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## **About our foodbank**

Every day people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income. A simple box of food makes a big difference, with foodbanks helping prevent crime, housing loss, family breakdown and mental health problems.

Our foodbank is a project founded by local churches and community groups, working together towards stopping hunger in our local area. Middlesbrough Foodbank was set up in 2012 and since then we’ve given out more than 26000 food parcels to those in crisis.

We work with a number of local agencies, charities, housing associations, schools, health workers, children’s centres and Middlesbrough Council, who are able to issue a client with a voucher.

We have a central Depot, which is open for donations of food on a Tuesday, where a team of volunteers process both the donations, and deliveries to our Distribution Centres.

All eight Distribution Centres are staffed by volunteers from the churches where they are hosted or from the area local to the church.  The volunteers are on hand to provide refreshments, the food parcel for the client, and a listening ear if needed. Our volunteers are also able to signpost clients to other agencies where they may be able to receive additional help.

The Middlesbrough Foodbank manager Soroush Sadeghzadeh oversees the work of the foodbank and we have a fantastic team of 60 volunteers who work in the Depot and Distribution Centres.

We are a registered charity, with a board of trustees who are actively involved in the oversight and governance of the foodbank. Middlesbrough Foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust network.