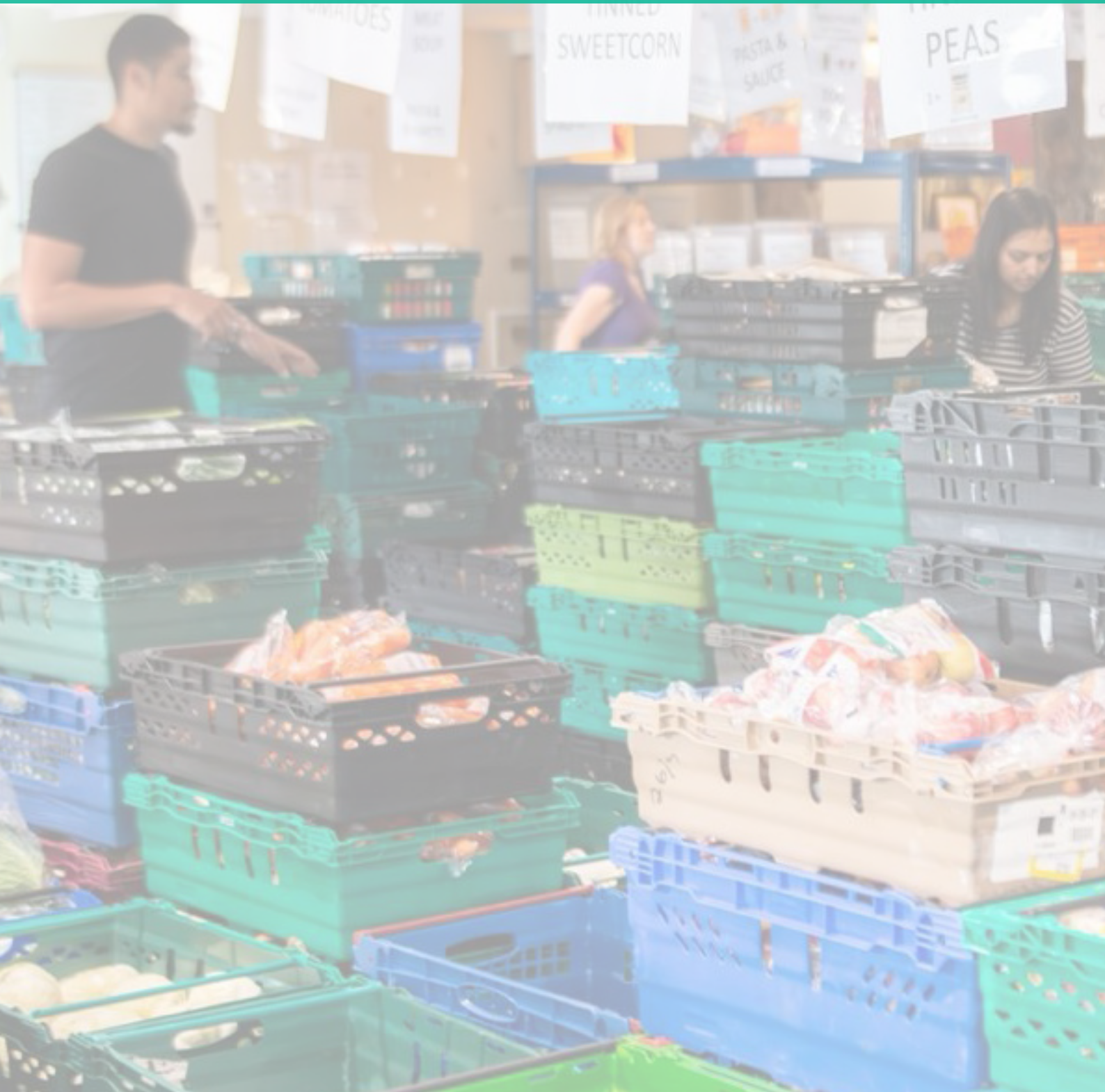


Donor Report

July 2024



FOOD BANK AID





Why our work is essential and why we need your support

Food banks in London have become the fourth emergency service. All relevant organisations in the sector report significant increase in need, caused by a combination of increased living costs, particularly rents, food and fuel together with health issues, long NHS waiting times, often resulting in people not working.

The **Greater London Authority report a 45% increase in food insecurity**, with an **estimated 1.5 million Londoners** now experiencing food insecurity, compared to around 1 million the previous year.

