

Year to Date 2020 Numbers

Foodbank

Parcels Provided
3163

People Supported
6745

Meals Distributed
151,886

Single People
Supported
1885

Families Supported
1757

Soup Pot

715 Customers
(These annual numbers
are lower due to the
closure of our soup pot
from March to October
2020 due to COVID
regulations).

Starter Packs

77 Distributed
Supporting 82 Adults
and 46 Children

School Uniform Bank

543 Children Supported

425 Referrals
Received

24 nurseries, primary &
secondary schools
supported.

Meals @ The Gate

Are you over 65 years old?
Would you like fresh delicious
meals delivered straight to
your door?

Do you live within
Clackmannanshire?

If you answer YES to the above
then please contact The Gate
Charity to find out more!

01259 218766

meals@the-gate-charity.org



Please Support Us!
Text G4TE to 70085

Any donation small or large
helps us to operate our
services!

Working Hard to Support the Wee County!



Our Foodbank team social distancing before masks had to be worn within all workplaces! Working hard to support the Clacks community!

What a year 2020 was for The Gate! We started the year busy as usual as the winter period is always our busiest times and expected services to return to normal by March 2020. How wrong where we? **When Covid affected our community, Foodbank referrals increased by over 100%**. During the lockdown period we also accepted self-referrals and operated a weekend helpline to ensure that the most vulnerable were supported. Our volunteers delivered thousands of food parcels, toiletry packs and essential cleaning items directly to service users' doorsteps during this time and are continuing to do so to safeguard everyone involved. Sadly, we had to temporarily close our Soup Pot and social projects due to legal requirements. Our Soup Pot Coordinator, Rita McNeil was really upset about closing the doors but was pleased reopen in October although for Take Away only. **Rita said "It was something really different for us. We like to have folk come in and to have a wee blether while they have lunch but if this is what it takes to support people, we will give it a go"**! The last week of the year we provided 19 of our Soup Pot customers with a full Christmas lunch via take away. Rita said **"The team missed having the Centre all decorated and our folks in at Christmas time for this yearly lunch but hopefully we will be able to do it all properly next year"**.

Our **School Uniform Bank** also recorded the highest numbers of children supported to date. Clackmannanshire Council were amazing providing us with free premises and staff to operate the project. We were also delighted with the general public's donations, and Ochilview Housing Association, CTSI, Alloa's Resilience Learning Partnership, Menstrie's Jett Filling Station, Clacks Council, Ludgate Church, Tesco's Supermarket, MSP Keith Brown, and Councillor Ellen Forson who all supported the project this year either through volunteering and/or donating clothing and equipment.

Towards the end of 2020, **we welcomed two new full-time members of staff. Jilly Guild, Chief Officer and Michael Greer, Community Chef. Both are working hard to introduce new projects, Meals @ The Gate and a Food Academy. Michael said "I am very excited about the opportunities ahead for myself and the rest of the team at The Gate. I am looking forward to providing the new Meals @ The Gate service to the local community and future plans for the Food Academy"**. If you would like further information about either of these projects please email meals@the-gate-charity.org or telephone 01259 218766. In January 2021, we awarded funding from the **STV Children's Appeal** to support young people aged 4 to 18 years of age who are affected by poverty. We can provide each child £100 worth of vouchers to purchase food, warm clothing, mobile top ups and/or Gas & Electricity. Throughout 2021, we will continue to focus on supporting vulnerable people within Clackmannanshire, however we could not operate our projects without the valued support we receive from the general community. We also want to thank our wonderful group of volunteers and donators for all their help throughout 2020.

We could not operate our projects without the valued help to assist the most vulnerable within our community. Please Continue to Support Us! We are proud to be a charity supported by the community for the community!

