

In 2017...

continuing to help local people in crisis



What we do

We support local individuals and families in crisis who cannot afford to put food on the table, referred to us by local agencies.

Foodbank vouchers are issued through these organisations:

- Citizens Advice (East Grinstead)
 - Citizens Advice (Oxted)
 - Housing Associations, Mental Health Organisations,
 - Local Doctor's Surgeries, Local schools and Churches,
 - Children and Family Centres
- (Please see our website for full list address below)

Fact: over 60 agencies can refer clients to us via a red foodbank voucher.

Since we started with a few food boxes in a garage in East Grinstead in December 2012, we have now helped over 5,000 people, currently averaging 30 adults & children helped per week.

We operate under the auspices of the Trussell Trust, who support over 420 foodbanks over the UK.

The guidelines are for Clients to visit 3 times in any one period of a food crisis. However, the local foodbank manager has flexibility.



In addition...

...to giving clients food and household items sufficient for at least 3 days in exchange for a red voucher, we also talk to Clients and try to understand their needs and situation, and - where appropriate - look to 'signpost' them to other groups, such as:

- Citizens Advice,
- Christians Against Poverty (CAP),
- local Councils
- Mid-Sussex Furnihelp

www.eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk

In numbers:

People helped by year...



In addition to the above:

We fulfilled...



Christmas bag nominations for **198** children & **276** adults



Easter bag nominations for **65** children

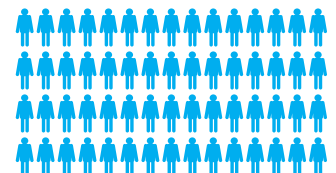
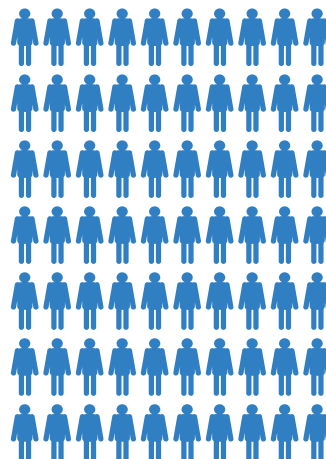


Summer bag nominations for **162** children

In 2017 we helped, on average:

70 adults per month

60 children per month



with **161 NEW** individuals coming, out of a total of **589** Clients.

Of those **589** Clients **106** came only once.

The overall average of repeat visits is **4.4** for 2013-17 the 5 years of operation.

In comments from those we have assisted:

“ We are so grateful to East Grinstead Foodbank for making us feel so welcome and being able to give us the food that we needed. ”



“ I had to walk 10 miles to the foodbank. ..the volunteers there were extremely helpful, accommodating, friendly and not at all did they make me feel I was not worthy of help. ”

“ I felt scared & alone and was embarrassed at having to come to the foodbank as if I were a leech!....I was made to feel so welcome and not at all like a charity case! ...They spoke about everyday things and just simply made me comfortable ...I hadn't eaten since Sunday afternoon and it's now Friday night, I was making sure my kids were fed... You didn't just feed this family! U restored our faith, strength and gave us confidence. ”

“ I felt ashamed of my situation, that I had failed my son and found it so difficult to ask for help. I arrived at the JCC with my head hung in shame. I was met at the door by a warm smiling face, treated with the utmost respect & reassured that I was not alone'. I felt humbled by the generosity of local people & the volunteers who helped me. ”



Image used for illustrative purposes person shown is not an EG foodbank client

We are also able to help the local probation service with emergency food boxes:

“ The boxes are much appreciated from our Services Users. We have so many who may be just out of prison with no jobs yet, on benefits or low income plus the ones who are the homeless, cold and hungry...(In winter time)...when it is cold miserable weather and over the holiday season when they have absolutely nothing . It great to be able to offer them something to comfort them when times are hard.’ ”

Where are we based?

Jubilee Community Centre Charlwoods Road,
East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 2HL

Tony Cox - Manager
e: info@eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk t: 07983 209940
www.eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk



We are open:

Mondays 1pm to 3pm,
Wednesdays 10am to 12noon
Fridays 1pm to 3pm

This foodbank is run in partnership with local churches. Registered charity number 1154256