

Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund: Impact 2020/21



Welcome

Welcome to this impact report on our Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund and our work to help with the local emergency efforts in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic. The response by the local charitable sector to act and adapt quickly to this public health crisis is a testimony to the expertise and resourcefulness of local community groups and charities.

Northamptonshire Community Foundation has awarded in the last year **£1,091,998** to **317** community projects across the county through our Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund. We have also witnessed extraordinary generosity from existing and new donors and the general public who we cannot thank enough for their support in helping us to raise essential funding to keep people safe and well.

Throughout this time, the dedicated Foundation staff team has been working remotely to assess applications on a daily basis so local charities can hit the ground running with their crisis response work keeping vulnerable people who have been self-isolating or shielding safe and well alongside a range of activities, provision and services to help tackle financial hardship and hunger, reduce loneliness and social isolation and support wellbeing.

We have worked alongside respective Community Foundations across the UK who have continued to do their utmost to work with a range of donors, the National Emergencies Trust and other partners to ensure monies have continued to cover work responding to this public health crisis and beyond.



We have also worked locally with COVID-19 Community Resilience Cell hubs, local infrastructure organisations and other partners to work effectively through collaboration, share local intelligence and ensure that local communities have been effectively supported with a safety net through community and voluntary help.

Throughout this pandemic the emergency response on the ground has been truly remarkable and the funded work carried out has been a lifeline for many vulnerable people. We have been truly humbled and inspired by the small charities and community groups we fund and the generosity of the donors we work alongside which has enabled us to reach 104,769 residents and provide a helping hand during difficult times.

Thank you all

**Northamptonshire Community
Foundation Staff and Trustees**

Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund: Impact Overview

Our Grants Team has worked diligently and tirelessly to ensure funds have been paid to local community groups and charities efficiently and quickly to help them respond to the need in local communities. We have awarded £1,091,998 to 317 projects through the Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund. This has included projects providing food aid and medical supply provision, counselling services and mental health support, community transport services, educational activities and general health and wellbeing support.

Overall **104,769*** people have been supported at an average cost of **£10.42** per beneficiary. **11,284** volunteers have been supporting projects keeping people safe and well.

**Please note that one beneficiary may have benefited by more than one project but this is not information we can track; also an individual may have had repeat support during the lifetime of a project.*



Tracking our impact by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals



We are proud through our funding activity to have supported the following United Nations Sustainable Development Goals during Northamptonshire Community Foundation's COVID-19 response in partnership with the National Emergencies Trust and other generous donors awarding a total of **£1,091,998** to **317** projects.

We are committed to contributing to tackle these global goals locally as part of our commitment to improve quality of life for all and especially in times of national and local emergencies. We wish to ensure that no one is left behind and everyone feels that they belong to the local community now and in the future.

The projects funded through our Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund have helped contribute to five of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: No Poverty; Zero Hunger; Good Health and Wellbeing; Quality Education and Reduced Inequalities.



Strategic Response

During the COVID-19 pandemic we have been able to award £196,939 for a series of longer-term, strategic response grants to several groups working in partnership to alleviate a range of issues presented by the public health crisis that also tackles some of the underlying issues impacting people across our local communities.

The awarded groups have used their collaborative expertise to address health inequalities and identifying gaps in provision, build sustainable services, provide wellbeing support and help to vulnerable people across Northamptonshire.

Home-Start Wellingborough and District have continued their support hub for families, working in partnership with Mind, Service Six and Relate. This has included providing emotional support via volunteers with a weekly phone call to families, counselling, anxiety support, relationship counselling and children's therapy where needed. Additional services have included food aid and debt advice and support and activity packs for children and families. The funding has enabled the collaboration to reach out and support 104 clients across their service delivery.

Northampton Hope Centre have worked alongside several food projects and established foodbank providers in Northampton to tackle food poverty across West Northamptonshire. The funding has enabled the partnership to buy far greater stores of fresh and healthy food and support new logistical costs for a COVID-19 food hub that supports all of the partner agencies in

their emergency response efforts and beyond and to work effectively together in tackling food poverty. The partnership has been able to support 3500 local residents.

