

Messages for funders/ referrers - 27/04/2020

Home-Start Cymru successfully moved to remote support for existing families in advance of the lockdown and this vital work has continued unaffected over the past 6 weeks, and we continue to receive new referrals into existing projects.

We recently surveyed a number of our families and unanimously they cited the following as their main challenges in the current situation:

- mental health
- accessing food / supplies (including free school meal vouchers)

In these times of continued uncertainty we are seeing increased level of need amongst existing families. There is increased demand for our services in the wider community, and we know families who may not ordinarily need Home-Start services are looking for reassurance and emotional support at this difficult time.

With this in mind, we are delighted to have received funding from the WCVA Voluntary Emergency Services Fund, which will see us expand our services to reach more families. As well as rolling out more remote support, the funding will enable us to safely establish a doorstep delivery service providing vital food and supplies to families that are stuck at home with limited opportunity to access the basic items they need.

We know new parents face a set of unique challenges and will target our support at them specifically. To up our referrals of new parents we are interested in any new referral partners that might not ordinarily think of Home-Start, and welcome advice or signposting to anyone who might have an interest in the project.

If you would like to know more about the project as it develops please contact me on this email address jjohn@homestartcymru.org.uk

Home-Start volunteers come from many different backgrounds. All will undertake Home-Start training before beginning to support families. Please circulate amongst your networks, and anyone interested in volunteering for Home-Start Cymru can contact us at:

info@homestartcymru.org.uk.