

Need Project Report

June 2014



"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat"

[Matthew 25:35]

Serving Jesus in His most distressing disguise

This report covers the work of The Need Project which has been involved in working across Central Bedfordshire in food provision



Purpose

This report has been compiled to provide our supporters and referral agencies an overview of the extent and growth rate of the project.

The information provided maintains our clients confidentially, but does reveal the shocking statistics on the levels of food poverty we with your support are seeking to address across our region.

Who we are

The Need Project Central Bedfordshire exists to provide a Christian response for people in our communities who are facing various situations of need.

The project is overseen as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation [application in progress] and run by members of four “hubs”; Kings Baptist Church Stotfold, Flitwick Baptist Church, Sandy Baptist Church and Shefford Baptist Church.

We respond to situations of need via confidential referrals processes from multiple agencies and care workers across central Bedfordshire.

All our delivery teams are DBS checked, approved by the leadership teams of the partner churches and have signed confidentiality agreements.

Our objectives

To relieve persons in Central Bedfordshire and the surrounding area that are in poverty or financial hardship in such ways as the Trustees from time to time think fit, in particular, but not exclusively by:

1. Providing food parcels to support individuals and families who are experiencing food deprivation.

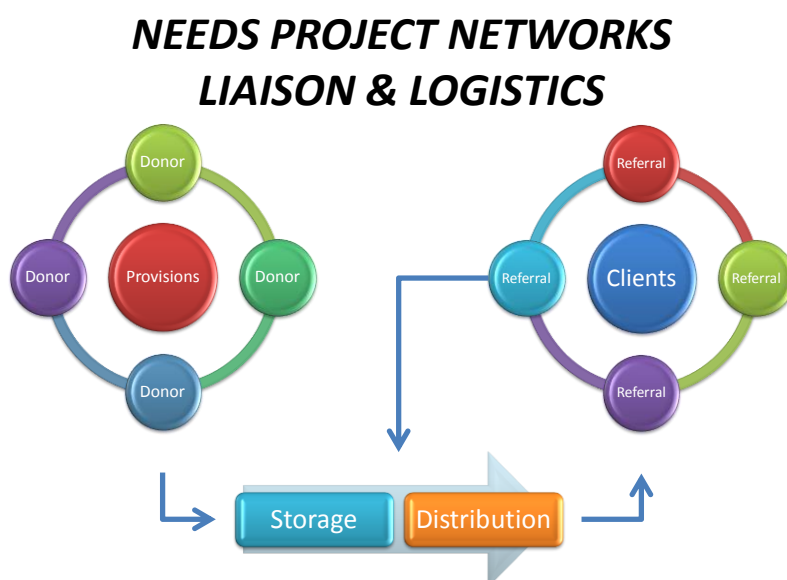
2. Providing other items to meet immediate and essential needs, as resources allow.
3. Developing other forms of support to meet immediate need and alleviate financial hardship.

Our values

We are a Christian organisation motivated by Jesus' teaching on poverty and injustice. We operate according to Christian principles of compassion, honesty, integrity, openness, kindness and care of all people, regardless of backgrounds or beliefs (or none). We are passionate about inclusion and being non-judgemental is central to what we do. We believe that everyone has the right to have food on their plate, dignity, skills, a chance to work and hope for the future.

