



# The People's Takeaway



THE NEWSLETTER FOR EAST DURHAM'S FLAGSHIP PROJECT

NUMBER OF MEALS DELIVERED:

AS OF:

1 0 4 0

30TH JAN 2019

## THE WORDS OF A RECENT RECIPIENT...

*"I literally didn't know how I was going to feed my 4 children. The People's takeaway was a real life line."*

Go to page 2 fore more details on this story

## OVER 1000 MEALS DELIVERED AND COUNTING

We have hit the 1000 meal milestone! And the demand for the People's Takeaway shows no sign of slowing down. It's incredible to have been able to support so many local people who are experiencing hardship in East Durham. It is only with the help of our generous donators and hardworking volunteers that this has been possible, so we would like to extend a huge thank you to anyone that has offered the project support. In a time of financial crisis, something as simple as a pizza on a Friday night can bring a much needed moment of normality and feed a family a hot meal they otherwise wouldn't have been able to afford. With the continued roll out of universal credit, factors such as zero hour contracts and harsher benefit sanctions, the number of people in East Durham finding themselves in desperate situations and having to turn to us for support, seems only set to rise. We are proud to have the People's Takeaway as just one of the many ways in which we can support people in our local community.



## A MESSAGE OF THANKS

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Tracey in Peterlee received a People's Takeaway for her and her four children a few weeks ago, after finding herself in a desperate situation. She was so grateful to give her kids a hot meal and for the normality that a Friday night takeaway brought at such a difficult time, that she sent us a video message expressing her heartfelt thanks. Tracey also received a food parcel from our FEED project and is receiving other support from East Durham Trust.

*"I'm just blown away... I can't thank you enough"*

## VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED!

The People's Takeaway is always on the look out for more volunteers, both in the kitchen and out delivering our takeaways. It's a great way to gain experience and skills in a friendly and supportive environment as well as a chance to support people in need in your local community.

Our volunteer drivers pick up and deliver hot meals to customers all over East Durham, so need a clean driving licence and access to a car. Fuel costs are reimbursed at 45p per mile.

Our catering assistant roles offer the opportunity to gain some valuable skills in the kitchen, as well as a food hygiene certificate. We pay for transport to and from Community House.

We are looking for friendly volunteers who are good at communicating with people for both roles! Full training will be provided. Does this sound like something you would be interested in?

**Contact Lindsey on 0191 5693511 or [lindsey.wood@eastdurhamtrust.com](mailto:lindsey.wood@eastdurhamtrust.com) for more information**





As demand for meals continues to rise, we look to some of the stories from local people in need who have benefited from the People's Takeaway, to demonstrate the genuine impact this project has on people's lives...

## JENNY'S\* STORY

### CASE STUDY



\*Name has been changed to protect the identity of the individual

Jenny\* in Murton has severe mental health issues and suffers from Bipolar Disorder. Due to a difficult family situation which caused her debts to mount out of her control, she recently found herself in a desperate situation with no money for food, gas or electricity. One of our team visited her on a freezing January day and said you could see your breath in her house it was so cold. She was provided with a hot pizza from the People's Takeaway as well as a much needed food parcel. She was also supported to get her gas and electricity back on and now has an appointment with our debt centre to sort out her financial situation.

### CASE STUDY

## MARK'S\* STORY

Mark\* in Seaham was employed all his life as a musician, but had to stop working last year due to mental health issues. He applied for Universal Credit in May, but didn't fully understand the process and didn't realise that he hadn't properly completed his form. He waited months to hear back from his application, unable to work and with no money coming in. After 4 months he was contacted and told that his claim had been closed because his form wasn't completed and that he would have to start a new claim. His Universal credit on the new claim, didn't come through until September, meaning he went 5 months without any money. He had no money for food and his house was freezing, with no gas or electric. We supported him with a People's takeaway, giving him a hot meal that he otherwise wouldn't have been able to afford. Naturally we also supported him with food parcels, gas and electricity and strategies to deal with his debt to help him get back on his feet.



