**FOOD BANK ANALYSIS FOR JULY 2016**

Another steady month as far as clients are concerned – 35 adults and 19 children. This week we have just started trialling our school holiday voucher scheme. A few weeks ago we wrote to all the schools in the area asking if they would be interested in offering parents whose children have free school meals, vouchers to cover the weeks when they would be at home. Only two schools took up the offer but we have already given food to one of the families who are struggling. I am sorry that not more of the schools responded because in conversation with another client who came in this week she was telling me that she would have been very grateful to have taken up the offer as would some of her friends. If you would like to know how this scheme is operating then please ask either Eileen, Liz or myself.

Thanks to the generosity of the local people, our stocks of food remain high. We do still have plenty of baked beans, soup, pasta, mixed beans and tinned tomatoes. We often run low on corned beef, tinned spaghetti (which does seem very popular), rice pudding, custard and fruit juice – among other things. Could I just say again that we try not to give any of the clients food that is out of date or packets that have been opened and sadly we are unable to give out home made goods (jam for instance).

We do value your prayers for the Food Bank. Because we share an office with C.A.B it’s not unusual to get people coming in thinking that’s who we are. Earlier in the month this did happen and the volunteers who were in were able to talk and pray with a young man who was having problems. He was very moved and it obviously made an impression as he recognised one of the volunteers whilst he was out shopping at a later date. We try and start our morning with a short prayer as we never know how we will be used in the two hours that we are open.

My thanks once again for all your support.

Jean Burt