

Banc Bwyd Taff-Ely Monthly Newsletter

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Ending hunger together

A message from our CEO, Andrew Butcher



Dear friends and supporters,

At Taff-Ely Foodbank we've started 2026 off with a bang! January has already seen us provide almost as many food parcels as January 2025, demonstrating a consistently high need for foodbanks in our community.

We've helped launch networks for fundraisers, anti-poverty organisations, and people with lived experience, all in our mission of **collaboration** to end the need for foodbanks. If you want to work with us or be involved in any of these, we would love to speak to you!

We're incredibly grateful to our supporters at this time - not only those who have adopted shelves or donated to us during Christmas, but also the 10 supporters running the Cardiff Half Marathon later this year (There's still one space left if you want to join in!), and the 5 brave souls taking on Zip World UK's Principality Walk, Zipline and Abseil to raise money for us in April!

We'll be publishing our end-of-year stats in March, and we have a lot of exciting news and plans for 2026 which we cannot wait to share with you all, so stay tuned!

News and Announcements

- We have one more space for an interested runner for the 2026 Cardiff Half Marathon - all you have to do is raise £250 to help people experiencing hunger and hardship. See our website or click [here](#) for more!
- We've launched a Lived Experience Partnership, giving those who have experienced hunger and hardship the opportunity to work with us to end the need for foodbanks! If you want to be involved get in touch!
- Let us know what you think of this newsletter! Fill out the form on our website or [here](#) to let us know how we're doing:



Monthly Spotlight

A thanks to all our supporters, shelf adoptees, and partners in the community - your support ensures we can help everyone in Taff-Ely facing crisis. Special thanks to:

- All Hallows Church, Pontyclun
- St Anne's Church, Pontyclun
- Princes
- The residents of Groesfaen
- Garth Rotary Club
- Sally's Angels
- Lee Howells, South Wales Safety
- All of our amazing volunteers!

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Items we need

Instant Mashed Potato

Tinned Meat

Tinned Tomatoes

Tinned Custard

Squash

Crisps



Key Dates for the Diary

Community Collection Day @ Tesco
Talbot Green - 12/02

Advice & Information Days - April
(Date TBC)

Principality Stadium Fundraising
Day - 01/04

A message from our Support Manager, Charmaine Walsh



Looking back over the last year, I've seen first-hand how a listening ear and a bag of essentials can ease a difficult week. I've met people at their lowest, and seen how, with the right support, people can begin to get back on their feet. Stories like Jane's remind us why this work matters:

"I came to the foodbank today because I didn't have enough food to last until payday, after back-to-school costs and funeral expenses following the loss of our little girl, who we lost to illness after just seven months of life. The foodbank gave me hope, knowing there is always someone to help, listen, and support without judgement."

Together, we are making sure no one has to face their hardest moments alone. As we step into 2026, we carry these stories with us and a shared commitment to keep showing up, listening, and supporting those who need it most. Whether you donate, volunteer your time, partner with us, or support us quietly in the background, none of this happens without you. Thank you for helping us support the people who need it most.

Our key stats this month:

- We distributed **355** food parcels to local people in crisis. That's almost **3,200** meals!
- **130** of our parcels have gone to local children.
- We have distributed **3,581kg** of food in the Taff-Ely area.
- More than **50** local people volunteered with us



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Fundraising Review (Laura Harrington-John, Fundraiser)



I'm delighted to share that in January we were awarded grant funding from RCT and the Albert Hunt Trust, totalling **£10,000**. This funding will directly support our food provision across Taff-Ely, helping us meet growing need and ensuring families can access emergency support when they need it most. These grants are a huge boost and a real vote of confidence in the work we do every day.

January also saw another exciting milestone: I hosted our first **South Wales Fundraisers Network** meeting, generously held at Bute Energy in Cardiff. It was fantastic to bring fundraisers together to connect, share ideas and build relationships that will strengthen the voluntary sector across the region.

If you want to learn more about this, get in touch at Laura@taffely.foodbank.org.uk!

Campaigns and Partnerships Review (Matthew Stevens, Partnerships Coordinator)



We've really hit the ground running in 2026. January saw the third meeting of our **RCT Anti-Poverty Network** - a valuable chance to discuss the issues facing the sector, new projects in RCT supporting people in crisis, and the increased need for support over Christmas.

Meanwhile, we held the first meeting of Taff-Ely's **Lived Experience Partnership**, a forum for local people to share their experiences of hunger and hardship, and contribute to the future of the foodbank, ensuring we are doing the best we can for the communities we support.

We have plenty more projects and announcements to come that we can't wait to share. If you want to know more about these projects or get involved, you can get in contact with me at Matthew@taffely.foodbank.org.uk!

Connect with us online:



Taff Ely Foodbank



@taffely.foodbank



Taff-Ely Foodbank