How we operate

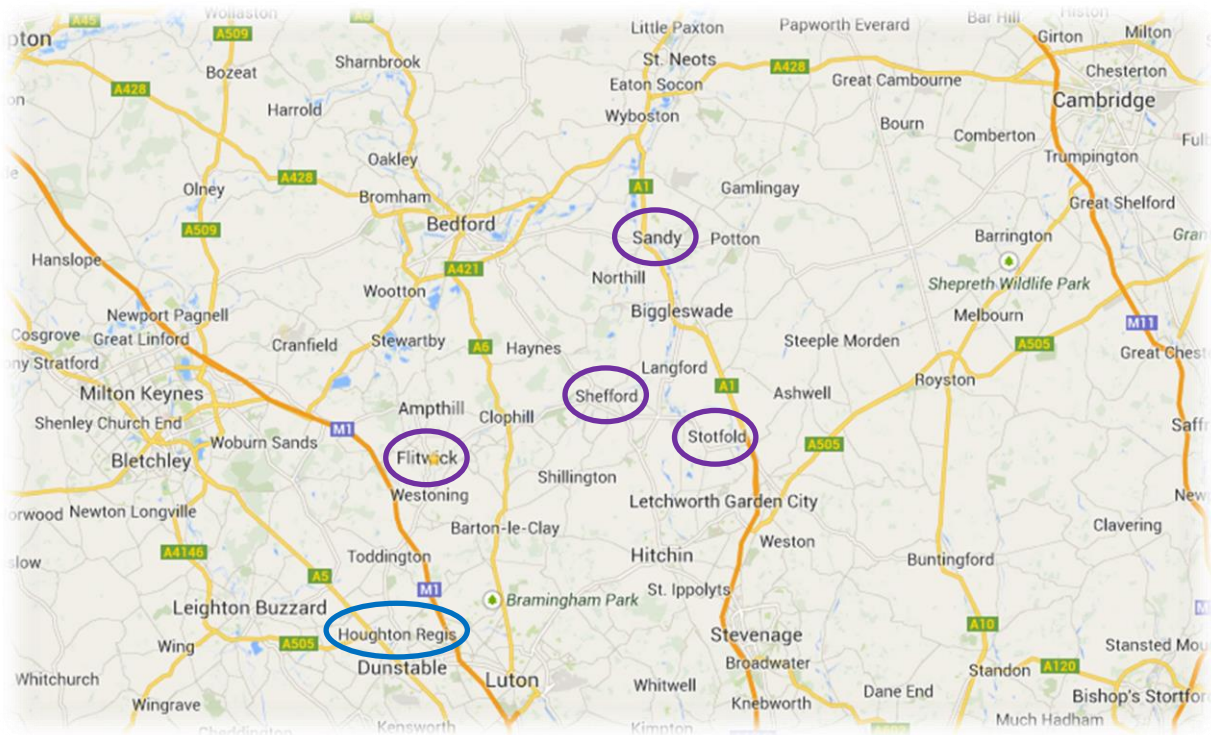
The Need Project has a system of networks that have been developed as the project has grown. We rely on the network of donors who generously support the project with food and funds, and the network of care workers and agencies that connect us with hungry people who we bring your food too.



Hubs

We have four hubs in operation so far, as shown on the map. The central hub is King's Baptist Stotfold where all the referrals come into and are logged and then sent out to the nearest local hub for action.

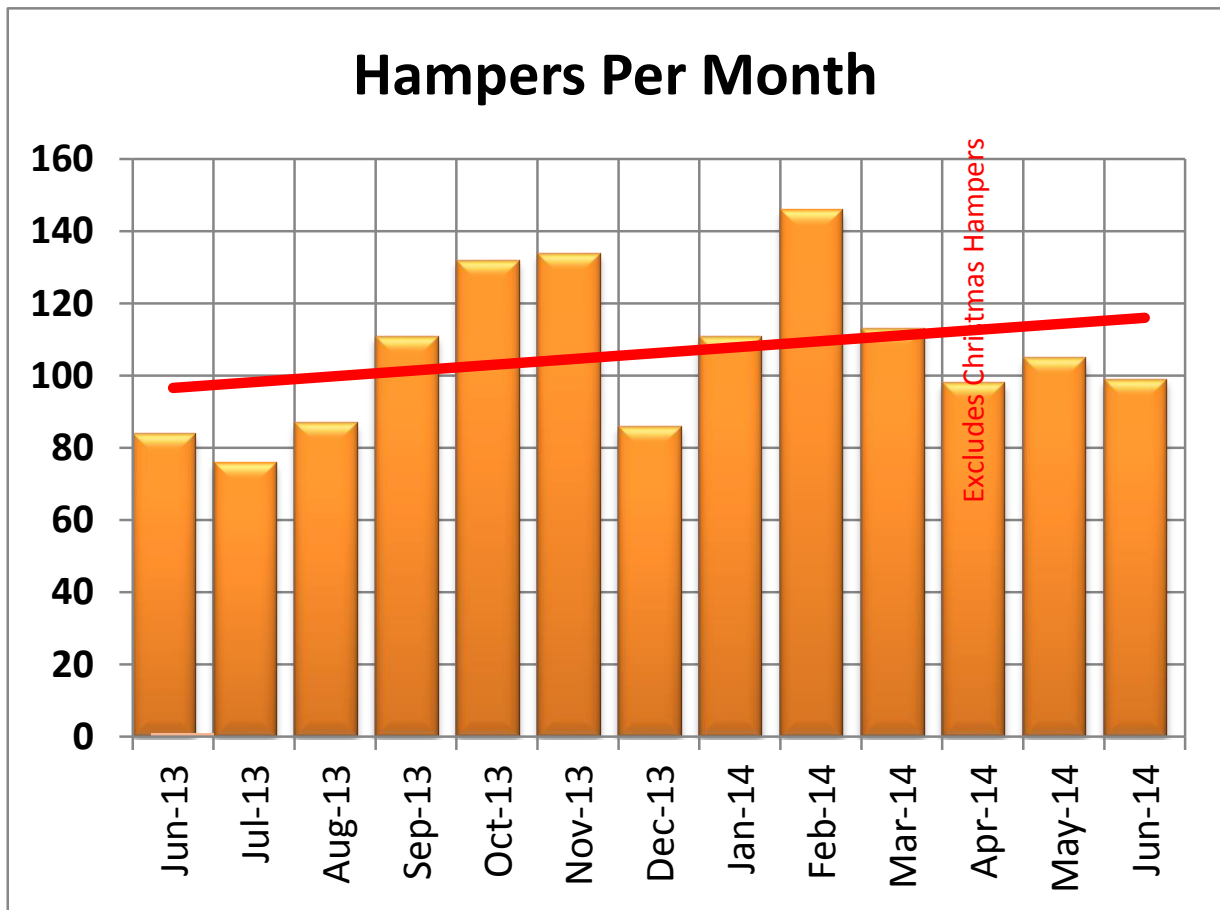
We are in discussion with church leaders in the Martston Moretaine, Lidlington and Stewartby area about setting up a hub in that area too.



