

together
against
poverty.

A campaign from:



Annual Report
2024



In light of the ongoing poverty being experienced in our county, Heart of Bucks runs the **Together Against Poverty** appeal which provides essential one-off grants to help individuals and families experiencing severe hardship and distress, including food, shelter or fuel poverty.

Our unique system of referrals from **Community Advocates** – front-line experts – helps us to reach those most in need in Buckinghamshire and ensures all funding is making a real difference. We aim to provide quick access to valuable funds – a lifeline during difficult times. In some circumstances, we may also directly fund charitable organisations working directly with local people experiencing poverty and disadvantage.

Katie Galvin, Community Advocate:

“It is such a rewarding role, supporting residents to access grants that will make such a difference to people’s lives. It is lovely to be able to tell someone that a grant has been awarded.”

Kim Starkey, Community Advocate:

“These grants make such a difference to people who have very little, and are living in crisis. I love when I can tell someone that their grant has been successful. It gives people hope that their situation can change.”



In the year 2024:

- **10%** of beneficiaries were people facing **disability** or access issues
- **5%** were over the age of **65**
- **20%** were **children** and young people under 25

Did you know?

- In some parts of the county **33% of children** are living in absolute low-income families, twice the national average
- **23,169** emergency food parcels were distributed in 2023/24, a **166% increase** (2019/20)
- **7.3%** of households are experiencing fuel poverty, rising to **13%** in some areas

Feedback from grant recipients:

“I didn’t know how I was going to manage my bills and rent. You came into my life and sorted this out for me, and my anxiety went down. Thank you.”

“Thank you for financial aid with my gas and electric. It’s made such a huge difference and taken away the worry of if I was going to be able to keep the kids warm or provide hot water for a bath.”



£233,245
Total amount
awarded

565
Total
beneficiaries

9%
Food

Example award:
Towards food for a mother
of young children going
through a costly divorce
from an abusive
partner.

4%
**Education
& Children's
Resources**

Example award:
Towards a laptop to enable
a single parent to gain
a qualification for
employment.

10%
**Wider
Essentials**

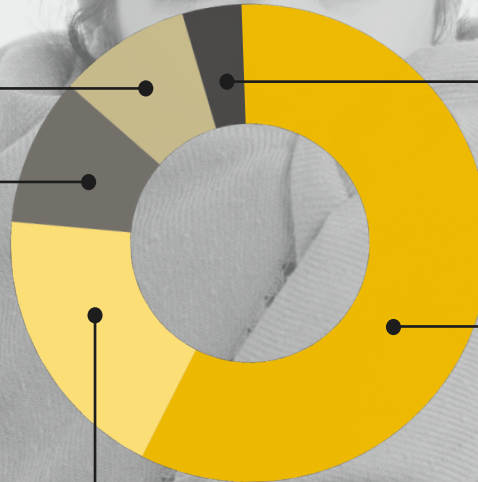
Example award:
Towards an electric
wheelchair for a disabled
teenager with elderly
grandparents.

19%
**Energy
& Water**

Example award:
Towards energy & water bills
for a family with low
income due to illness.

58%
**Housing Costs
& Repairs**

Example award:
Towards fixing broken doors
and windows for an elderly
gentleman living alone.



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Donations are still urgently needed

If you are able to support our **Together Against Poverty** appeal, any donation would be gratefully received and put to immediate use to alleviate poverty in Buckinghamshire.

Scan the QR code below to **donate now**, or visit:
totalgiving.co.uk/appeal/together-against-poverty

