

What's happening at Hope House? HOPE

Nottingham

Update May 2020



The current Coronavirus pandemic has meant a lot has changed at Hope House since early March. Although nearly all of our regular activities have had to stop, Hope Nottingham continues - with support from a huge array of volunteers, local businesses and organisations - to support those most in need in our community. Here's a quick look at how things have changed...

Changing the way we work

Almost our whole operation is now focussed on food parcel packing and delivery (instead of collection).



The numbers of parcels we are providing has kept on rising. Just 10 days ago we recorded our **1000th** new client. Today it is **1135**: a 14% increase in just 10 days!



During May, we are averaging between 60 and 70 food parcels being delivered each day. Our drivers have delivered vital food to around 2400 people in the last 10 days!

Pretty much every room in Hope House is currently being used for a different purpose. The main hall is our 'despatch centre' (see left) with 'first in first out' stock control of up to 100 parcels at a time.



Picking and packing takes up the lower hall, and is more like a 'production line', so we can keep up with the demand.



A new well organised sorting and packing area for toiletries, baby items, stationery and extras has been set up in the old food bank room.

The office is more like a contact centre and operations room! Referrals and requests for support are coming in all day, everyday.



Our cellar is empty but has been replaced by regular deliveries from lots of fantastic people and organisations:

- Deliveries from Tesco/Trussell Trust delivered by British Gas
- Deliveries from The Arches
- FareShare
- Sainsbury's
- East Midlands Airport
- Collections from local donation points
- ...and many more

The van team collect food from all around the area and as far away as East Midlands Airport. Lifting and shifting around 4 tonnes of food every week including:

- 1200 tins of soup
- Nearly ½ tonne of pasta and rice
- 380 packets of cereal

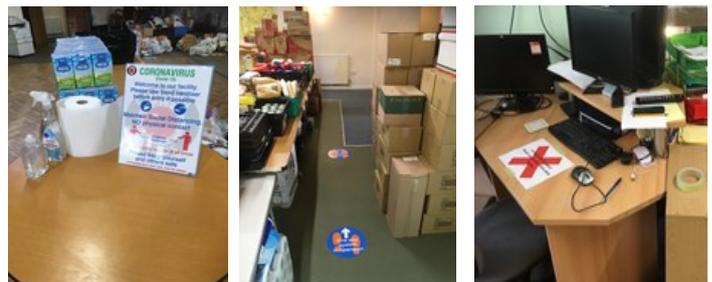


If we stacked one weeks worth of food end to end, it would be 24 times taller than Nottingham Council House!

Keeping everyone safe

The safety of our volunteers and staff is really important, and like many other organisations we have made lots of changes due to the coronavirus situation:

- Hygiene stations at the entrances, with hand gel, antiseptic spray, wipes and gloves
- Signage to remind us all to keep 2m apart
- One way routes and floor marking
- Making sure we don't have too many people in rooms and offices at the same time
- Using Zoom meetings
- Blocking off desks
- Extra cleaning including surfaces, light switches, and door handles



We're missing you all

One of the hardest things about the current situation for all of us at Hope House is not being to see all our wonderful regular guests and volunteers.

We would love to get more things back up and running again as soon as possible, but only when the guidance allows and we can do so safely for everyone involved.

In the meantime, we are hugely grateful for all those who have so selflessly given food, time, money and prayer in order to help us support so many people across Nottingham. We couldn't have done it without you.

With love and prayers,

All at Hope Nottingham