In consultation with Central Bedfordshire Council, Local Welfare Provision Team [CBC LWP], we have set up a food storage and parcel collection point for their clients who are able to collect from Bedford Court in Houghton Regis. The Project maintains the food levels and the number of food parcels supplied is detailed in this report. We are keeping this under review to assess the feasibility of using this model with other agencies.

The map also indicates the area of coverage we are called to serve.

How much have we taken out?



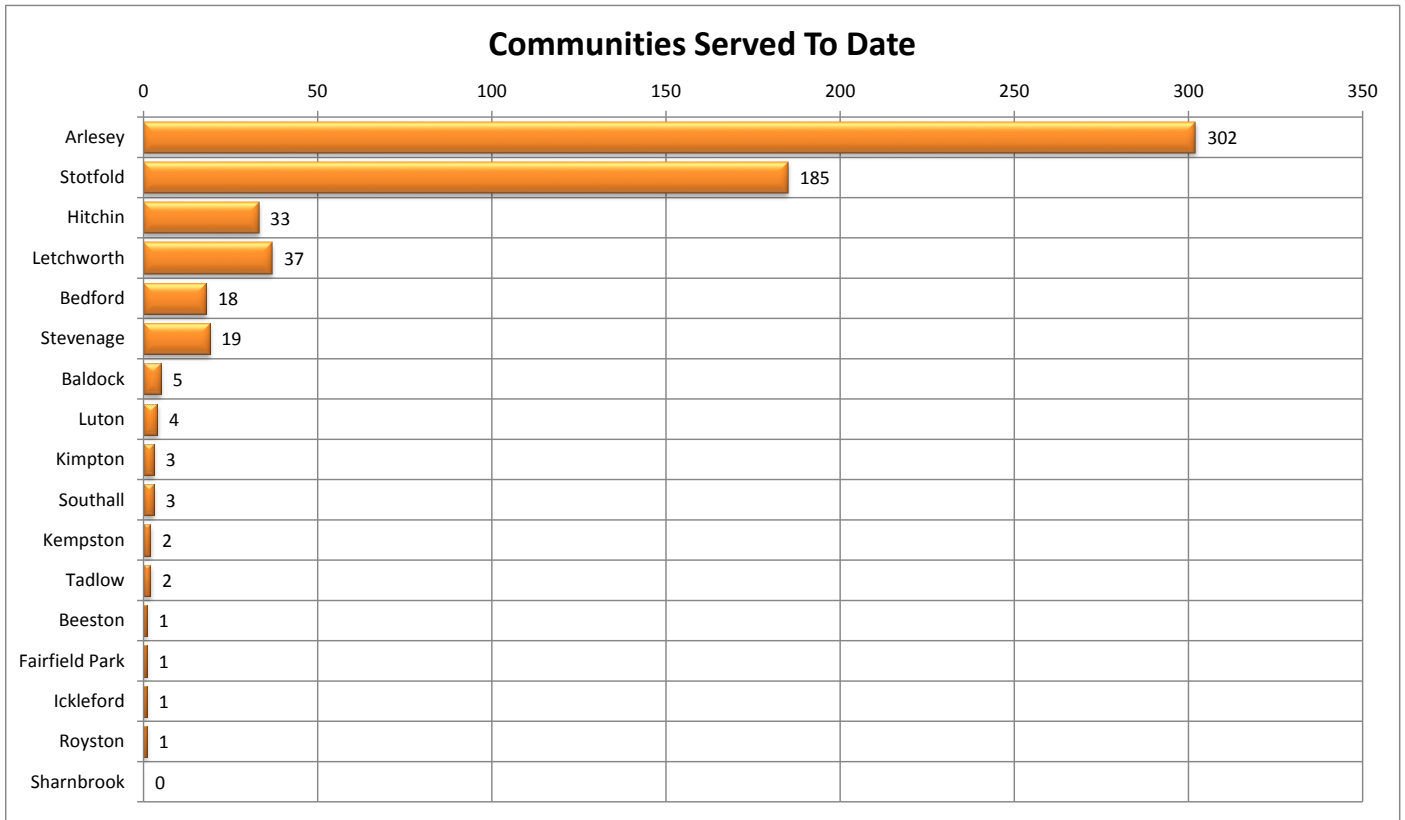
The data above shows a continuing growth trend in the number of people we have been called to serve.

