

together
against
poverty.

A campaign from:



Annual Report **2025**



Introduction

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.

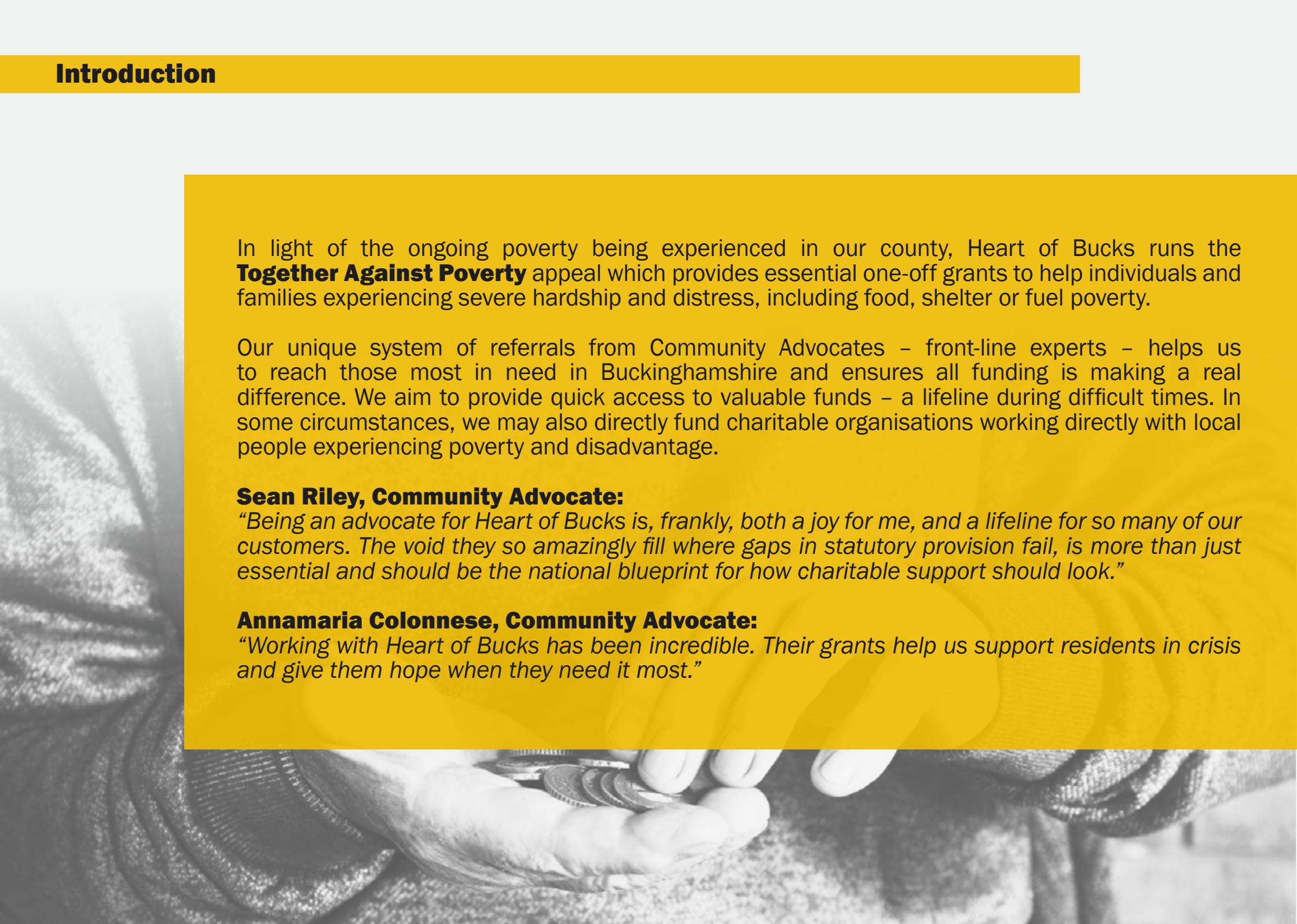
Our unique system of referrals from Community Advocates – front-line experts – helps us to reach those most in need in Buckinghamshire and ensures all funding is making a real difference. We aim to provide quick access to valuable funds – a lifeline during difficult times. In some circumstances, we may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

Sean Riley, Community Advocate:

“Being an advocate for Heart of Bucks is, frankly, both a joy for me, and a lifeline for so many of our customers. The void they so amazingly fill where gaps in statutory provision fail, is more than just essential and should be the national blueprint for how charitable support should look.”

Annamaria Colonnese, Community Advocate:

“Working with Heart of Bucks has been incredible. Their grants help us support residents in crisis and give them hope when they need it most.”



