

Outer West Community Committee – Wellbeing
More than food - Disability advice services Lower Wortley



Project Name	More than food- Disability advice services Lower Wortley
Amount applied for	£2,968
Lead Organisation	Leeds North & West Foodbank
Ward/Neighbourhood	Farnley & Wortley

Community Plan Objective	Best City for Health & Wellbeing
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Project Summary

We want to continue a service we have offering support to clients with health issues and impairments at our Lower Wortley and Moortown distribution centre on alternate Tuesdays. The service provides direct support to clients at the foodbank and continuing support to resolve their issues through specialist advice workers from DIAL a disability charity.

The Lower Wortley distribution Centre is based at Lower Wortley Methodist Church, Branch Road, LS12 4RN.

At foodbank sessions we see many clients who are struggling due to changes in their benefits, often related to ill health or disability. Where clients have been reassessed and had the level of their benefits reduced or changed from a disability benefit to Job seekers allowance.

Clients often struggle to effectively dispute these changes and DIAL have many years' experience of supporting people through the complex benefits system to assist with these problems supporting them if necessary right up to tribunal. They also help people find benefits and grants that they were unaware were available to them and help them with the claims process or applications to access these.

Last year via foodbanks in West Leeds DIAL saw 96 unique individuals, were contacted 222 times in total and made 325 outgoing contacts, of these 399 were to or from disabled people, 21 carers, 122 professionals and 5 "others". They attended 45 Foodbank sessions, 4 FAN meetings and 3 other events.

The Mental Health Peer Support Worker attended (with clients) 3 Job Centre Plus appointments, 3 GP appointments, 10 DWP medicals, 1 Tribunal, and 2 Community visits and carried out 9 office visits and 13 home visits.

When will the project run?

1st April 2018 – 31st March 2019

How many people can attend?

The project is open to all.

Targets for the project and how success will be measured

- Number of referrals made from Foodbank to DIAL
- Number of foodbank sessions attended by DIAL

- How many clients engage with an advice worker from DIAL
- What monetary value do clients benefit from claims being awarded both weekly gains and any backdated monies awarded
- Other gains to clients relating to -
- Savings made following review of energy costs
- Discretionary housing payments
- Grants awarded from charitable bodies
- Number of referrals to other advice agencies such as debt advice

How the project will be promoted and/or participation encouraged

Our signposting volunteers at the foodbanks will identify suitable people for referral and signpost to the service either directly on the day to be seen immediately whilst attending or by referral to DIAL by phone or email if the service is not at that particular foodbank session on that day. Promotion also on a regular basis of the service on the Foodbank Twitter feed and Facebook. Leaflets available at all 9 sessions of foodbank across Leeds North and West to encourage referrals. Notification to our 210 voucher holders and referral agencies of the services available via newsletter and email.

Exit strategy/How the project will continue after the funding

As long as there are clients benefitting from the service we would wish to maintain it. Whilst the running of foodbank sessions will continue to be managed and funded by the foodbank itself through our various funding streams of, regular donors, fundraising collections and grants we would anticipate further funding to continue this service to be raised through joint funding bids together with DIAL and the management of their staff and volunteers would remain with their management team.

If further funds were to be unavailable our volunteers would signpost to other services such as local welfare advice, citizen's advice etc. though given the specific experience of DIAL we would much prefer to maintain their service in foodbank for our clients.

Other organisations involved

DIAL (Leeds) who will provide the advisory service. DIAL are a disability advice charity, run by disabled people for disabled people, and have many years' experience in this field.

Financial Information		
Revenue funding requested	£2,968	
Total cost of project	£5,936	
Match funding/Other funding sources	£2,968 (Outer North East Committee)	
Previous funding received	HAP	
Full Breakdown of Costs		
Item	Wellbeing	Other (with funding body/date decision)
Services of DIAL Leeds to include staff and travel	£2,500 (OW CC)	£2,500 (ONE CC)
Monitoring and Evaluation time by Distribution centre manager/ signpost coordinator	£468 (OW CC)	£468 (ONE CC)
Total:	£2,968	

Volunteers	Foodbank session volunteers Lower Wortley = 390 TOTAL HRS (6 volunteers x 2.5 hours x 26 sessions)
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Communities Team Comments
The Leeds North & West Foodbank distribution centre in Outer West include: - Lower Wortley Distribution Centre operating from Lower Wortley Methodist Church, Branch Road, Leeds, LS12 4RN running on a Tuesday from 11:00 - 13:00 - Pudsey Distribution Centre operating from The Oak Church, 54 Bradford Road, Pudsey, LS28 6EF running on a Friday from 17:00 - 19:00 DIAL (Disability Information and Advice Line) offer information and advice services through their national network of 120 disability advice centres. As well as information and advice they can also support on other aspects of living with a disability. Information and advice are usually available on: - welfare benefits - community care - equipment - independent living - mobility and transport - discrimination - holidays. In leeds they are based at Photon House Percy Street, Leeds, LS12 1EL, 0113 467 6983, http://www.dial-leeds.org.uk/