Rywydwaith Bwyd Sir Gâr

Cyswllt I Rhannu I Cymorth

Gweithio mewn partneriaeth â CAVS

Carmarthenshire's Food Network

Connect I Share I Support

Working in partnership with CAVS

Gwybodaeth I Information

FareShare Cymru:
Katie Padfield
katie@fareshare.cymru

FareShare Go:
Rhiannon Edwards
Rhiannon.Edwards@fareshare.org.uk

Discretionary Assistance Fund (DAF) | GOV.WALES - The Discretionary Assistance Fund provides 2 types of grant that you do not need to pay back.

Links attached.

09.03.2021

Thank you for participating in the first round of cluster meetings. We have found it incredibly helpful to see things from your point of view and hope that you too have benefitted from the opportunity to **connect**, **share** and **support** one another.

When looking at the following feedback please consider the 'not working well' and 'support' aspects and see if you can identify any way you could support with that issue. Also look at what 'is going well' as this opens up clear partnership working options.

There are conversations to be had around foodbanks linking up with other projects and forming place-based clusters. Whilst this may be a new way of working it will provide evidence for future funding applications as well as provide a better service for those needing it.

ⓘ Mapping is underway and would benefit from support by those who offered it during our meeting on the 10/02/2021. We are mapping ***community growing*** at present with thanks from Incredible Edible Carmarthenshire and their extensive links.

ⓘ Please complete your registration forms as this too will feed into it.

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ⓘ We have also been asked to map the ***community services available*** and to identify clear referral routes: could you please EMAIL a list of the services that you refer people onto. I can then share this and we can identify the gaps. This clearly links to infoengine and dewis (links above).

DIWEDDARIAD I UPDATE

ⓘ The Network page on Connect Carmarthenshire went live last week. Please do feedback your comments. We can use this platform to also launch any campaigns on social media and raise the profile of our members. Carmarthenshire's Food Network - Connect Carmarthenshire

ⓘ I met with Gwyneth Ayres and Rhian Phillips, Carmarthenshire County Council, and we have agreed to connect regularly, share the vision and look at ways to support the network going forward.

ⓘ I have also connected with Food Cardiff and will be meeting with Pearl at the end of the month.

ⓘ I met with Kate Smith from Public Health Wales. There may be opportunities arising with regards to Food Nutrition.

ⓘ Promotion of your group is also one of my roles so please submit your stories with photographs

Green Stories (cavs.org.uk)

Good News Stories (cavs.org.uk)

Connect to kindness - Stories

ⓘ The Steering Group is our next priority.

Proposed members: Suggested number – 7

- Jamie Horton CAVS (supported by Funding/Governance)
- Alex Cook Swper Box
- Public Health Wales rep
- Foodbank rep
- Foodshare rep inc. hot food
- Community support rep
- Growing rep

Additional information due shortly.

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CYFARFODYDD CLWSTWR I CLUSTER MEETINGS

Amser i Siarad I Time to Talk

Feedback

Food Bank/Food surplus: Tuesday March 02nd @ 6pm

Working well

- FareShare Wales team are building on the networks successfully established by FareShare UK. Also going well is expansion to include more local collection points and the possibility of a distribution vehicle for this area.
- The online ordering system coupled with vols packing food parcels and drivers delivering. Also development of café with more holistic advice service. Debt advice programme is invaluable.
- Delivery food model with good uptake. Also developed debt centre for added support.
- E-vouchers a success. Excellent relationship with Carmarthen FB.
- Less formal so able to build good relationships. Good support network with shop contacts, local businesses, community. No limits on visits so good engagement.
- Independent. Offering deliveries. Incorporating fresh food from surplus source.

Not working well

- Difficulty jumping through the various hoops involved eg. Food hygiene, possible lack of support/encouragement from C, supermarkets provide food (cannot be selective).
- No way of monitoring who is accessing foodbank.
- Limited referrals. Message not getting out. Information not getting to those in need.
- Lack of face-to-face communication with recipients. Holistic support is needed but not available.

Support Needed

- FareShare Wales maybe a way of coordinating between the various orgs. They only do "ambient" food and within sell-by date
- An overall picture, an understanding of the network and its members, current provision and identify the gaps therein. This way the different orgs can hope to fill the gaps. Join the new facebook page?
- Way of identifying those who desperately need our support but don't receive it.
- More storage. Dry food takes up space.
- Community Fridge.

Number of people supported (monitoring is different: wk / mnth / individuals / families)

- Fareshare: 180 organisations wk
- CFB: Fluctuates but perhaps between 10 and 40 families wk

- PBPFB: 39 adults, 25 children, 19 pets wk
- CSA: 20/30 hotmeals wk single figure for foodbank

Any trends identified

- At start of Covid, food bank users were mostly families, perhaps people who were already in the benefits system. By now, however, there are individuals, smaller families/single parents; the newly redundant, business owners who've lost their incomes, homeless and still households with 2 working parents.
- Universal Credit Issues.
- Influx of potentially temporary food banks. Reduced numbers attending longer term established groups. Need to network and support each other.