Agencies in the sector, including The Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN), The Red Cross, The Trussell Trust and The Food Foundation, report an **increase of food bank usage ranging between 33%-60%**.

With regard, and in particular to children, The Rowntree Foundation's June 2024 Report stated that when asked about children coming to school hungry, **88% of teachers reported pupils being excessively tired, 84% reported them being easily distracted, and 74% observed disruptive behaviour.**

Whichever metric we use, Food Bank Aid has grown significantly in the last 12 months to match the rising demand

40% increase of the food banks we support which is now a total of 32 across north London.

20% increase in the number of households being supplied with products sourced by Food Bank Aid.

45% increase in the number of items we distribute weekly.

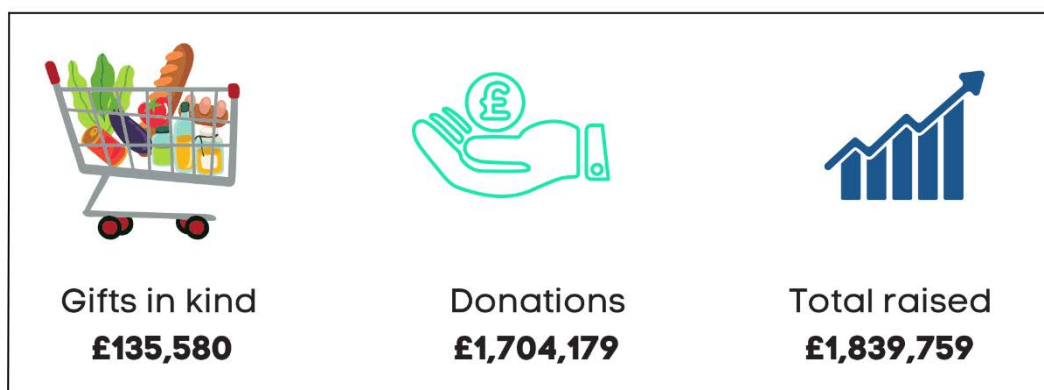
I want to thank the incredible volunteers, staff and donors of Food Bank Aid who are responsible for the thousands of pounds of regular food donations they give us: food, toiletries, pulses, household goods. GIFT supports over 500 households on a regular basis who would really struggle without the generosity of the incredible angels of Food Bank Aid. Thank you so much.'