\*Name has been changed to protect the identity of the individual

## INCREASED DEMAND LEADS TO EXPANSION



The continued impact of Welfare Reform has led to the People's Takeaway being utilised to serve a range of additional families in crisis. As well as the anticipated and planned service- which sees meals prepared and delivered at twilight periods- the model has been utilised to support people who may be accessing other East Durham Trust services and have been identified as needing emergency food. Examples have included those attending family arts courses; in such cases the individuals will quite literally "take-away" food after a session at Community House. Naturally, in such cases every step is taken to ensure that dignity is preserved in what is a potentially sensitive scenario.

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

This year we will see many people in East Durham with nowhere else to turn, supported by our new People's Takeaway initiative.

**This has only been made possible by the kind support of the people below:**

Angela Abbott • Alun Armstrong • Brendan Atkinson • Graeme Atkinson • Trevor Atkinson • Ben Ayrton • Ann Bainbridge • Eric Bainbridge • Joanne Baker • Mark Bell • Susie Bolchover • Lisbeth Bourne • Denise Brookes • Chris & Annabel Burns • Emily Burns • Paul Callaghan • Laura Cassidy • Jean Connor • C Cooke • County Durham Housing Group • Stefano Cremonesi • Lucy Critchley • Michael Crowder • Gillian Cruddance • Brodie Cyster-White • Martin Davey • Lena Devine • Jacqueline Dooley • Kevin Dosdale • Dr Steve Drury • Harinder Dulai • Durham Miners Association • East Durham College • Sarah Fairclough • Ellen Fallow • Glen Fallow • Glenda Fallow • John and Lizzy Fallow • Madelaine Fallow-Hudson • Malcolm Fallow • Nigel Fallow • Raymond Fallow • Rory Fallow • Elizabeth Fekete • Winifred Finley • Frankie and the Heartstrings • Yvonne Frost • Maureen Gilbert • Gloria Gorton • Graham Grundy • Toby Hardwick • Rona Hardy • Will Haughan • Deborah Heckles • Jillian Hindmarsh • Alice Howard • Howletch Residents Association • Richard Howard • Stephen Hudson • Jess Hunt • Colin Jackson • Elis James • Karen Jones • Anne Jefferies • Dr Heather Kelly • Eleanor King • Hannah King • Leslie King • Alex Kirton • Labour Party Easington • Audrey Laing • L Langley • Left Field Durham • Elizabeth Leicester • Dr Iain Lindsey • Myrtle MacPherson • Dave McKenna • Marion McKenna • Dr Lewis Mates • Andy Matfield • Emma Maxwell • Alan Miller • Angela Miller • Sue Miller • Katy Mitchell • Grahame Morris MP • Grahame Morris' Office • David Murphy • NCS North East Students • Paul & Debbie Noble • Alys North • Alison Nutter • Marc Oliver • Nicole Orr • Dr Andrew Orton • Pam Parkin • Everyone from the People's Bookshop • Pop Recs Ltd • Fraser Raitt • Sanjee Ratnatunga • Katrina Roberts • John Robins • Svetlana Robson • Louise Sanders • Sue and Steve Sanderson • Audrey Segell • Julie Shaw • Ambalavaner Sivanandan • Kathryn Slater • Alan Smith • Joe Solo • Mary Stratford • Sharon Tait • Lisa Taylor • David Temple • Rachel Thompson • Kathryn Thubron • Claire Usher • Tony Walsh • Jack Warne • Una Wilding • James Williams • Mary Winn • Lindsey Wood • Paul Woodhead • Kathleen Wotton • Jim Smith • Ann Dolphin • Carol Meredith • Clare Chillingworth • Elizabeth Bridge • Andrew Harkin • Alun Armstrong • Helen Hunter • Comic Relief



East Durham Trust  
Moving our community forward