Serve Rushden have provided support to vulnerable individuals and families as part of the community resilience hub in East Northamptonshire especially local residents with complex mental health needs. Their direct crisis service delivery has been coordinating and supporting individuals in the community with essential groceries and prescription and hearing aid collection, along with wellbeing befriending telephones call being made each week. The partnership has a network of voluntary organisations including mental health, family support and finance and benefits advice which has enabled support of 102 vulnerable residents.



Serve Rushden



Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire

SOFEA have helped establish a network of Community Larders across South Northamptonshire. 10 Larders have already been established in South Northamptonshire providing weekly food boxes to 1,900 vulnerable individuals and families. The organisation has waived their membership fee during the COVID-19 crisis to allow anyone in need to access and benefit from the larder network. SOFEA have been targeting vulnerable older people as well as families with children who would otherwise get free school meals, disadvantaged individuals and families who are socially isolated, those who are now in financial crisis and those unable to access regular food supplies.

Support Northamptonshire covering Wellingborough and Northampton have been working in partnership with Northamptonshire Rights and Equality Council, Indian Hindu Welfare Organisation, Pravasi Mandal and Wellingborough District Hindu Association to tackle the disproportionate impact COVID-19 has had on vulnerable local Asian citizens and communities especially older people and people with disabilities. The partnership network has supported 550 people keeping them safe and well through a programme of information and advice, food aid, welfare calls and family support.

United African Association have supported African communities in Corby and Kettering collaborating with five other groups in order to improve the lives of African families and individuals through the provision of products, food parcels and services including training,



United African Association

skills, counselling and empowerment programmes. They have also worked to support and improve the mental wellbeing of young people affected by the crisis. The partnership has been able to support 552 adults and young people.

Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire have worked with local resilience groups and Northampton Borough Council to support existing organisations and schemes with information and guidance and signposting individuals to appropriate voluntary, community and social enterprise groups for support. They also have provided a contact point for people who wish to volunteer and have produced a number of resources to support organisations including newly set up mutual aid groups as well as helping track unmet need via vulnerable residents during the pandemic enabling them to support 150 beneficiaries.

Crisis Response

During the COVID-19 pandemic we have been able to award £895,059 for a range of smaller crisis response grants that have enabled community groups and charities to provide direct services, support and activities to local residents. This has included food aid, prescription and shopping services, wellbeing packs, online activities and courses, counselling and welfare calls, community transport services, care packages, information and advice.



Impact Case Study: Wellingborough Homeless Forum

The forum has worked to provide a safety net for 14 people experiencing homelessness and rough sleeping during the COVID-19 pandemic. The group provided daily welfare check calls and access to food for vulnerable people who were moved into temporary accommodation. This included a support worker and a network of volunteers to make welfare check up calls. Support has also including arranging hot meals and food parcels, advice and welfare visits, liaising with other support agencies, helping complete forms and providing friendship.



Impact Case Study: Daylight Centre

During the pandemic the Daylight Centre has provided critical food supplies through its local food bank service supporting the communities of Wellingborough. This included a hot meal provision service to people who had been placed in temporary accommodation, local residents and families. The organisation has also set up village hubs and worked alongside local supermarkets for food donations. As a result they have been able to deliver 1,638 food parcels to 1,500 individuals and families.



The foodbank at the Daylight Centre

Impact Case Study: Food for Thought Daventry

This initiative has been providing fresh food parcels to the doorsteps of vulnerable families through the pandemic across Daventry and District including school holiday periods. The group has worked closely with schools and other statutory services taking referrals for families in need of food aid supporting 249 residents. Food for Thought Daventry also provided an emergency service during festive holidays with food parcels lasting families for a week. The group have also worked alongside a local supermarket to take on food donations, pack through volunteers and transport to local residents.



