# Banc Bwyd Taff-Ely Monthly Newsletter



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**Ending hunger together** 

A message from our CEO, Andrew Butcher



Dear friends and supporters,

As August draws to a close, I've been reflecting on what an incredible month it's been for our Taff Ely community. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to support 380 households with emergency food parcels during the school holidays — making a real difference for families under pressure.

A major highlight this month was our Summer Community Collection at Tesco Talbot Green, where shoppers donated over 800 kilos of food and toiletries in just one day.

We were delighted to welcome Pontyclun RFC as our newest corporate partner. They have agreed to hold a collection bin in the rugby club for us. They are also hosting a charity Rugby match for us on September 10th. We are thrilled to see where this relationship will take us.

To our donors, volunteers, businesses, local representatives, and trustees — thank you. Your time, advocacy, and generosity are what make this work possible.

Looking ahead to September, we're preparing for Harvest collections, our Charity Rugby Match, and the first of our Advice and Information Days at Trealaw Christian Centre on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, ensuring that children and families continue to have what they need as routines change and costs rise.

August has shown just how powerful we are when we work together, and with your continued support, we can meet the challenges ahead.

Thank you for standing with us.

#### **News**

- On September 10th, Pontyclun RFC Under 16's will be lacing up their boots for a <u>charity rugby match</u> to raise funds for Taff Ely Foodbank. Kick-off is at 6:30pm, come along and cheer them on!
- Our CEO and warehouse volunteers spoke to <u>ITV News</u>
   <u>Cymru</u> about our work and the impact of the school holidays
- We are <u>recruiting</u> a volunteer van driver. Get in touch with us to learn more.
- We successfully received a National Lottery grant of £134,745.10, that will ensure we can keep supporting local people facing hardship.

#### <u> Monthly Spotlight</u>



- Tesco Talbot Green and its customers, who ensured our food drive was a success with over 800kg of food donated
- HID Global, whose donation of food and cash will be vital to keeping the foodbank going.
- Princes Juices, who donated a massively appreciated
   338kg of juice.
- Pontyclun RFC, who will be partnering with us going forwards.

#### This month:

- We distributed 265 food parcels to local people in crisis
- 118 of our parcels went to local children.
- We distributed 3026.8kg of food in the Taff-Ely area, made possible by our generous supporters
- More than 60 local people volunteered with us

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#### Fundraising Update (Laura Edwards)

August has been another busy month for fundraising, with grant applications going in almost every week as we work hard to secure vital funding for our services. Alongside this, we're gearing up for an exciting event - our charity rugby match at Pontyclun RFC on Wednesday 10th September. This promises to be a fantastic evening of sport and community spirit, all while raising awareness and funds to help local families in need. We'd love for you to join us!

We're also building up our <u>volunteer fundraising team</u>, and we'd love more people to get involved. Whether it's helping at events, bringing new ideas, or supporting campaigns, joining the team is a brilliant way to make a difference and meet others who care about tackling food poverty in our community. If you'd like to be part of it, please get in touch (laura@taffely.foodbank.org.uk) – we'd love to have you on board!

### Campaigning and Community Update (Matt Stevens)

August saw us make some amazing progress on our partnership projects at Taff-Ely Foodbank! Following our Community Conversations events in May, we are preparing to launch an RCT-wide anti-poverty network, bringing together the organisations and agencies working with people facing hardship, to strengthen relationships, collaborate, and help ensure RCT is a county where no one has to go without the essentials! Stay tuned for more info.

Meanwhile, we are launching our Lived Experience Panel, providing a platform for those who have used our foodbank to share their stories and their ideas, to ensure our foodbank is the best it can be for our community. As ever, if you want to know more or get involved in our projects, get in touch with me at Matthew@taffely.foodbank.org.uk!

#### **Key Dates for your Diary**

- 10/09 Pontyclun RFC Charity Football Match
- TBD/09 Our next food collection at Tesco, Talbot Green

#### <u> Urgently Needed Items</u>

- Squash
- Pasta Sauce
- Tinned Sweetcorn
- Tinned Fish
- Chocolate



## Keep in touch with us on social media:

f Facebook: Taff-Ely Foodbank

Instagram: @taffely.foodbank

X / Twitter: @TaffElyFoodbank



in LinkedIn: Taff Ely Foodbank