



Work with us

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About Baby Bank Network Bristol

Baby Bank Network Bristol collects donations of pre-loved baby equipment, clothing, toys, toiletries and other essentials, and passes them on to families across Bristol who are experiencing poverty or crisis. Working with a network of over 420 local referral partners (such as health visitors, midwives and staff from children's centres and other organisations), we make sure pre-loved donations get to the people who need them most.

By passing on items that have been used and loved by local families to other families in Bristol, we help to prolong the life of items and the environment by reducing the number of new items that need to be made, and creating a circular sharing economy that benefits us all.

We helped 1,852 families in 2023, and in June 2024, we helped our 10,000th family.



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Why is Baby Bank Network Bristol needed?

One in five children in Bristol are living in poverty. There is predicted to be a growing population of under 5s, increasing the need for our service.

The majority of families we support are on low/no incomes. Additionally, 22% of referred families are refugee and asylum seekers, 13% have mental health issues, 8% are mums under 21, 9% have been subject to domestic/sexual abuse, 9% are homeless/at risk of homelessness, 3% have learning/physical disabilities and 2% are care leavers.

As well as the direct effect of the items being provided, recent monitoring found that our service:

- Reduced parental stress and anxiety about money and providing for their baby;
- Reduced isolation by providing items that helped them to get out more;
- Provided safer home environments and enabled families to be better equipped to support the development of their children;
- Enabled front line referral partners to improve the support they were able to give to families whilst generating positive discussions with the family they were supporting.

Read our latest **Impact Report** on our website.

03 How can your support help?

We help approximately 40 families each week. Our referral figures are increasing at a rate that we haven't seen before and we are doing our best to keep up with demand. We rely on donations, both of items and funds, from people like yourselves alongside grants to sustain the charity. Most of the items we provide to families are preloved and donated by local families. However, there are some items that we have to provide new. We rely on donations of nappies and toiletries for mums and babies but don't receive enough to meet demand so often buy them ourselves. We can't accept second-hand mattresses for safety reasons so we buy a brand new mattress for every cot, crib and Moses basket that we give to a family.

Toiletries and new mattresses are two of our largest costs, and as with all charities there are also core costs to cover. It costs us just £57 on average to provide a family with everything that they need to provide for their baby.

04 How can we work together?

We love working with businesses, large and small, and we would love to have a chat with you about how we can work together. Here are some suggestions but if you have a different idea then we would love to hear it!

Volunteering

Our small warehouse and tiny core team unfortunately make it impossible to accept and train up volunteers on a one-off basis. However, we might be able to work something out if you want to work with us on a long-term basis and send the same group of volunteers each time.

Fundraising

Organising or taking part in a team event is a great way to get to know your colleagues, try new activities and develop your team building skills. Here are some ideas to get you started!



If you are running an event in the community or planning to hold a raffle please get in touch as there are some **fundraising rules and licensing regulations** that you need to be aware of. Baby Bank Network Bristol cannot be held liable for accidents, injuries, loss or damages as a result of your event.

If you are organising your own fundraising event, or taking part in a sponsored event in aid of Baby Bank Network Bristol, you can set-up a fundraising page on **JustGiving** and link it to **Baby Bank Network Bristol's JustGiving account**.

Charity of the Year/internal funds

Does your place of work run an internal grant or trust that you could nominate us for? Do you select a charity to support at Christmas time or for your summer party? Would your employer match fund what you raise for us or offer a prize to the most successful fundraiser?

Pro-bono skills and services swap

Are you organising any training that might benefit our staff or volunteers? Do you have expertise in an area that we could have pro-bono 1:1 support on? Is there a specific project that you could undertake for us?

Gifts in Kind



We can provide posters and other materials, as well as toiletry donation bins if you would like a permanent donation point at your place of business. Delivering donations to our warehouse makes a great photo opportunity!

Get involved in our seasonal campaigns

We run seasonal campaigns such as a Christmas campaign (Nov-Dec) which you can get involved in. These usually involve fundraising, gifts in kind donation drives, volunteering and awareness raising. We will send you information, but please do get in touch if you are interested in supporting these.

Raising awareness online

Add Baby Bank Network Bristol as your charity of the year to your website and e-mail signatures to show your support, and sign-post people to **our website**. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#), and re-share our posts.

Thank you for your support. 

For further information, advice or tips on fundraising please get in touch on fundraising@babybanknetwork.com