The Lewis Foundation

effects of treatment that patients face when they have radiotherapy for head and neck cancer. It contained items such as mouth rinse, toothpaste, toothbrush and lip balm. The group were able to provide 100 packs to patients.

Impact Case Study: Relate Northamptonshire

The charity has provided free counselling support to people across the county providing timely and appropriate support for people struggling with their mental health during the Covid-19 crisis. The organisation also set up a new helpline to support people struggling with low level mental health issues. The helpline has been managed by qualified counsellors providing a listening and strategy support service to help people struggling with a variety of issues due to Covid-19. 90 residents across Northamptonshire have benefited from the funded service.



Impact Case Study: The Lewis Foundation

The grant provided enabled the charity to deliver comfort packs for head and neck cancer patients receiving treatment at Northampton General Hospital. The packs contained items that would help to minimise the severe side

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Impact Case Study: The Eloquent Fold

The Corby based group have continued to provide an online arts group throughout the public health crisis providing creative and remote learning using online digital technology. The group have provided the materials and resources through posted project packs to take part which has been supported through telephone calls, zoom calls, a digital gallery and social media. The activity has provided a lifeline for residents shielding and self-isolating and reduced social isolation and loneliness for 25 residents.

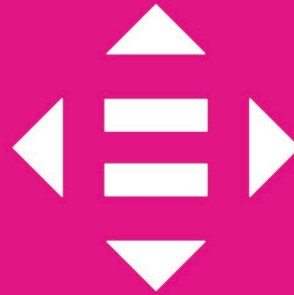


The Eloquent Fold

Impact Case Study: Silhouette Youth

The community group provided an online weekly programme of arts activity for 106 young people across Northamptonshire. These sessions worked with young people aged 5 to 18 and were focussed on a range of performing arts. They created drama, music and dance pieces online and were given the opportunity to develop their own work. The group also provided scriptwriting and song writing sessions and helped young people to record their own music.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Impact Case Study: Dostiyo Asian Women and Girls Organisation

The organisation has been providing a support network and wellbeing calls for local Asian communities within Northampton. This has included a culturally sensitive helpline, setting up a digital wellbeing support group and addressing any language barriers to access information and advice. The group has also provided information for people going through bereavement due to the coronavirus and ensuring clients are safe and well. They have been able to support 62 vulnerable residents as a result of their work.

Impact Case Study: Q Space

The group provides support and a safe space for LGBTQ young people including buddying, mentoring and friendship. The youth support group have sent out wellbeing packs during the lockdown periods with activities and resources to engage young people. They have also provided social connection and support through social media, text and online. They have also provided safe outdoor settings for socially distanced meet ups. The group have provided direct support to 20 young people.

Foundation feedback



“Thank you so much for the award. We will be able to help our families so much over this difficult period.”

Tracey Witham, Home-Start Wellingborough and District

“You have no idea how vital this is at this point and we cannot thank you enough. Please pass our thanks on to everyone who has supported this application.”

Leigh Wolmarans, Silhouette Youth Theatre

“Please pass on our grateful thanks to all involved. The award will make a big difference to our beneficiaries in these unprecedented and difficult times.”

Richard Massey, East Northants Community Services

“The support of NCF as always is a vital link of support to our work, however the way the Foundation has responded to the crisis is exemplary. Thank you”
Carina Fisher, Daylight Centre

“I have found the Foundation extremely positive and helpful as always in supporting throughout the funding process. Thank you for helping us make a difference to our community.”

Lee Lewis, the Lewis Foundation

“Your funding has enabled us to manage the huge increase of demand for support from the most vulnerable in our community, delivering emergency supplies, shopping, prescriptions and offering telephone befriending.”

Carella Davies, Daventry Volunteer Centre

“C2C really appreciate the support given to us, during this time, by NCF. The fund was very quickly administered and we were able to put emergency plans quickly in place because of this.”

Angie Kennedy, C2C Social Action

“Your support allowed us to support some very vulnerable families, it has brought tears to our eyes when they share their stories and provide testimonies - Thank you.”