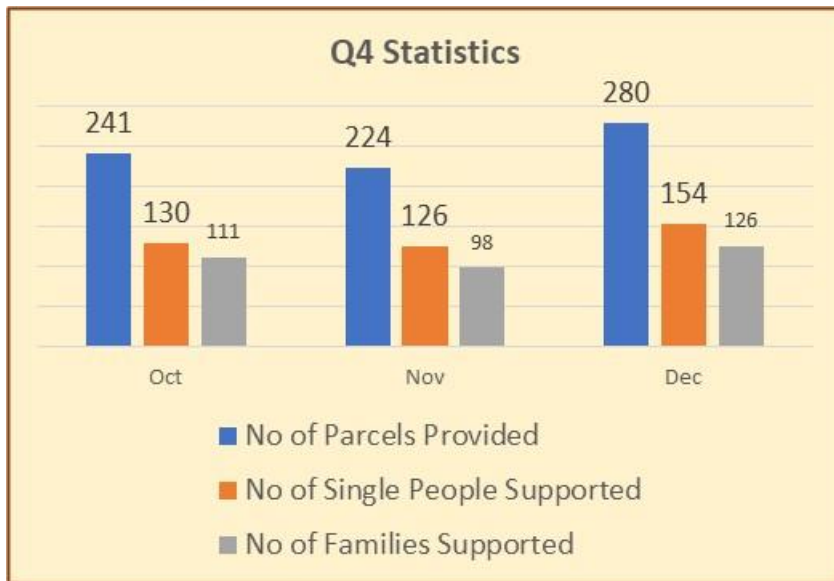
**Thank You from all at
The Gate!**

**Welcoming
Michael
Greer
our new
Community
Chef!**



Project Statistics, Developments and News!

the gate foodbank



We are still requesting the reasons for referrals although we are not analysing these during these busy times. The above statistics predominately reflect families struggling with poverty, insufficient benefits, fuel poverty, feeding children who were constantly at home, timing delays with benefits, and new claims delays. Hopefully 2021 will see a reduction in people requiring support with the introduction of the new Covid vaccine becoming available. Hopefully the end is near!

Q4 Meals Distributed
12,474

Home Starter Packs

During Q4 we distributed **26 starter packs** to people moving from homeless accommodation into permanent tenancies!

Soup Pot

During Q4 we provided **242 customers** with hot food and drinks via a take-away service.

We also provided 19 regulars with a full Christmas lunch and gift in the last week of the year.

Family Food Packs

During the first 3 weeks in January we provided **67 families** with a Family Food Pack to support the most vulnerable throughout lockdown. No referral was necessary, a parent could simply turn up at The Gate to collect pack. This initiative supported **239 children** during this time who were most financially affected by the pandemic.

stv
**children's
appeal**

Do you support young people aged between 4 to 18 years of age?

Are these young people **NOT** entitled to free school meals?
Are these families struggling to cope financially due to the COVID crisis?

If you're saying **YES** to the above then we can support these families.

We can provide each young person with a food and/or clothing vouchers, Gas & Electricity cards and/or Mobile Tops ups to the value of £100 per child.

Contact Marie for further information:
marie@the-gate-charity.org
01259 218766

Want to know more about the Meals @ The Gate service?

Here are our most frequently asked questions:

How much do the meals cost?
Meals are £5.00 for three courses.

Do I have to get them every day?
No, you can have them as often as you like. We can only deliver Monday – Friday.

Are the meals delivered hot?
No, meals are delivered chilled, in microwavable containers. Deliveries are made between 10-11.30am.

How many choices will I get?
Daily there will be two soups, three mains and two desserts to choose from.

I have food allergies; can I sign up?
Yes, we can cater for most allergies or dietary requirements - just let us know when you register.

Can I sign my Grandparents up?
Yes, just make sure that they are aware.

How do I pay?
We will invoice you in advance either weekly or monthly depending on your preference.

Is the chef any good?
YES, he's fantastic! 😊

How do I sign up?
*Call 01259 218766 or
Email: meals@the-gate-charity.org*