







UK Harvest charity supported by Chichester Community Network

This local charity was founded in 2016. It has a mission to provide a perishable food rescue operation to eliminate hunger and food waste (83% of what it collects is perishable.) It does this through redistribution of quality excess food and by providing education on food waste and helping people develop better skills to nourish themselves healthily.

The average family spends approximately £720 a year on food that is wasted and its observation is that families with the lowest incomes waste the most food.

It is the premier rural and coastal food rescue, redistribution and education organisation in the UK and feeds approximately 300,000 people a week. Its geographic coverage is West Sussex, East Sussex, Kent, Wiltshire, Greater London and Hampshire but has a policy of not saying no to people in need.

UKHarvest receives its primary funding from a corporate sponsor and donations/fund raising. For example, its vans were donated.

It partners with local organisations such as the Aldingbourne Trust and St Richards Hospital but has a waiting list of 67 organisations and 150,000 people requiring support.

It is also part of the Arun and Chichester Food Partnership which seeks to coordinate food-related activities (e.g. Local Foodbanks, WSCC, CDC, etc. all participate in this).

What it needs help with:

- Drivers at night to help collect food and deliver it to its warehouse space and to help in the warehouse. It is COVID strict and pays drivers. Each van costs about £25K a year to run.
- It has a need for space to further its operation.

Ideally it would like to create a “Nourish Hub” and a training kitchen to help families learn about food.

It has educated approximately 5,000 people via quick pop-up programmes and 6-week sessions. Some of its users have never turned on their cookers and depend on the kettle and microwave to feed themselves.

It is aware of many people who have not left their homes since lockdown and it sees social isolation as “crippling” and wants to address this issue.

It has launched a Christmas campaign. It needs to feed 1,000 families over the Festive period and it is looking for volunteers and donations. It has a match-funding donor.

About one-third of its clients are rough sleepers and the homeless.

For more information go to: <https://www.ukharvest.org.uk/>

Pet photos

Cute pet photos were submitted following our last newsletter. Here are three of our favourites.



The Smith's dog, Nero



Mog, belonging to Sue Bargery



Joke space filler! courtesy of Leo Higham

I met some chess players in the hotel lobby.
They were bragging about how good they were.....
They were chess nuts boasting in an open foyer.

Best wishes and stay safe — from Kathryn, Louise, Bridget and Julia.
Email westgatehelp2020@gmail.com