

Fur Clemt

Fur Clemt, initially established to reduce edible wasted food, has grown into an organisation offering much more to the community over the last ten years. Based in Norley, Worsley Hall, Marsh Green, Newtown and Pemberton (some of the most challenged areas in the borough), Fur Clemt helps residents benefit from low-cost nutritional food.

Fur Clemt initially met short-term needs, but ten years later, it has expanded to offer much more. The site on Montrose Ave now provides a range of services, including health checks delivered by NHS partners, a new start-up incubation space, mental health support groups, space for community groups to meet, a warm space and various volunteering experiences for people of all abilities. The wrap-around service provides everything the community needs from a well-established and trusted organisation.

By opening up the food share scheme membership to everyone and providing additional services onsite, the organisation reaches all community members, reducing the stigma associated with accessing food banks and promoting dignity and choice.



18,000

Residents in the area surrounding Fur Clemt live in the top 20% most deprived. Evidence shows that a significant proportion of demand for public services comes from these areas.

43%

43% of households in these communities have less than £30 disposable income per month. With household incomes typically £10,000 a year less than the national average at just £19,250

729 Food Parcels



729 Food parcels / vouchers issued annually to a value of **£42,282**



4,800 Food Share Scheme members. Over 100 customers benefit daily from the scheme with some items 65% below Recommended Retail Price



800 tonnes of food waste saved per year the value of which totals **£1.6m**



£250,000 annual savings to the NHS through reduced malnutrition (based on assumption of 350 households regularly using the service).



30 regular volunteers provide a wide variety of support to the community. Providing an estimated £54,249 in value of time per year

- Value of improved wellbeing to a volunteer = £230,000*
- 77% of volunteers surveyed said it improved their mental health and wellbeing*
- Monetised wellbeing gain based on WELLBY principles (as per treasury Green Book) = £10,000*

*Based on 30 volunteers

In 2022 a family approach Fur Clemt about a young person who started to suffer from anorexia. Their physical and mental health deteriorated, and they were hospitalised for months. With such a strong will and the disease taking control over them, their parents were completely helpless and at a loss. Numerous specialists, councillors and doctors didn't seem to be helping and we were completely helpless to this horrific illness.

After months in hospital, the decision was made to discharge them and try alternative methods at home. School offered limited support and were not equipped to deal with their condition so returning to school at this time was not an option. The family began discussing their situation with Fur Clemt, who suggested the young person come into the café to help one day a week to try and improve engagement with others and give them a focus. So, they did.

The support from Fur Clemt was outstanding. Their care, compassion and dedication turned one day, into two, into weeks and months. Improvements in their mental health and wellbeing have been unimaginable from where they had been at the start of 2023. Every day is a struggle and they still have setbacks and hurdles to combat. One thing that keeps them strong is the relationships they have built at Fur Clemt and the support the whole team are providing.

They now work in the Café most days of the week, passing a food hygiene course and receiving great feedback from customers on the food she has prepared and made. Their confidence has grown, school attendance has improved, and they are looking forward to a bright future with the team.

“We owe so much to Fur Clemt and words cannot express how grateful we are for their continued support”.



Reduced hospital admission
£4,869



Family therapy
£232



Outpatient, day patient. Guided self-help and provision of information and advice
£1,973



GP / Primary Care
£232



Private Care
£1,656

DONNA'S STORY



Donna Bennett, aged 42, who lives in Norley Hall, Wigan, started volunteering at Fur Clemt five years ago after struggling with alcohol addiction and mental health conditions. She describes how she now feels part of “a family” at the organisation and how it has completely transformed her life. Here Donna tells her story...

“I was involved with Wigan social services as I had alcohol issues. It was a long time ago but sometimes the issues reoccurred.

“I was working with Start Well as my children were at risk of being taken into care. They said ‘why don’t you volunteer at Fur Clemt for a day or two and see how it goes’. Five years later I am still here!

“I love it because they helped me get my life back on track in a big way.

“The alcohol abuse it was hard. I never had a routine in my life since being little.

“I feel a lot better now that I am in a routine. I volunteer five days a week. I do my jobs here, I go home and do my jobs at home. My children are benefitting from me being here.

I am super proud of how far I have come and it is all thanks to Fur Clemt

“I do a bit of everything at Fur Clemt, I do cleaning, working in the warehouse, whatever needs doing I do it.

“My mental health has been unreal since I have been here. I have come off being in services with the recovery team and the psychiatrist. I have just blossomed.

I’ve got bipolar, schizophrenia and ADHD. They are suppressed with medication and the help here. I am still on medication but I am alright.

“I never had family around me before. This feels like family.

“The relationship with my children is great because I am learning family life.

“I just love everything about it here. They show me a way of going into a different life. It has changed my life big time.

“I am happy, I am settled. It has broken a chain for me. “

SAVINGS TO PUBLIC PURSE:



£135,753

Two children being in full-time care = 67,877 per child, per year (2 x 67,877 = 135,754)



£2,334

Alcohol addiction recovery services = £2,334



£1,871

Local Authorities = £1,871



£19,005

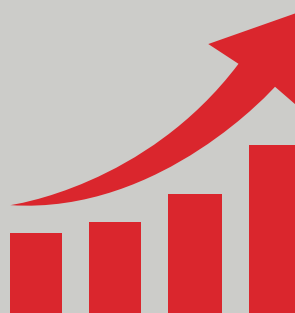
NHS mental health services = £10,798
NHS = £8,207



£720

Criminal Justice System = £720

**Total Savings
£159,683**



**Economic contribution of Donna volunteering:
Five full days a week volunteering =
£12,400**

COMMUNITY WEALTH



Tim Hilton from JJH Builders regularly supports Fur Clemt some of the support includes; providing business development expertise, sponsoring a van, improving the outdoor area.



Craft Heinz support via food donations, volunteer time including preparing pack lunches, cooking, painting and refreshing the volunteer room.



AB World Foods provide regular financial and in-kind support and have transformed the community space including a new kitchen installation.