea for year 2, 3, 4.

This would help to ensure children feel safe and happy, and more ready to learn as they are not hungry and rushed in the morning creating a negative emotional start to their day. It would also create a time during the day for the children to talk to an adult outside of their teaching day about any worries or concerns they may have.

Internal referral to vulnerable children impacted by Covid who cannot access breakfast from home.

### **St Andrew with St John the Baptist Crewe PCC - Award £2,100**

Provision of lunches and activities to 25+ local families (Average 4-5 per family) throughout the Christmas holidays.

Distribution points at All Saints, St Peter's and St Andrew's Churches with an additional point at St Barnabas church. Deliveries to families who cannot attend distribution points.

Distribution every day of packs including:

- Sandwich
- Fresh fruit
- Drinks
- Crisps
- Festive treats
- Themed activity packs

Hampers will be distributed on 23rd December, to cover to 27th December, enough for 4 lunches for all the family and small gifts for all the family.

Self-referral. Just turn up and collect what is needed.

Website: <https://standrewscrewe.com/>



**Congleton Community Projects - Award £4,835**

This group established a comprehensive food delivery system during the first lockdown, an on-going Big Heart Lunch delivery service, a COVID-19 Community Information line and Facebook page. This second lock down has come just before Christmas which is a difficult time for everyone especially those living in isolation. They plan to organise a Congleton Cares Christmas gift bag for people who live alone. We will source recipients through local care services, homes and supported housing, churches, older people services and a neighbour nominating scheme. The gift will include small items from local producers who have agreed to join the scheme and we will include a Christmas card made by school children from 4 local schools.

[jo@congletoncommunityprojects.org](mailto:jo@congletoncommunityprojects.org)

call 07833 742250

For details about the fund and for application forms please visit

**[www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/communitygrant](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/communitygrant)**

For enquiries, please email [communitygrants@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:communitygrants@cheshireeast.gov.uk)