WHAT WE DO

OUR VISION IS FOR A UK WITHOUT THE NEED FOR FOOD BANKS.

We rely on the generous support of individuals to be able to deliver our vital work. We’re working to build a future where everyone can afford the essentials. Not a simple task, but it can be done.

If we’re to reach a future where no one needs a food bank, we need to make sure everyone currently in crisis can access the best possible support while we work in the long-term to tackle the structural issues that push people to needing a food bank in the first place. In the UK, more than 14 million people are living in poverty – including 4.5 million children.

HUNGER IN THE UK ISN’T ABOUT FOOD. IT’S ABOUT A LACK OF INCOME.

The Trussell Trust supports a network of food bank centres across the UK to provide emergency food to people who are facing hardship, as well as support to help people resolve the crises they face. We campaign for change for people locked in poverty and to end the need for food banks in the UK.

We work alongside food banks to ensure projects are run to a high standard and provide training, guidance and resources. This includes:

Emergency food
We help ensure all food banks in our network have enough food to meet the emergency needs of their community by partnering with supermarkets.

Food bank grants
We offer grants to food banks in our network to provide crucial additional resource that increases the breadth of services they offer people. This might include hiring new members of staff to increase a food bank’s capacity to provide compassionate support, training for volunteers or renting of warehouse space to meet the increased need.

Practical support
We provide practical services on a national and local level, that help to address the reasons that force people to turn to food banks for emergency food. For example, we deliver a telephone helpline in partnership with Citizen’s Advice, free to anyone in England or Wales facing financial crisis. Advisors help to review and increase people’s income and signpost additional services, including emergency food, where needed.

Create change
We campaign for real change at a policy level and in public opinion. We do this by gathering high quality evidence from our network of food banks to share with policy makers and the public and highlight the reality millions of people in the UK are facing.

We don’t think it’s right that anyone should ever need to use a food bank, that’s why our vision is for a future without the need for food banks. Too many people in our communities don’t have enough to cover the essentials and are forced to make impossible decisions, like whether to buy food or pay household bills.

This isn’t right.

Working together we know change is possible. Your support means we can support food banks in the network to provide the best possible help for people in their communities, while working towards a better future, where nobody is forced to use a food bank.

It doesn’t happen without you.

In Changing Communities, we’ll be working with food banks to reduce the need for their services locally, helping people to access targeted support that addresses the underlying reason for their crisis.

In Changing Policy, we’ll be working with food banks and partners to provide stronger evidence of the drivers of extreme poverty (or ‘destitution’) and pushing for positive solutions that will help tackle these.

In Changing Minds, we’ll be increasing levels of understanding and empathy amongst the general public, locally and UK-wide, to build a movement that is willing to take action to create a just and compassionate society without the need for food banks.