

**Food Poverty Fund – 2021-2022**  
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 Tel: 01269 590216  
 Funds Available: £19,801.38

**Report Value: £7,000.00**

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**Application Reference: FPF-21-17**

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Helping Hand Foodbank and Community Hub</b>
<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Threshold DAS Ltd</b>
<b>Ward</b>	<b>Tyisha</b>
<b>Food Poverty Criteria</b>	<p>The purpose of this grant relates to the improvement of Food Poverty services such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Increasing the level of support available and improving the level of coverage across the county.</b></li> <li>• Extending opening hours to include some evening and weekends</li> <li>• Improving the nutritional value of provisions being provided</li> <li>• <b>Educating the community on the importance of good nutrition, healthy eating and reducing wastage</b></li> <li>• <b>Establishing sustainable provision to meet the anticipated increase in demand</b></li> </ul>
<b>Project Description</b>	<p>Threshold DAS Ltd are seeking grant support for their 'Helping Hand' Food Bank which opened within Llanelli Town Centre in October 2021. As with other food banks operating in the area, the 'Helping Hand' Food Bank primarily serves to create more equitable access to food through community partnerships and respond to the needs of the community through food distribution and support services. Threshold DAS already works in collaboration with other third sector organisations in the area but seeks to develop specifically access to food for <b>individuals experiencing domestic abuse</b>. In December alone, they provided 1125 meals and worked with 125 families.</p> <p>The situation regarding domestic abuse has been made worse through the COVID-19 pandemic and 'Helping Hand' food bank aims to support victims of domestic abuse throughout Carmarthenshire. The group have conducted extensive research and there will be no duplication in activities with similar services in the Carmarthenshire area.</p> <p>Given the niche service user group, the Helping Hand food bank would be able to offer a quick, more immediate and (if necessary) longer-term response to those vulnerable victims suffering domestic abuse and in need of food. Last year they supported 2268 individuals, a large portion of these were living in poverty and struggling to eat healthy and nutritious meals.</p> <p>The funding will be utilised in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To expand and increase the capacity of the existing 'Food Bank' and to move to a new site on Station Road, so Threshold can also offer the provision of non-perishable food items to include fresh</li> </ul>

	<p>and frozen foods. This means not only the acquisition of food but assets like -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- fridge/freezer, kitchen appliances/cooking equipment,</li> <li>- a confidential service to create more equitable access to food for individuals. It is not envisaged that any 'caps' will be placed on the service – individuals can use the Food bank as often as they require (providing there is sufficient food) and food parcels will continue to be distributed beyond that of 'emergencies', that is, until they no longer require the support of Threshold. The food bank will be open five days a week and every other Saturday.</li> <li>- The Helping Hands food bank will develop and strengthen food partnerships within Carmarthenshire, with a view to creating healthy, sustainable local food systems that help tackle food insecurity.</li> <li>- The building of resilience through the development of a range of support services built around community food provision</li> <li>- To further develop and embed food bank activities as part of Threshold's community hub to complement its existing community services such as the 'Helping Hand' Clothes Store, 'Repair Café Wales and Tea &amp; Coffee Mornings. To explore moving some of the project's services into hubs within Carmarthenshire in rural areas.</li> <li>- To develop volunteering opportunities for food bank users, offering volunteers training opportunities, including accredited training which will support employability.</li> </ul> <p>Threshold's commitment to supporting its service users had expanded to include not only individuals themselves but their children, and as such, the addressing of food inequity and the continuation of any Food bank activity will be considered as an integral part of Threshold's overall service provision – once established it will form part of Threshold's organisational services and not just a 'one-off' project activity.</p>
<p><b>Outcomes</b></p>	<p>Number of individuals reached:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How many families - <b>125</b></li> <li>• How many single people - <b>25</b></li> <li>• How many homeless people – <b>0</b></li> </ul> <p>Additional outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of people receiving skills or training – <b>5</b></li> <li>• Jobs created – <b>0</b></li> <li>• Safeguarding – <b>2</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Total Project Cost</b></p> <p><b>Eligible Capital</b></p> <p><b>Eligible Revenue</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>£ 7,200.00 Gross</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fridge Freezer x2 - <b>£1,200</b>  Cooker and hob - <b>£1,600</b>  Shelving Units - <b>£4,400</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>N/A</b></p>

<b>Ineligible costs</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Total Grant requested</b>	<b>£7,000.00 Gross</b>
<b>Match funding (if applicable)</b>	<b>£200.00 Match Funding</b>
<b>Cllr and Officer Consultations Undertaken</b>	Tyisha – Cllr Suzy Curry and Cllr Andre McPherson
<b>Contributing to key Strategies</b>	The application has been mapped to the Welsh Government's Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 particularly the goals of 'A healthier Wales', 'A more equal Wales' and 'A Wales of cohesive communities'. In particular, the Helping Hand Food Bank hopes to complement Carmarthenshire Council's inter-related Well-being/Improvement Objectives of '...help[ing] to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences (Objective 1) and 'Help[ing] children live healthy lifestyles (Objective 2). It would also promote Welsh language and culture and look at talking poverty by preventing it, helping people into work, and improving the lives of those living in poverty.
<b>Ownership/Lease</b>	Ownership
<b>Officer Comments</b>	Threshold's existing Food bank already works locally with other organisations, partnerships, and initiatives to ensure there is no duplication but also to support each other. The future maintenance and liability of the project will be assumed by Threshold DAS. Provisions have been but in place to provide funding for the food bank, be it from further sources of external funding or, through fundraising.
<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Award £7,000.00</b>
<b>Subject to:</b>	