Key Figures

£229,153

Total amount awarded

226

Total number of grants awarded

480

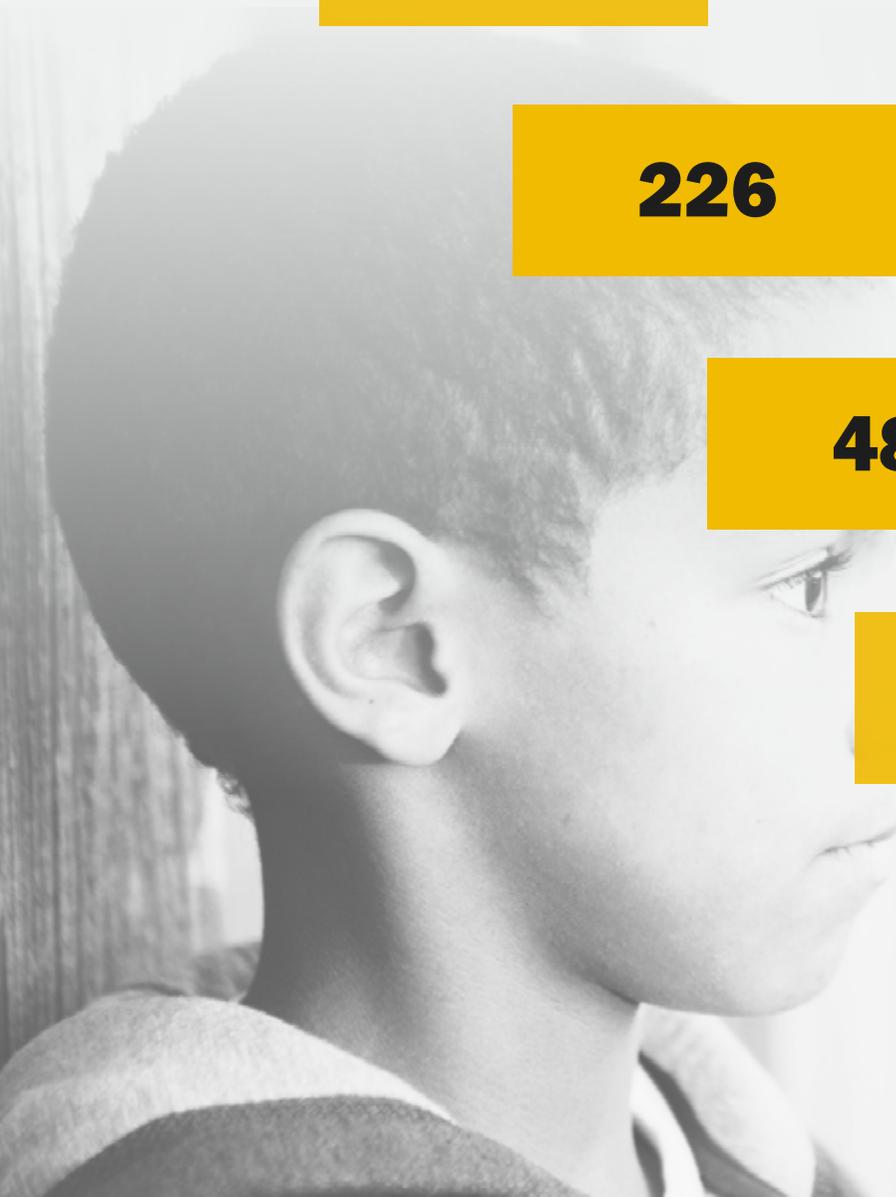
Total number of beneficiaries

47%

Awarded to households with children

£1,014

Average amount awarded



Impact

The largest proportion of funding in 2025 went to:

68%

Housing & related costs

20%

Food & other essentials

12%

Energy & water bills

Feedback from beneficiaries

“I don’t know what I would have done without you and this grant, you have changed my life and given me a fresh start without any dark cloud hanging over me.”

“All I wanted for Christmas was to keep warm and you have made me so happy. I wanted you to know the wonderful effect your work has had. Thank you for everything you do.”

Donations are still urgently needed

We still urgently need donations to keep up with demand for help.

Nearly **10%** of children under the age of 16 in Buckinghamshire live in absolute low-income families [1].

468 children were living in temporary accommodation, up from 441 the previous year [2].

This is reflected in the growing number of referrals requesting our help towards housing & related costs, up 10% from 2024, and the increasing number of households with children needing our financial support, up 27% from 2024.

Please give what you can today to help others less fortunate.

Even small amounts can really change lives.

Scan the QR code to donate now.

Thank you.



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[1] <https://www.buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/documents/x-trust-board-papers-march-2025/>

[2] <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/statutory-homelessness-in-england-january-to-march-2025>

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