



News from Aberdeen FareShare

It has been a very busy year up here in Aberdeen.

Community Food Initiatives North East continues to grow and we have been successful in a number of applications for funding, our main one from the 3rd Sector Enterprise Fund. We received £70,000 to fund the following:

- A new Finance & Enterprise Manager (funded for 10 months)
- New refrigeration
- New Technology and communication systems
- Installation of new toilet facilities / food prep area in new warehouse
- Marketing and advertising

The new refrigeration will now benefit CFINE especially during the summer months where space was beginning to get very limited and the FareShare fridge though now very small in comparison will accommodate more chilled food for distribution.

Volunteers

We continue to take in a steady stream of volunteers from various different organisations. We have now got 95 volunteers who assist with CFINE and our 100+ Community Food Outlets in Aberdeen, Moray and Aberdeenshire.

We still struggle to get drivers but between us and one very dedicated volunteer, Chris we manage to get the food out there!!

With another years funding from the Voluntary Action Fund we plan to undertake more training with our volunteers and continued development.

In addition to our volunteers, we have also had a student from Tanzania working with us since October. She is accompanied by a British student and they have been involved in a number of different projects during their time with us.

We also have a Community Development Student and are just about to take on a Social Work Student, both of which will work together to undertake our evaluations in the FareShare recipient organisations with customers / volunteers.

Volunteer Christmas Party

We had a great night on Friday with our staff and volunteers at the annual party. Everyone had a great time and enabled the large number of volunteers who work in the communities to meet each other. No photos unfortunately as I forgot my camera!!

FareShare Deliveries

We have been fortunate this year to have had a more substantial supply of FareShare deliveries and in between, FareShare Dundee help us out on a regular basis, now supplying us with potatoes and Tommy arrived the other day with the chocolates which will be greatly received by all our beneficiaries. However, our shelves are now beginning to look very empty already and we would love another delivery from Nestle as soon as possible!! Wiseman Dairies continue to deliver on a daily basis, a big thank you to them.

CFINE relocation

In addition to our most recent warehouse move, we have now relocated our very small office base to much larger accommodation upstairs in the same building. New technology is beginning to make things better however it did cause huge problems at the start, especially with email and FareShare access, I think I am now up to date and all things are now running smoothly again!

“Merry Christmas to you all”