



JUNE 2020

CHAT NEWS

CHAT believes that everyone is entitled to decent, secure and affordable accommodation - somewhere to call 'home'

Thinking Ahead...

CHAT have offered free debt and money advice since June 2015 and during that time we have helped 90 clients manage over £996,000 of debt.

Last year we identified a growing need for this service in our community, and we were already starting to increase the service. But now, the Money and Pensions Service (MaPS) predicts the number of people needing help with debt will climb for at least the next 18 months, increasing by over 60% and peaking around the end of 2021, we realise we need to do more. We would like to recruit & train 15 more volunteers in Debt & Money Management skills, to ensure we can deal with the increased demand for our services. As people lose their jobs & struggle on low incomes, we can help with budgeting and managing debt, help prevent homelessness and empower people to take back control. Any donation will go towards paying for volunteer recruitment, training, expenses, and support & supervision. Our foodbank is able to help in the short term but it is important to us that this service offers more than a short term solution where possible.



Our Aviva fundraiser is a Crowd Funding initiative, supported by Aviva, asking if anyone is able to donate towards our work to improve peoples money management skills, helping them to be able to deal with debt and bounce back from the difficulties after COVID-19. If you would like to donate please visit www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/alleviating-debt-regaining-confidence-security We have a target of £2,700 and the fund closes on the 19th July. Please could you share our project on your social media or local newsletter.

If you are interested in volunteering as a Debt and Money Advisor please contact us.

"I can't believe it after all these years I can finally say I'm debt free!!!! But I couldn't have done it without all of CHAT team and I can't thank you enough for all your help."

FOODBANK THANKS!

A big thank you for all the continued donations to our Foodbank.

We are receiving more and more requests for food and during May we delivered 191 parcels each feeding a household for seven days. Also we delivered 201 booster packs for families on low income. This is nearly five times more than May 2019.

Thanks to all who have donated, packed and distributed.

Food can be donated at CHAT office, Morrisons, Tesco, or Reapers



GARAGE FULL AFTER CLEARING OUT?
SHOPPING ON EBAY?
DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN NOW DONATE
PROCEEDS TO CHAT?

**Favourite us to start
supporting our cause!**

<https://www.charity.ebay.co.uk/charity/Churches-Housing-Action-Team/3858019>

#ebayforcharity

If you need our support or can help please contact us

- We are unable to see clients in person at the moment. However if you need Support and Advice with housing you can call us on 01884 255606 between 9:30-4:30 Monday – Friday or contact us via our website www.chatmid.org or email theoffice@chatmid.co.uk
- If you need help with food please call 01884 255606 between 10-12 Monday – Friday for a telephone assessment.

See our facebook page

@CHATMidDevon

or www.chatmid.org

for further details and

any changes to the services we offer.

Tackling homelessness, avoiding evictions, bringing hope



A very successful 'Homeless 4 a Night' sleep out with in excess of 110 people sleeping out on a night between Friday 8th May and Sunday 10th May 2020, beating previous years sleep-outs and raised over an incredible £8000.

Please see our page <https://chatmid.org/homeless4anight/> for a collage of photos. Among those who slept out included, Jean, a previous CHAT volunteer, who is 93, topped the leader board for most money raised, we had many from CHARGE Youth Group, Blundell's school, some local Beaver/Cubs, Father Richard in Tiverton and many families. Our Patron of Sleep-outs, The Hon Mrs Elizabeth

d'Erlanger DL (Deputy Lieutenant of Devon, who also took part) said *"It was brilliant that so many people stepped up to the challenge and managed to raise so much money for such a worthy cause".*

Thank-you to everyone who took part.



CHAT AGM
Monday 30th July
at 7pm
via zoom

This will be a formal meeting,
we look forward to celebrating
our achievements at a later date.

Email office@chatmid.co.uk for
more information

Close Shave!

A big thank-you to Paul Berry, who co-owns The Swan in Bampton, (<https://theswan.co>) with his wife and fellow award-winning chef Donna, braved a head shave, aiming to raise £500.

He said: *"As I can't get to a barbers at the moment and, like many other people are doing, I thought I would shave my head, however, I decided to do it in aid of a very worthy cause."* Streamed live on Facebook, Paul raised over £1,300

Could you do something?

If anyone has any ideas for fundraising, either a personal challenge or a virtual event, for instance why not celebrate #National Cream Tea Day, Friday 26th June.



Please do call Mark on 01884 255606 or email Mark.Bailey@chatmid.co.uk



Become a **Giver of Hope**
a regular gift can **change**
a vulnerable person's life



Donate to our **foodbank** to
enable us to **feed** someone in
crisis



Keep up to date with our latest
news, events and needs on our
facebook @CHATMidDevon

CHURCHES HOUSING ACTION TEAM (Mid Devon) Ltd.

Coggan's Well House, Phoenix Lane, Tiverton, Devon EX16 6LU

T - 01884 255606

E - theooffice@chatmid.co.uk www.chatmid.org

[f @CHATMidDevon](https://www.facebook.com/CHATMidDevon)



cma
Freedom from debt
Hope for the future

Member of
advice UK