Please note that the December 13 figures do not include the Christmas Hampers

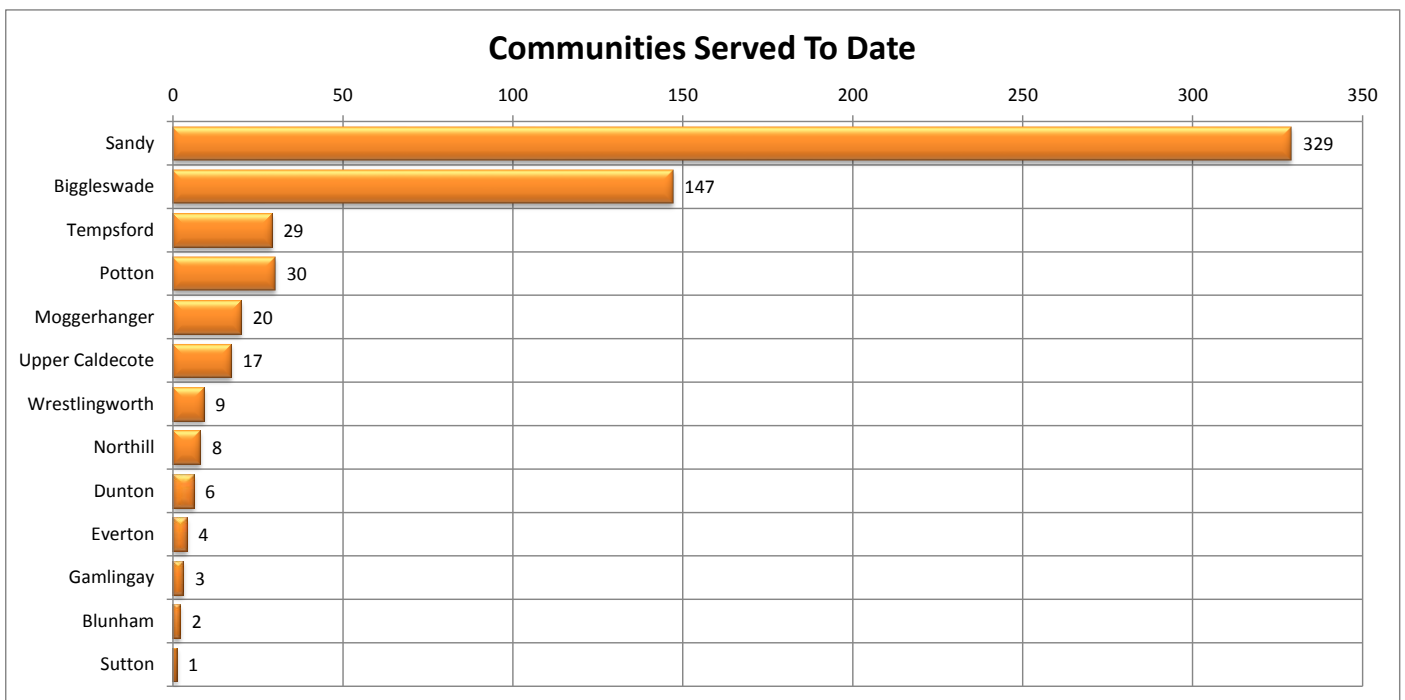
To be able to meet that increasing demand we have the privilege of partnering with multiple donors and food providers whose ongoing generosity is a cause of praise to our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Communities Served By Each Distribution Hub from January 2013.

