

Annual Report 2025

Fighting Hunger and Feeding Hope

Good food feeds people, not landfill.

| *Supporting Blackpool, Fylde, and Wyre since 2012.*

A Community Effort

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"This is not the work of one organisation alone; it is the collective effort of a community determined to make sure good food is not wasted."

Neil Reid

Chair of Trustees

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"The BIG FOOD Project is more than a food redistribution charity. It is a vital part of the local support system across Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre."

Claire Powell

Chief Executive Officer

Our Impact in 2025



503+

FOOD RESCUED



897,710

MEALS PROVIDED



125

PARTNERS SUPPORTED



2,347

TRUCK MEMBERS



20,841

VOLUNTEER HOURS



716k kg

CO₂ PREVENTED

Why Our Work Matters

THE CHALLENGE



Economic Pressure

Rising household costs and low income levels across the Fylde Coast create persistent hardship.



Food Insecurity

Families struggle to feed children, and individuals in temporary housing lack basic cooking facilities.

OUR RESPONSE



Systemic Support

Acting as a central logistics hub to rescue surplus food and strengthen 125+ community partners.



Dignity & Choice

Moving beyond emergency relief to provide sustainable, affordable food access with respect.

Environmental Impact



716,372 kg

CO₂ Emissions Prevented

Equivalent to removing approximately **155 cars** from the road for an entire year. By rescuing food, we prevent harmful methane production in landfills.

Blackpool Zoo

Provided 2,718 kg of surplus fruit and vegetables to feed animals—ensuring food unsuitable for people still serves a productive purpose.

Circular Thinking

Partnering with Eggcup and Closing Loops to convert surplus produce into nutrient-rich compost for local allotments.

Our Core Service Model



Crisis Support

Immediate emergency food support for individuals and families facing urgent hardship. We operate 17 collection points across Blackpool to ensure support is accessible in trusted local venues.



Partner Network

Strengthening the capacity of 125+ local organisations. We provide weekly food supplies to schools, hostels, and community cafes, reaching people through services they already know and trust.



BIG FOOD Truck

An affordable food club helping households manage tight budgets with dignity and choice. Members access high-quality food at reduced prices, preventing them from falling into deeper crisis.

THREE PILLARS • ONE MISSION • FIGHTING HUNGER TOGETHER

Crisis Support & Relief

Immediate Hardship Response

Our Crisis Service provides emergency food support to individuals and families facing immediate hardship due to unexpected bills, loss of income, or benefit delays.

We operate a network of **17 collection points** across Blackpool and work with **49 partner organisations** to ensure support is accessible in trusted local venues.

Access to basic essentials is the first step in helping people regain stability and connect with wider support services.

2025 Emergency Support



1,545

Single Emergency Bags



1,934

Family Food Bags



1,239

Kettle Bags Provided

What is a Kettle Bag? Designed for people without cooking facilities, such as those in temporary accommodation or experiencing street homelessness.

Strengthening the Partner Network

440,490

MEALS DISTRIBUTED THROUGH
PARTNERS IN 2025

- ✓ 125+ Organizations Supported
- ✓ Community Cafés & Schools
- ✓ Hostels & Supported Housing
- ✓ Voluntary Sector Partners

Empowering local organizations to do more in their communities.

"The Big Food Project supports me and other families every week. They bring us all together as a community and ensure we feel valued."

DEVONSHIRE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Your support makes a real difference in their daily lives. We are sincerely grateful for the generous weekly donations."

WILLIAM LYONS HOUSE - SUPPORTED HOUSING

The BIG FOOD Truck

An affordable food club helping households access good quality food at significantly reduced prices, supporting dignity, choice, and community connection.



Claremont Park

Community Centre



Blackpool FC

Community Trust



Layton Methodist

Church Hall

2,347

MEMBER HOUSEHOLDS

78,236 kg

FOOD DISTRIBUTED

139,629

MEALS PROVIDED

Warehouse & Operations

10 Tonnes

HANDLED EVERY WEEK

Food Sourcing Network:

- ✓ Supermarket Surplus
- ✓ Wholesalers & Manufacturers
- ✓ Local Growers & Producers
- ✓ Essential Household Items

15 Morning Routes

Our vans complete 15 collection routes five days a week, ensuring food is rescued and moved quickly to where it is needed most.

27,700 Miles Annually

A massive logistical effort covering Blackpool, Fylde, and Wyre to keep the community food supply chain moving efficiently.



Our People: Volunteers & Rehabilitation

The Power of Volunteering

140

ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

20,841

HOURS CONTRIBUTED

Volunteers are the heart of our operations, completing 15 morning collection routes daily. Their contribution is equivalent to nearly **£300,000** of dedicated time, but their value in community spirit is immeasurable.

Probation & Rehabilitation

37

INDIVIDUALS PLACED

2,778

HOURS CONTRIBUTED

"Since I have been here I have felt like part of a team... my mental health has improved massively. I feel happy again and much more confident."

— PARTICIPANT STORY

Strategic Priorities & Looking Ahead

Financial Sustainability

Strengthening income streams and developing a resilient model for core operations and programme delivery.

Supply Chain

Building stronger links with supermarkets and local growers to ensure a reliable supply of fresh surplus food.

Community Resilience

Expanding the BIG FOOD Truck and increasing access to wraparound advice and guidance for members.

Partnerships

Working with local councils and national networks to strengthen the wider food support system.

Lived Experience

Ensuring the voices of those accessing our services directly shape future developments and improvements.

Brand & Voice

Strengthening how we communicate our impact and learning with partners, supporters, and the community.

A future where good food feeds people, not landfill.