



## News from Streetlife Trust a Frontline Network Partner



Hello everyone,

Welcome to your Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde Frontline Network\_e-letter and we hope that you may find some of the information useful. We would, as always, like to welcome you to contribute or share anything that you feel could support your frontline colleagues. Additionally, if anyone would like to be added to our local [Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde Frontline Network](#) that has not done so already please email: [donna.willison@wearestreetlife.org](mailto:donna.willison@wearestreetlife.org).

Additionally, if there is anything that you feel would be useful to be shared on Frontline Network's Website in our [Community](#) or [News and Views](#) Sections please email: [marcus.loney-evans@stmartinscharity.org.uk](mailto:marcus.loney-evans@stmartinscharity.org.uk)

## Local News

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## Service Updates

### Donations now accepted for entertainment/welfare packs: Including Drop-Off details

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Blackpool Fairness Commission are now accepting donations of non-electrical items (books, skipping ropes, jigsaws etc.) to Claremont First-Step Centre. These donations will be provided to our homeless population where possible, but we will be allowing community hubs to request items where a need is identified to help tackle loneliness.

Please share this [poster](#) with your colleagues and networks which outlines drop off days/times.

### Corona Kindness: Support for Blackpool Residents During the Covid-19 Crisis

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Blackpool Council has created a community helpline for people in need of help, and for those who'd like to volunteer to help, during the coronavirus crisis. Please find website details [here](#), with further information of the great partnership working across Blackpool to support people experiencing homelessness in this [Facebook link](#).

## Financial Support

## VRF Emergency Fund

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In response to COVID-19 we have developed an emergency fund that is designed to offer flexibility in what you apply for as the full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic unfolds. To ensure that we continue to adapt as the needs of people experiencing homelessness change over the course of the COVID-19 crisis, we are keeping our survey [open](#) and would encourage you to complete it as you see needs shift. We will in turn do our best to ensure that the fund remains useful throughout this time.

### What can I apply for?

The VRF Emergency Fund has three broad categories, you can apply for up to;

£150 for Basic Essential Needs

£400 for Overcoming Barriers to Support

£1000 for Securing Accommodation

However, in exceptional circumstances we will consider more.

### How do I apply?

Applicants need to [register](#) on our Flexi-Grant system with a valid work email address before making an application.

If you're already a registered user, [log in here](#).

## Frontline Network Ideas Fund

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The [Ideas Fund](#) remains open for applications during the Covid-19 pandemic. This funding can help you turn an idea that will improve the situation for people experiencing homelessness into a reality. The funding ranges from £200 to £10,000. You can use it to develop creative solutions and new ways of working.

## Covid-19 Financial Support Briefing Summary

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Our Frontline Network Partners at Target Housing have kindly shared Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council's [Financial Support Briefing](#). The attached [document](#) is intended for frontline staff, summarising all financial support available during the Covid-19 put in place locally and nationally. Most information is on a UK level, so relevant to all of you. The document explains very well the support available for each specific issue and how to access it.

## BBC Children In Need Emergency Essentials Funding

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BBC Children in Need have launched an [Emergency Essentials Programme](#) which aims to support families with children and Young People by providing essential items such as beds, white goods. This fund is to provide the basic needs or services which are critical to a child's wellbeing. Applications must be made by a registered referrer, details how to do this are provided on their [website](#).

## Amplifying Your Voice

### How Could Frontline Network Best Support You During Covid-19?

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Many thanks to all of you who have already completed our [short survey](#). If you haven't already, and would like to contribute to how and where we direct our focus for future communications, online events etc. please take 5 minutes to answer these [4 questions](#)

# Networking

## Join the C-19 Support Forum Today

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The "[C-19 Frontline Worker Support Forum](#)" is a space dedicated to sharing frontline worker information, guidance and solutions relating to COVID-19.

You can ask a question, share information, or highlight best practice on how to best support people experiencing homelessness at this time.

We hope the C-19 Forum will highlight good practice and what works, but also be honest about the challenges faced.

Frontline workers are required to [register to the Frontline Network](#), in order to access the C-19 Forum, however we will shortly be making it free to access for all Frontline Workers.

## Homeless Link FREE Weekly Webinars

Homeless Link are providing a range of informative and interesting free online webinars and training resources which do not require membership. Register for [COVID-19 and Homelessness Services](#) held every Wednesday 3-4pm and [Feel-Good Friday Webinar](#) 10-11am.

If you are unable to attend these sessions, our Local Network Coordinator has kindly provided previous webinar [06 May summary notes](#) for your information.

## Wellbeing Resources

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- [Action for happiness](#) -lots of great advice on their website, including [10 days of happiness](#) and their [meaningful May calendar](#).
- [5 ways to create a sense of calm among the chaos](#)

## Sector News and Links

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- [Rails to refuge- Women's Aid](#) FAQs. [Please refer here](#) for further information from WA during Covid-19.
- Last weekend, the Government announced it will amend the Domestic Abuse Bill so that anyone made homeless as a result of domestic abuse will have a legal right to housing. [See here](#).
- [Jenrick warns not all costs will be covered as lost income estimates branded highly speculative](#).
- DWP [Recovery of overpayment suspended](#)
- [Dame Louise Casey to spearhead new Government taskforce on rough sleeping during Covid-19](#)
- [Multiple disadvantage and Covid-19- C-19 and the changes to the Care Act](#) video from Bruno Ornelas (Voices of Stoke) and MEAM
- [Tackling rough sleeping- why does it take a pandemic?](#) Podcast with Maggie Brujnes (Homeless Network Scotland), Ed Milliband and Geoff Lloyd
- [Covid-19 resources for homelessness services](#)- World Habitat

- [New partnership between Birth Companions and NHS England during Covid-19](#) to support pregnant women/ new mothers in contact with the Criminal Justice System

Many thanks for taking the time to read and we hope that you have a safe and enjoyable week!

**National news**

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Find out what other local networks are doing across the UK, read the latest stories, search for events and explore what funding opportunities are available to you as a frontline worker.

You can also sign up to the latest news from the national Frontline Network [here](#).

## The Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde Frontline Network

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The Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde Frontline Network is for local frontline workers who support people experiencing homelessness to come together and share ideas and expertise.

The Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde Frontline Network is hosted by Streetlife Trust and is part of the national St Martin's Frontline Network.