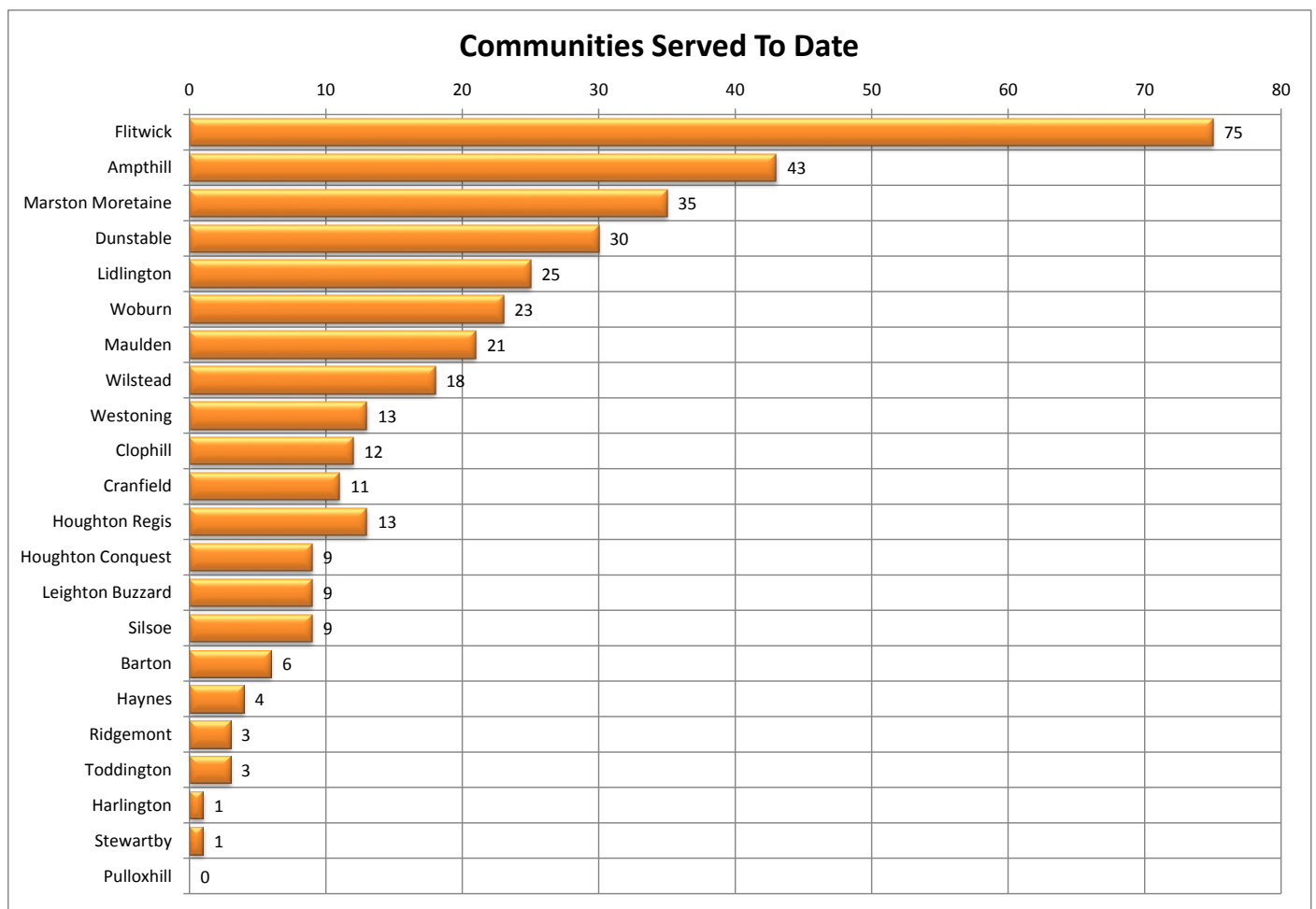
Stotfold



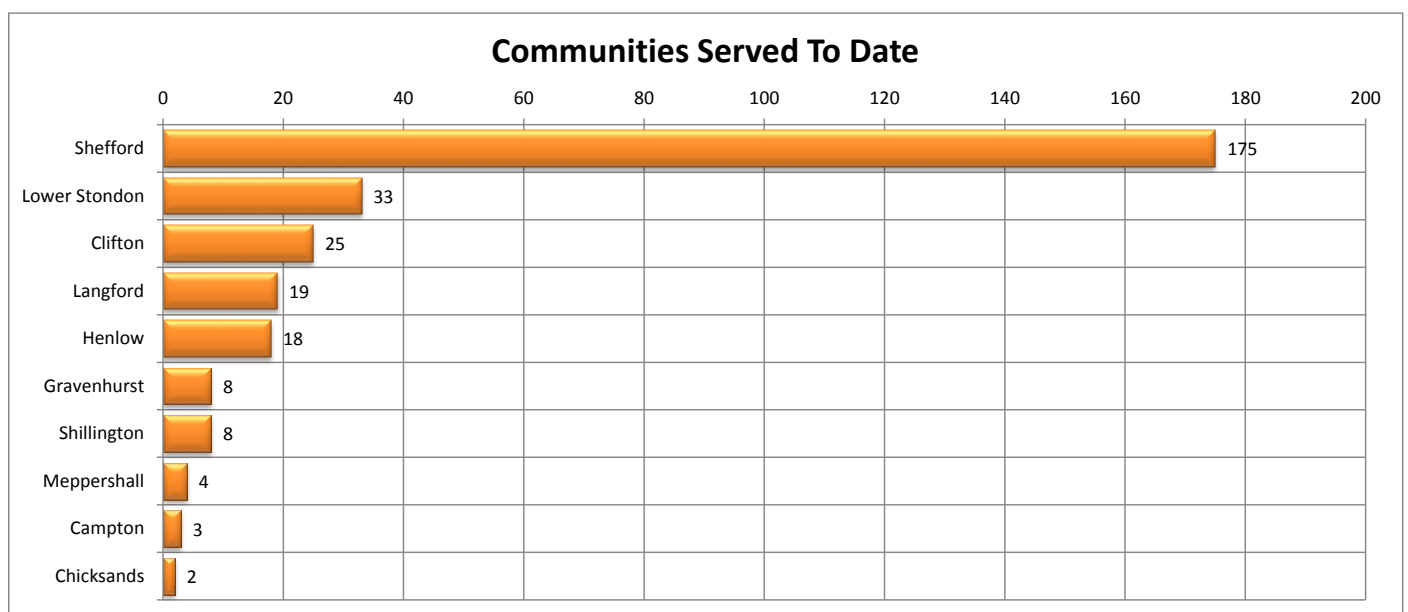