- Michelle Barnett MBE, Founding Director of GIFT, a food bank partner

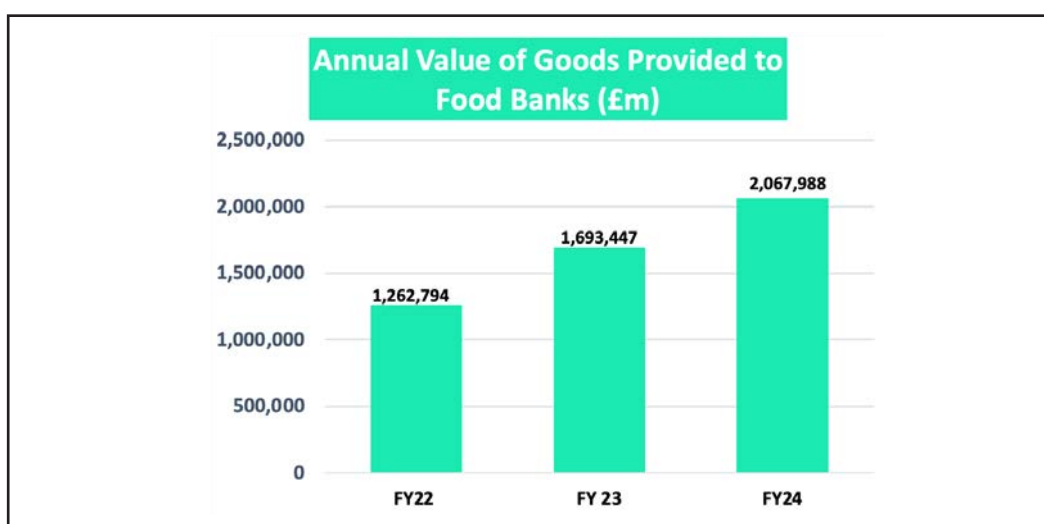


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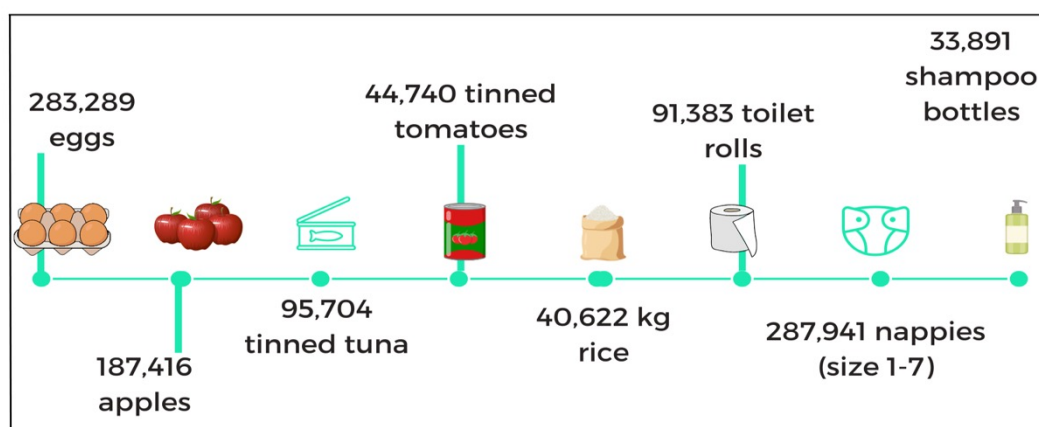
Your donations in our financial year Apr 23 - Mar 24



In addition to Donations and Gifts In Kind, we are delighted to have benefitted from a range of services, generously offered pro bono, including Legal and IT development.



The total value of goods provided to food banks this financial year, ending April 2024, was over £2 million. In the first quarter of the new financial year, we are already at approximately £500k.



Above are a few examples of the essential items we have distributed this financial year.

Fundraising

Having raised funds across many income streams over the last year, we ensured that, on average a minimum **of 80p in every £1 was spent on goods** for our food bank partners.

Our crowdfunding **‘Can We Bank On You?’** campaign surpassed all expectations. **7,000 people** from all backgrounds and cultures helped us to raise **£1.354 million in just 36 hours**. We had been concerned that diversion of funds to Ukraine and the Middle East, together with the cost-of living crisis, people might have given less, mirroring the national trend of a reduction in support for local food banks – but **not only did we reach our goal**, we surpassed it. **100% of funds raised** will be utilised to purchase food and household goods.

An incredible, broad group of companies brought their staff to volunteer at the Hub, including **BlackRock, Goldman Sachs and Zoom**. Not only did this help us build awareness of our work, but several participants became regular volunteers and helped cement relationships for the future.

As it's become increasingly important that corporates revisit their **CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**, Food Bank Aid is making inroads into this sector as a future revenue stream. **If you can introduce us to a company** which wants to make a difference in the community while creating a meaningful experience for their team, please email neil-bothams@foodbankaid.org.uk.

Our annual **School's Out, Food's Out 2023 Summer Campaign raised £48,000**, allowing us to provide food banks with 50% more child- and teen-friendly foods over the summer holiday period. We have **just launched our 2024 campaign** and look forward to reporting our progress against this.



Community Fundraising

Rowan Atkinson read Mozart's diaries and attracted a full house at The Highgate International Chamber Music Festival. His signed script was auctioned, and we are extremely appreciative both to Rowan and the organisers of the festival for the funds raised.

Pauline Treen contributed half the profits from her annual Haydn Orchestra's concert performed in St Michael's Church. Pauline has been a wonderful support to Food Bank Aid, and we love working with her.

Food Bank Aid continued to be Charity of the Year at Highgate Golf Club and we are immensely grateful to their incredible support as a result of numerous initiatives.

Aldenham Golf Club have chosen us to be their Charity of The Year and we are, of course, always happy to be recommended to all kinds of clubs.

The 3 Peak Challenge raised over £36,000 when it was conquered by a group of volunteers and friends.

Numerous initiatives took place from marathons, kids selling goods, an art exhibition donating the proceeds, and many special life events, which cumulatively raised significant funds.



Our Hub

We continue to make our hub space stretch, but we are now near to capacity, and we are keen to find local additional easy access space. **Regal London with L.B. Barnet are redeveloping Chaplin Square** and beyond. Plans are underway and we hope that Regal London's intention of relocating us within the redevelopment will come to fruition. We will remain as we are, **until early 2026**. We are enormously grateful for their generosity of providing a rent and rates free space.

Our volunteers continue to split, sort, pack and deliver from our Hub in North Finchley. Visitors throughout the year never failed to be amazed by the scale, the efficiency of our operations, the camaraderie at each session, and by the quality of the cakes consumed at breaktime!