Pindy Kaur, Sikh Community Centre and Youth Club

“Thank you for allowing us to be able to connect to young people who haven't got access to the internet in this pandemic and provide a space for them to stay connected, stay safe, and manage their emotional wellbeing.”

Bianca Todd, Community Court Yard

“We are so grateful for this funding that has enabled us to help our community at this very difficult time. There are a number of people that have been kept safe as a direct result of these activities, so a big thank you to all at Northamptonshire Community Foundation.”

Lynda Heron, Elim Church

Thank you to our generous donors who have supported our Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund appeal

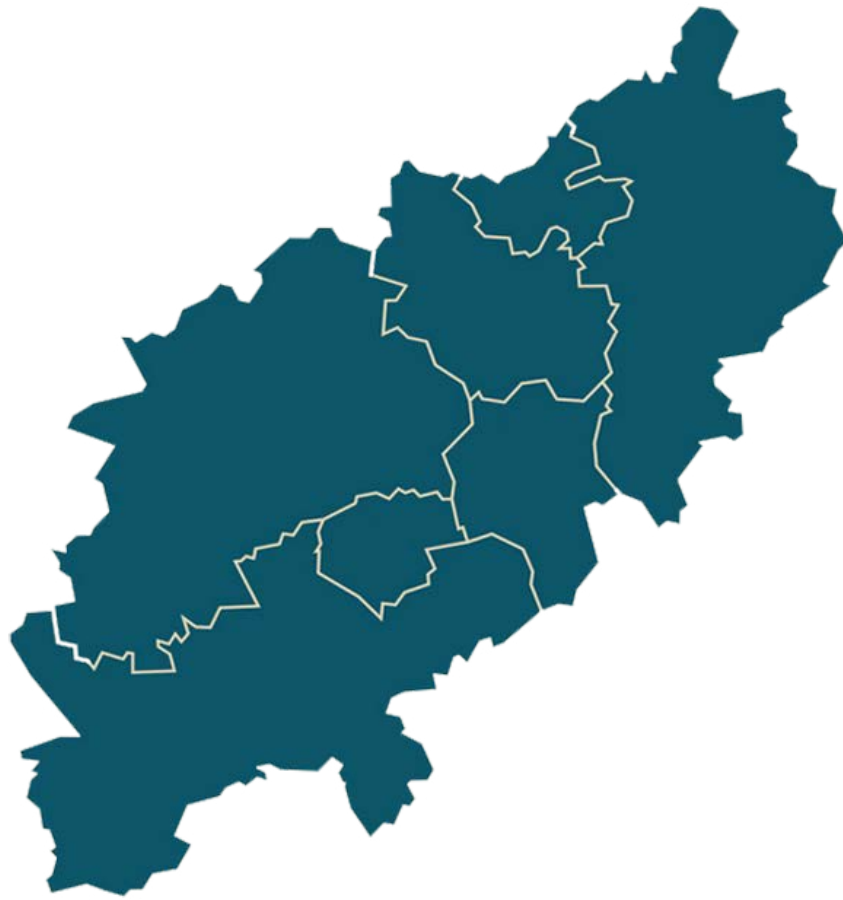
Over the last 20 years Northamptonshire Community Foundation has played a crucial role in supporting our local community with philanthropy, community leadership and grant making services. The outbreak of the Coronavirus has created an unprecedented strain on the voluntary community sector and smaller charities.

Working alongside the National Emergencies Trust and other generous donors, Northamptonshire Community Foundation launched a Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund to raise the urgent funds our voluntary groups desperately needed at that time to continue providing care and support for older and vulnerable people hit by the social and economic impact of the coronavirus. Donations were targeted, in the form of grants, at local charities supporting local people facing a range of challenges and difficulties including social isolation, loneliness, food poverty, financial hardship and poor emotional and mental wellbeing. **#NorthantsTogether**

We would love to hear from you

If you would like to find out more about Northamptonshire Community Foundation's work please do get in touch. You can find our contact details here:

ncf.uk.com/information/contact-us



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