Sandy



Flitwick



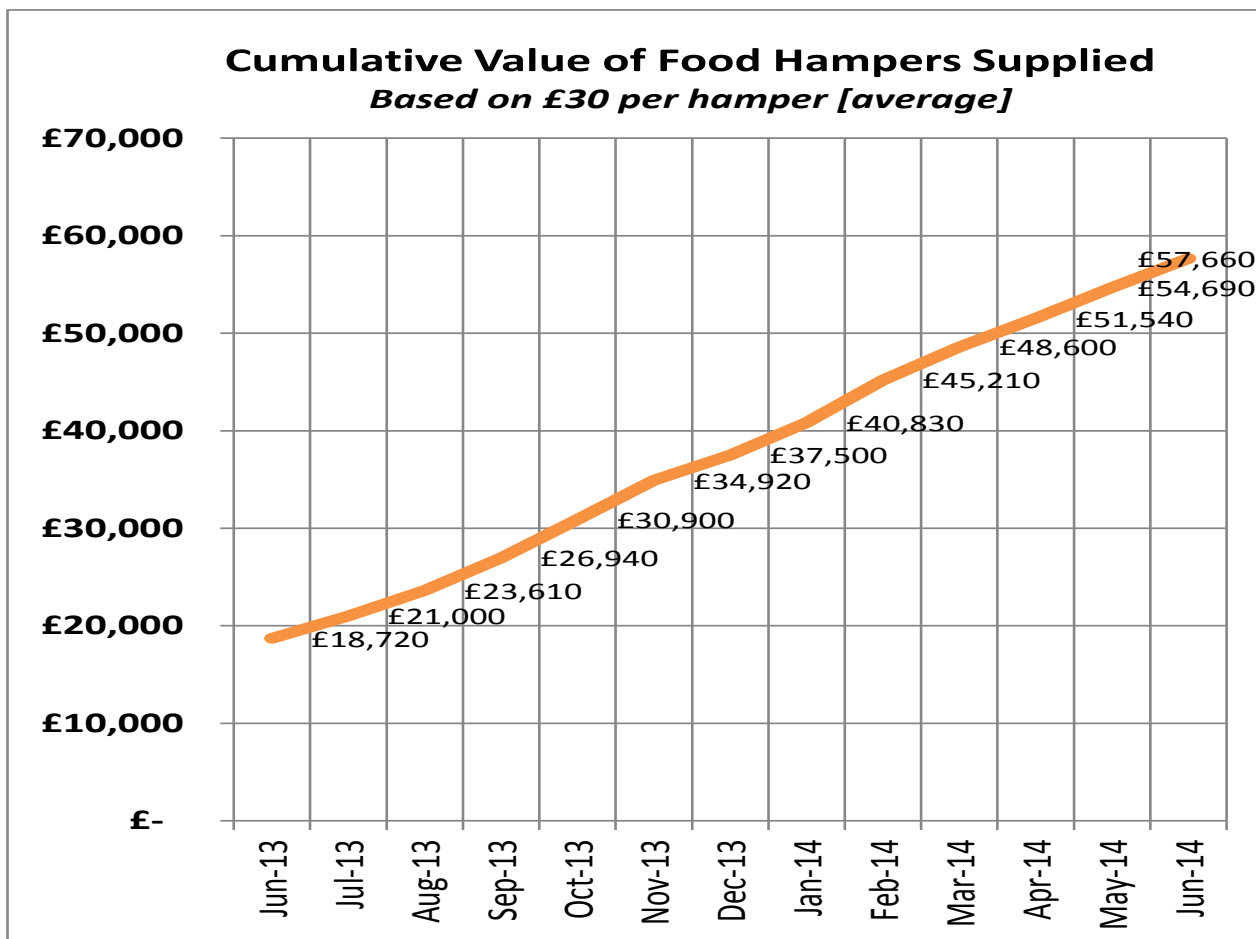
