

## **The Bromley Borough Foodbank**

The Bromley Borough Foodbank is a project founded by local churches and community groups, working together towards stopping hunger in the Bromley area.



The charity provide three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to them in crisis. The Bromley Foodbank are part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK.

### **How foodbanks work**

Providing emergency food to people in crisis. Every day people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income. A simple box of food makes a big difference, with foodbanks helping prevent crime, housing loss, family breakdown and mental health problems.

### **Food is donated**

Schools, churches, businesses and individuals donate non-perishable, in-date food to a foodbank. Large collections often take place as part of Harvest Festival celebrations and food is also collected at supermarkets.

### **Food is sorted and stored**

Volunteers sort food to check that it's in date and pack it into boxes ready to be given to people in need. Over 40,000 people give up their time to volunteer at foodbanks.

### **Professionals identify people in need**

Foodbanks partner with a wide range of care professionals such as doctors, health visitors, social workers and police to identify people in crisis and issue them with a foodbank voucher.

### **Clients receive food**

Foodbank clients bring their voucher to a foodbank centre where it can be redeemed for three days' emergency food. Volunteers meet clients over a warm drink or free hot meal and are able to signpost people to agencies able to solve the longer-term problem.

Testimonials:

*"The foodbank was there when we really needed it, it was an absolute lifeline."*

*"It was nice to be talked to like a human being."*

*"Dear Foodbank team, I have to say a very big thank you to you all for helping me when I came in two days ago after Income Support had stopped all my benefit without warning and that this would potentially mean all my other benefits would be suspended. I truly appreciate all your concern and care towards myself and most importantly my son which helped a lot. It was nice to be sat down and to be talked to like a human by someone who only showed care, and it was very relieving. I have now sorted out all my benefit. I got a call saying my claim had been reopened. I have recommended and will surely recommend you to others in need. If I ever come across this I'm sure in future I definitely know where to turn to."*

If you would like to know more about the work of this charity visit their website  
<https://bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk/about/real-stories/>