



UK Centre Prayer and Praise Summer 2020

Kent

Please pray for our fundraising efforts, for new information regarding local applications and that our ongoing applications might be successful.

Please pray for the new referrals we have received on behalf of women experiencing domestic violence. These increasing significantly in our area.

Please pray a big thank you for our volunteer delivery man and for the wonderful people keeping their lovely baby items to one side so that we might have them at the end of lock down.

Bolton & Bury

Happy summer everyone 😊 we have so much to be thankful for from new volunteers to funding and donations. We ask for prayer regarding fear! It's really easy to be fearful about funding, how to manage referrals and team with an impending lockdown and that's not how God wants us to be – in him we are more than conquerors. Please pray that we can operate without anxiety or fear and that when challenges come our strength is in him. Prayers for the mums and babies who are scared to go out or living a life that is difficult and for our volunteers that they feel safe in the environment that they work so hard in. Love to all from team Bolton xx

For God has not given us a spirit of fearfulness, but one of power, love, and sound judgment. 2 Timothy 1:7

Lizz

Bradford

Here in Bradford we have settled down to a steady rate of referrals after the busy early lockdown period. Praise God that we are really well known and trusted by all the midwife teams in the city as well as the maternity unit which keeps an emergency starter pack in the office there. At last Bradford has a specialist team for vulnerable women with continuity of care which is going to be so good for these women. Our volunteers have had to take time off as they are over 65, but they are itching to get back and hope to be able to in September. Please pray for God's provision of a suitable premises- just before lockdown we were exploring the possibility of sharing a base with Bradford Baby Bank but obviously that all got put on hold! Love to you all. **Lorely**

Northampton

Prayer for funding to come through as we bounce back from Covid

Thanks that we have been able to continue and have a drop off point open again :D xx **Sabrina**

Sunbury

Please give thanks for a new volunteer and for a full storeroom! We have had a good response to our plea for donations and we are working well as a team to respond to all the referrals coming in. **Mary**.

Belfast

Prayer Requests from Belfast:

- For continued support from Parishes as they try to navigate their opening while keeping social distancing
- For those families referred to us, many of whom are in crisis. These are often ongoing crises and won't end any time soon.

Thanks

- Grateful thanks for the money received from Belfast City Council during Lockdown which kept us afloat to support so many families in the area.
- Thanks to my daughter, Caroline, furloughed from her job in England and able to support Baby Basics by helping with sorting clothes
- Thanks to our volunteers who still came into our Base to support Baby Basics each week.

Karen

Folkestone

Baby Basics Folkestone are so excited to be partnering with Harbour Church Folkestone. This is something we have been hoping for for some time. It is such an encouragement to the team here, and will really help in terms of fundraising and applying for grants etc.

We are getting a steady flow of referrals and building more connections with local organisations.

It has been good to keep providing help throughout the C-19 pandemic, and have lovely feedback from local referrers and the people who receive the Moses basket starter packs.

We would like prayer in continuing to build our support base locally, and for referrals to increase, as we know there are families that really need our help. Thanks, **Pippa**

Portsmouth

We have soooooo much to be thankful in Portsmouth!

I was given 1 day paid work from my church to cover all of my community projects (this includes mostly BB at present).

I would also like to update you about my lottery bid - I found out on Friday that we were successful!!!! The main part of the funding is for 2 days paid worker alongside budget for ongoing supplies and transport/delivery costs. This was a covid bid and is only for the next 6 months from the main BIG lottery fund...with a view of re submitting another application for a 2 year funding project once the main application process resumes.

We have a new store room - volunteers back on board and a growing reputation of excellence across the health providers.

Prayers please for growth of the service in the next 6 months and future success in long term funding. Thank you, **Diane**

Sheffield

Please can you pray for our Sheffield team as they rest this week and then focus on admin for the two weeks after that, to try and catch up after such a chaotic time.

Leicester

As Leicester has still been in lockdown we are aware of the knock on effect this will have on vulnerable families. Please pray for all the Victims of Domestic abuse that have been referred to us for help. We pray that life would return back to some normality as lockdown for this long is very wearing for many. Because of our small premises, we are still limiting our volunteers to 2 at a time. Please pray as we process the changes this brings and how to carry on after the summer in a slightly different way. We are closing for 2 weeks in August, and then we hope to get more volunteers back in September as well as start some new ones which have shown interest.

We thank God for continued provision financially, especially when we have to still limit second hand donations. The core team has really pulled together in this time and I want to thank God for their support and willingness. Thank you! **Laura**

Swansea

Praise: We're thankful for the continuing generosity of our supporters who have repeatedly helped us with items we've needed. Also that our church redevelopment project is nearly complete so we'll be moving into a bigger room.

Prayer: For the process of moving building, sorting our current space, removing surplus, purchasing and arranging new storage, and moving everything over. Thanks, **Rachel**

Chesterfield

I pray that our drop off points will re-open soon, but in many respects I am not praying 'believing it will happen', because the businesses we used have not re-opened properly for their own line of work, so understandably – helping BB out is not one of their proprieties, and the nervousness of handling a lot of 'incoming items' with the potential threat of bringing the virus in, is a real one.

I pray for wisdom moving forward, as I try and integrate some of what we hoped would be short term changes, as our 'new norm' for the foreseeable future. Pray that our connectivity and enthusiasm continues, despite working alone.

I give thanks for such an amazing team, whether coming in or working from home. Two of us kept on top of requests and handovers during lockdown – literally one step ahead of ourselves. Thanks to a few extra volunteers returning, we are now back on top of ourselves, with baskets 'ready on the shelves'. I offer prayers of blessing for the entire team – such amazing self-less people 😊 **Jane**

Vale of Glamorgan

We are giving thanks for;

- Receipt of a small communities grant from the Glamorgan Voluntary Services, of just over £200 funded by the Welsh Government.
- Purchase of a given list of items to the value of £250 from a crisis grant by the Forrester's.
- £500 received from the Asda Foundation green Token Giving community scheme.
- Beautiful donations provided by Sheffield from Corporate donations.

Please pray for;

1. Continuation of referrals, to distribute the wonderful donations received.
2. Clear vision regarding any changes of working, directly as a result of the pandemic.
3. Also clear vision regarding any change of premises, in order to accommodate any changes needed for our operational strategy.
4. A speedy resolution to this ongoing pandemic, but keeping everyone safe and well to carry out this work in the meantime. **Pauline**

Hastings

We are really thankful for all the donations we have received over the lock down period including the unexpected arrival of 20 new Moses baskets and 64 packs of breast pads and the lovely items that we have been sent from Baby Basics Sheffield.

We are also thankful that we have some new referrers using us which means we are able to help more families in our area. We are now being regularly used by the young parents' team of midwives.

We would like pray for wisdom as we look at improving our storage capacity, as we do not have space to house larger items such as cots.

We would also like prayer for our older volunteers who have not been able to return yet due to health issues. We would like prayers for their well-being and that they would still feel connected with us and part of the team.

UK

Please can you pray for our new centre in Ballymena who will be launching mid September 2020.

Please can you also pray for Cat, who is amazing and has been under tremendous pressure these last few months.

We hope you have a wonderful and restful summer.