

2019 Fast Facts

Foodbank

92,227 Meals distributed
5307 People supported
2344 Parcels provided
144 Additional parcels provided to vulnerable families throughout the festive period

We also supplied **500 Advent Calendars**, **1000 tubes of sweets** and **250 boxes of biscuits/chocolates** to our referrers to distribute to vulnerable children and families living within Clackmannanshire.

Soup Pot

1350 Service users supported
55 Service users enjoyed a Christmas lunch at the end of 2019

Home Starter Packs

77 Packs distributed
(88% increase in referrals in comparison to 2018 statistics).

School Uniform Bank

355 Children were provided with school uniforms and equipment. We received **75 referrals** and **194 children visited our Open Week**. Supporting children and young people aged 4 – 18 years of age from 21 schools & nurseries within Clackmannanshire.

Community Café

On average, around **25 to 30 customers** attended our Friday café for nutritious food and social involvement.

Gig at The Gate

Over 40 guests attended 3 different gigs for an afternoon of fun, dancing & singing along with others!

FVRC's Recovery Café



On average **20 – 25 people** attended **FVRC's weekly Recovery Café** which operates every **Monday 4pm – 9pm** at The Gate Centre.



2019 News and Developments!

What a year 2019 was at The Gate! Throughout the year, our community supported us by donating over 26 tonnes of food to help people affected by poverty. In March, we almost lost our Council funding due to budget cuts. However, due to our loyal community's participation in a budget engagement with elected council members, the decision to maintain our level of funding throughout the next year was confirmed.

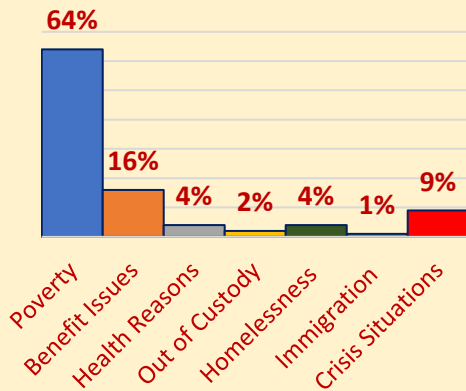
We welcomed various visitors throughout the year, including HRH, the Duke of Kent along with Clack's Lord Lieutenant Johnny Stewart, Vice Lord Lieutenant John Spruce and Clerk to the Lord Lieutenant Craig Dunbar. The visit was arranged by Johnny Stewart who said "*HRH, the Duke of Kent was delighted to visit The Gate Centre and was fascinated by what he heard and saw. HRH was particularly pleased to meet so many volunteers and to hear about what they do for so many people requiring help in Alloa*". We were also delighted to welcome Tamsin Dingwall, Moderator for the Church of Scotland's National Youth Assembly as well as others, such as Father Zhang and Miss Li from the Scottish Churches China Group. It was Father Zhang's first trip to Scotland since he was a child and he was amazed at the range of services we operate to support a wide variety of people living in Clackmannanshire.

We were delighted to work in partnership with Sunnyside Primary to operate an Easter and Summer Club. Parents and children thoroughly enjoyed attending drama, arts & crafts, first aid, sewing and cooking workshops operated by Gate volunteers, members of Riverside Drama Club and staff from the NHS and Sunnyside Primary. In September, our volunteers enjoyed operating a Harvest Cook-In workshop. Tullibody Community Garden and Asda provided us with fresh fruit and vegetables. Our volunteers and 20 service users converted the fresh items into jam, chutney and fruit crumbles. The produce was shared through our Foodbank and Community Cafe returning the generosity back into the community.

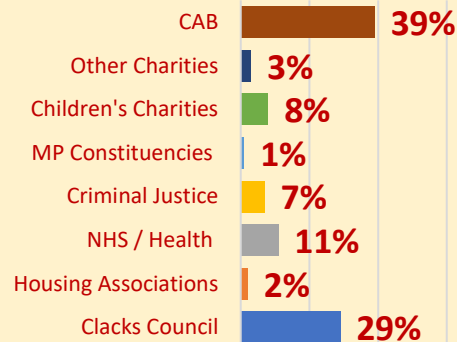
Local businesses such as Asda, Lloyds TSB, Yorkshire Building Society, Ochilview Housing Association, SNP, CTSI and Argos Staff continued to help us throughout the year, assisting with large activities such as our School Uniform Bank, Fundraising Events, Trolley Drops and Catering Functions. We could not operate our projects without support from our wonderful volunteers, donators, the general community, schools, faith groups, local businesses and supermarkets. **Thank You So Much!**



Reasons for Referrals



Referrals



Q4 Foodbank Stats

Meals Distributed
30,432

Parcels Distributed
715

People Supported
1704

No of Children Supported
1201

No of Single People Supported
392

No of Families Supported
323

Foodbank Items Urgently Needed!

Small Tins of Meat, Meat Paste, Rice Pudding and Custard.
Jelly Fruit Pots, Small Bottles of Squash, Weetabix
Tins of Macaroni Cheese, Spaghetti Bolognese & Ravioli and
Packets of Custard Powder. **Please Help! Thank You!**



Yorkshire Building Society Staff Continue to Support Us!

YBS Staff have always provided us with volunteer assistance supporting various projects and catering events.

Branch Manager, Ramsay Duncan stated that "The YBS organisation encourages staff to get involved in their local community, allocating volunteering hours to support worthwhile charities such as The Gate". **Ramsay continued by saying,** "I was personally surprised at the level of poverty within the Wee County. Therefore, my staff and I are happy to support The Gate any way we can! We are really enjoying ourselves whilst helping others by putting something back into the community".



We would like to thank the gentlemen from Alloa's Men's Shed who kindly built our new shelving units for our Crisis Foodbank. **Many Thanks!!**

388 People visited our Soup Pot throughout Quarter 4 for support!!



We were pleased to host and cater for CTSI's January Community Breakfast Forum. If you would like to lease our premises short or long term or if you require internal or external catering services, call **01259 218766** for further information and prices.



Sandy McNeil retired from the role of Project Coordinator for our Home Starter Pack project in December 2019, as he felt that it was time to "hang up his boots" and passed the project on to another coordinator at The Gate. The Starter Pack service is still available for people moving from temporary accommodation into a new tenancy using the usual referral system.

We would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to Sandy for all his hard work managing the project since The Gate very beginnings!