Hot food projects: Wednesday March 03rd @ 6pm

Working well

- Incredible teamwork.
- Able to support local businesses and community – any community donations we ask to place straight with the business and then we pick up food directly from them.
- Forward planning – stretching donations etc to accommodate future need.
- Accepting current limitations.

Not working well

- Volunteer expenses – need support to cover fuel for deliveries.
- Storage of food.
- Need constant supply of packaging because of 'takeaway'.
- 'Takeaway' has also removed 'space and time' to offer the personal connection and address additional supporting needs.

Support Needed

- Staples – butter, flour, sugar, cheese, milk, marg. Not typically considered surplus.
- Takeaway cups and lids.
- Way of linking with local foodbanks to be able to offer our recipients a takeaway bag of foodstuff to go with their hot meal – are we reaching a potentially different group.
- PPE – gloves, Perspex screen.

Number of people supported (monitoring is different: wk / mnth / individuals / families)

- Over 60 people a day, 3 days a week
- Approx. 25 people on a Sunday. Fluctuates.

Any trends identified

- Same people
- Quiet after benefits received

Community Growers: Thursday March 04th @ 6pm

Working well

- Working well with colleagues. Picking up from FareShare – good quality.
- Incredible food share – redistribution of surplus. Growing vast amounts of food. Sharing surplus from contacts. Supported an incredible amount of people. Also large number wanting to volunteer.
- Foodbanks/surplus starting to network. Surgeries. Residential homes. Sharing surplus.
- Involvement of Town Council.
- Some people donate plants which we redistribute.
- Growth of people/growers joining. Community growing.
- Seed library.
- Funding for packing sheds and polytunnels. More volunteers. Funding for 16 solidarity boxes – healthy food for those with low incomes. Supporting with Free School Meals.
- Teaching the growing of food.
- Lottery funding opportunities. Land Workers Alliance funding.
- Members supporting themselves – using zoom to connect.
- Apprenticeships

Not working well

- Covid. Can't work together as volunteers.
- Freezer space. Storage space.
- Venue – need to reregister with env health every time you move. Need permanent space. Premises.
- Transport-especially if you are out of town.
- Hard to engage some families – embarrassment. Lack of face-to-face compounds problems.
- So many grant applications!
- Volunteer expenses.
- Running project single handed.

Support Needed

- Climate emergency – access to Land.

- Share risk assessments.
- Community planting schemes. Hywel Dda – Steff/Marie/Jamie
- Links into education to support everyone to learn about planting, growing and cooking. 'What's a courgette and what do I do with it?'
- Co-production
- Training? Supporting those with mental health. First aid – outdoors and general.

Number of people supported (monitoring is different: wk / mnth / individuals / families)

- 40 food parcles a week. Incredible food share. Kindearth??? Approx. 100 clients a week.
- CBSA pay £3.50 a week and get a bag of shopping.
- Fareshare and topped up with veg.
- 15 per night
- 40 – 60

Any trends identified

- More people need more help.
- Stigma with food banks.

Community Support: Monday March 08th @ 6pm

Working well

- Surrounded by Food Banks who work closely together. We all complement one another. The more informal relationship works for us.
- Great to see the public using woodland as part of their daily exercise. Need to protect biodiversity so having to restrict numbers. People just love to be outside.
- Responsiveness – able to access food very quickly. Also other support eg. Able to offer showers now. Also open for 1-2-1's (speak to us before citizens advice). Phone service 24/7. Hot meal from front door.
- Partnership with pastoral team at school.
    - Looking to offer advice surgeries – invite 3rd sector groups in and offering signposting.
    - Also 'family recipes'

Not working well

- Finding a drop in numbers of people wanting to chat.
- Working out of a garage, need more space.
- Access – transport can be an issue.
- Limit to vouchers for Food Banks.

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Support Needed

- Formal integrated green prescribing pathways into the third sector.
- A network in each community.
- A community map.
- Sue's list – need for all services to be registered with infoengine (third sector) Dewis (health and wellbeing)

Number of people supported (monitoring is different: wk / mnth / individuals / families)

- 8-10 patients a month plus general conversation.
- 5-10 a week
- 20-30 for lunch twice a week.
- 65 families a week 1-2-1 counselling.

Recipients: Wednesday March 10th @ 6pm

- No uptake
- Look at a questionnaire – perhaps online and shared with community groups.

GWIRFODDOLWYR I VOLUNTEERS

- Would you like support with your volunteering policies? Please speak with our Volunteering team. We have templates and can talk you through the various aspects. Jane.hemmings@cavs.org.uk / Alud.jones@cavs.org.uk

- 62 individuals have taken up the Food Hygiene training: 42 at L2 and 20 at L3. Thank you. Information will be sent out directly to your email supplied. I would recommend this online training being completed within the next three months.

- Volunteer's week begins June 1st – this is a great opportunity to celebrate their contributions. Send your ideas to me asap.

- International Microvolunteering Day April 15th

Diolch I Thank you.
Feedback is always encouraged.