Shefford



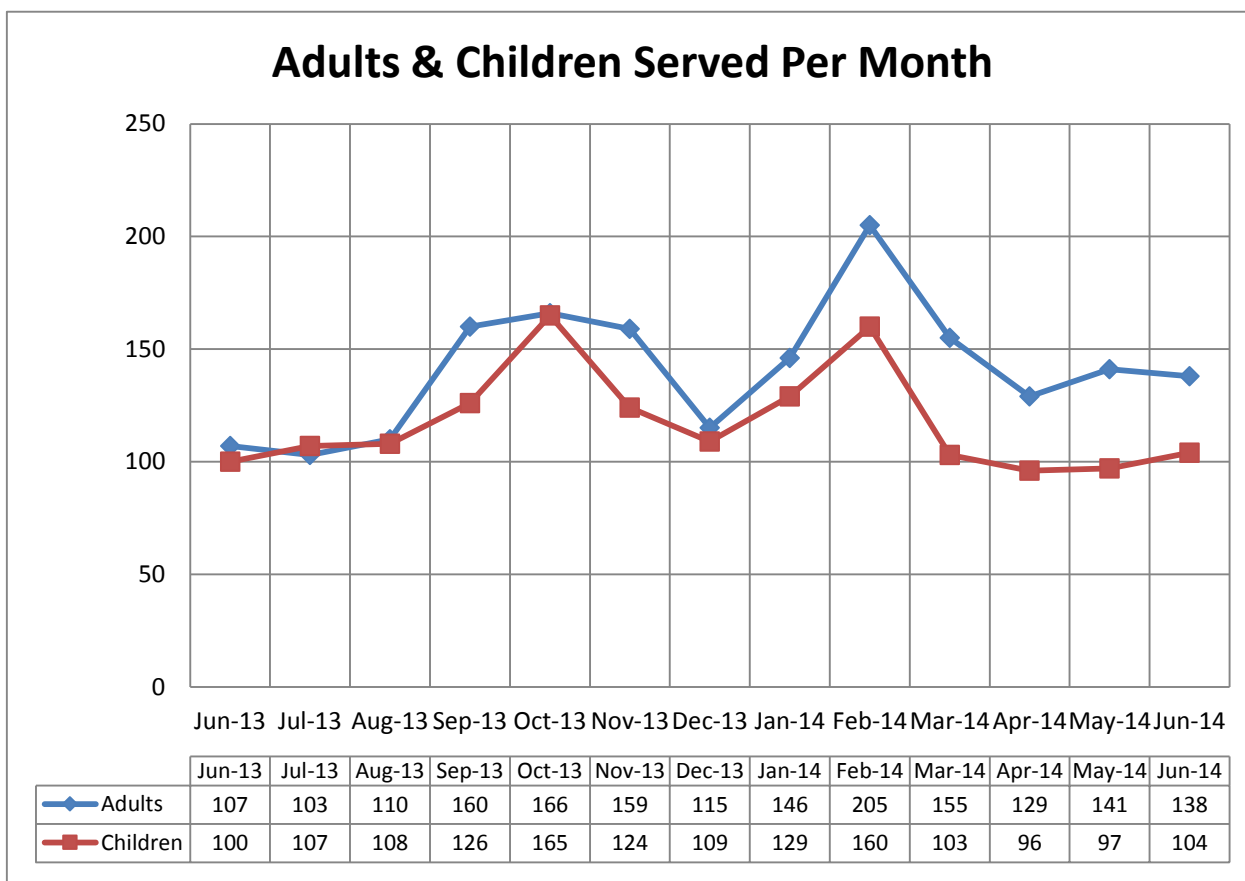
Bedford Court [CBC LWP]