Volunteers are critical to us, enabling us to use your funds for charitable purposes. For the first two months of this year, April and May, our charitable expenditure was **83% and overheads were 17%.**

Our incredible volunteer family are the the engine of Food Bank Aid. We registered as a charity in 2021 with **just one sponsored employee**, which demonstrates just how incredibly important our volunteers have been and continue to be, in the charity's formation and development. Without them we simply could not function.

Unlike more established charities we do not have teams of employed personnel. Not only do volunteers enable **100% of the sorting, packing and delivering** but they also manage community development including **over 90 schools**, events and volunteer recruitment, amongst a myriad of other essential roles.

19,441 hours of volunteers' time given to Food Bank Aid from Apr 23 – Mar 24 would have equated to £255,650 if they had been paid the London Living Wage.

So what's it like being a volunteer at Food Bank Aid? Here are some of the things the team said



"Volunteering at Food Bank Aid has been a lifeline for me since my husband passed away. The warm welcome and camaraderie among volunteers make it a meaningful experience."

To thank and acknowledge our volunteers, a **Naomi's Awards Evening** was enjoyed at **Highgate Golf Club** and generously sponsored by an anonymous donor. The Club was generously provided free, and staff and food at cost price.



What's so touching is that these special people tell us that it is for them to thank us and not for us to thank them - unbelievable!

The collage below shows our volunteers during National Volunteers Week which celebrates the amazing contributions volunteers make to communities across the UK.



Community Outreach

One of the most rewarding initiatives this year has been our "Tea Ladies". A group of mainly, but not all, elderly residents of an assisted living block, who come together in their communal area every week to decant teabags into useable packages to give to the food banks. It's been a roaring success, providing a sense of purpose, and enabling new friendships, which in turn prevents social isolation.

We continue to work with over 90 schools and last financial year they provided over **£85,000 worth of goods**. The children often deliver the goods and get a tour from our manager who explains what we do and how things work. We present in schools, with an objective of informing children about food poverty and with an aim that we are planting the seeds of future philanthropists.

Numerous talks were given to the community including JW3, U3A, The Hampstead Women's Group, Circle Square and The Chefs' Manifesto held at Omved Gardens in Highgate.

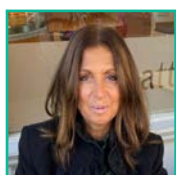
Changes in our Team

We have the most incredible hands-on Board of Trustees, each of whom bring their own particular skills to the table.

After four years of working seven days a week, I needed to regain some life balance and I am absolutely thrilled to have handed the position of Chair to fellow Trustees Chris Goodgame and Rochelle Trup as Co-Chairs.



Chris Goodgame, is a qualified accountant and partner at Alvarez & Marsal, a global professional services firm. Chris was previously a partner at a Big 4 accounting firm.



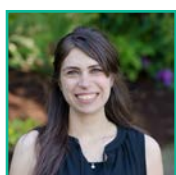
Rochelle Trup has founded and successfully exited several businesses. She has C-suite experience with a background in finance, real estate and tech. Currently she holds 2 NED roles and also mentors another charity founder.

Jo Sheehan stepped down as Treasurer in July 2023, having led us from the outset. Her incredible guidance and commitment enabled the charity to best set up and continue with all the necessary governance being regularly reviewed and implemented. There are no words to express our appreciation. Jo has handed over the **position of Treasurer to Chris Goodgame**.

In February, the Board decided to assess, streamline, and advance Food Bank Aid by identifying gaps and reviewing processes and systems. With this in mind, it was decided to bring in an Interim CEO for six months, with a background in the commercial sector and a focus on logistics.



I am delighted to introduce **Neil Bothams** who, started mid-May. Neil has had 30 years' experience leading operations and businesses in the UK, Europe and internationally including in Unilever, Mars, and PepsiCo. Most recently he led the integration of a Food Logistics company into Marks & Spencer, involving 4,000 colleagues across the UK. He will only be with us until early November by which time we hope to have recruited someone to continue his plans.



We are clear how important marketing and social media are to the growth and stability of the charity. **Nicole Afek**, previously, one of our volunteers, has joined us as Marketing and Corporate Giving Lead. Nicole previously worked for Microsoft's Tech for Social Impact team in U.S.A. WPP and M&C Saatchi. We are thrilled that she is bringing her skills and expertise to Food Bank Aid.