10 Hampers collected [launch date May 2014]

Value of the Food Given Out

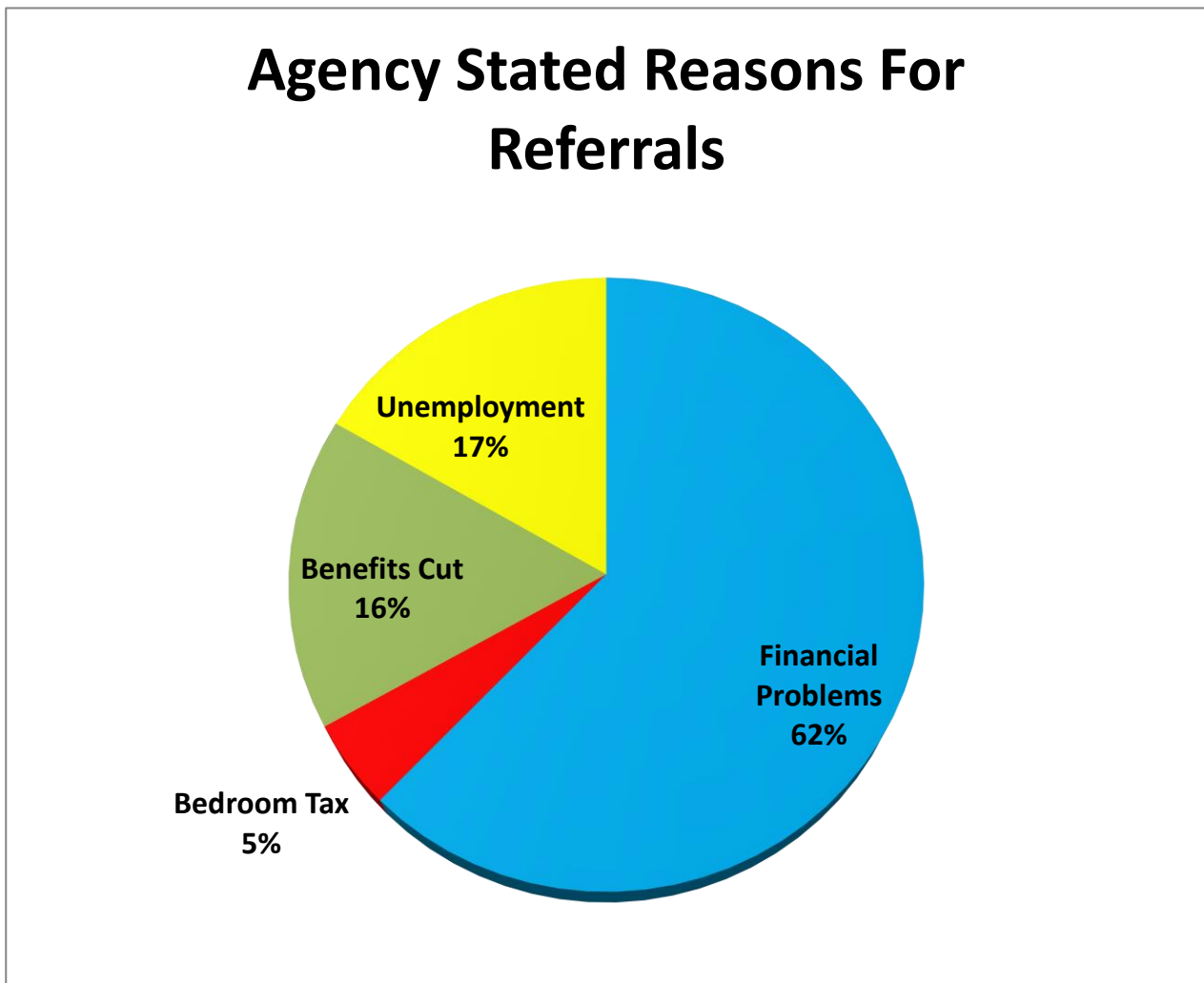


Adults & Children Served



Agency Stated Reasons For Referrals

As we mentioned previously we have been provided with the reasons our clients need your help in their circumstances, the chart below shows the main reasons given. As with all statistics they only show numbers not the heartbreak behind them which your kindness goes a long way to heal them.



And by God's grace we also provided...

Leather Sofas x 2

Slow Cooker x 1

Bookcase x 1

Double Mattress x 1

Children's Travel System x 1

King Size Bed & Mattress x 1

Standard Lamp x 1

CD Racks x 2

Single Mattresses x 2

Table & Chairs x 1

Coffee Table x 1

Fridge x 1

Bedside Cabinet x 1

Three Seater Sofa x 1

Dishwasher x 1

Double Bed & Mattress x 1

Electric Cooker x 1

Three Piece Suite x 1

Duvet Sets x 2

These items are in addition to what was supplied through the Open Days.

The supply of furniture is a growing ministry to those the Lord has called us to serve, and your generosity is always appreciated by our clients.

Finally

The Need Project Trust Board has been established and in consultation with the Charity Commission so we can operate as Charity.

The goal to raise funds to support Gordon full-time on the project is progressing; but we still have a shortfall and are looking to the Lord to meet this need.

Please pass this report on to anyone who would be interested in the work of the Need Project.

You can contact The Need Project on:

Gordon Hamilton, Mob: 07952 765 302

e-mail: admin@theneedproject.co.uk

Website: [www. http://theneedproject.co.uk/](http://theneedproject.co.uk/)