#### **OTHER FACTS AND STATS**



of all deliveries are made within 10 days



6819

household items distributed to people



99%

positive referrer feedback



**New Start Pack items** distributed to people

### **OUR NEW START PACKS**

We supply "New Start Packs' to people coming out of homelessness. These packs include a bed, matress, bedding, a sofa or two armchairs, a dining table and chairs, eating and cooking utensils, a microwave or 2 ring hob cooker.





positive donor

feedback



St Vincent's Furniture Store was recognised for all the fantastic help we give to people with an invite to the Queens Garden Party at Buckingham Palace





The Hallam Chaplaincy Young Leaders Group volunteered their time to help St Vincent's Furniture Store





# Who we are and what we do

We help to improve the quality of life for those most in need, and have been doing so for over 30 years.

1987 - 2017

ST. VINCENT'S FURNITURE STORE

Celebrating our 30th Anniversary of belping people in Sheffield with Lord David Blunkett (guest speaker), Lord Mayor, Cllr Anne Murphy and Radio Sheffield's Paulette Edwards.

We collect and then distribute recycled furniture and household items to vulnerable families or individuals and those in crisis across Sheffield.

St Vincent's Furniture Store only accepts referrals from registered, statutory agencies. Many of these agencies are voluntary and charitable organisations. They ensure and establish that the person /families need our

Sheffield City Council makes by far the largest number of referrals, accounting for over 56% of all requests for furniture received by the Store.

In 2017 Sheffield City Council awarded St Vincent's Furniture Store a 3 year Core Service Grant. We received £64.020 for the period April 2017 to March 2018, and our three main outcomes are:

- Families/Individuals referred to the Store for support, have the furmiture items they need, in a timeframe that reflects the urgency of their referral.
- Access to essential household items enables individuals/families to manage a crisis or to move forward.
- Being able to refer clients to the Store has a number of subsidiary benefits specific to the referral agent themselves.

# **IN NUMBERS**

benefitting 2103 people

**1609** 

100%

**Collections made Deliveries made** within 2 days through the Store

**5918** 

Number of volunteer hours worked

**Online referrals** received

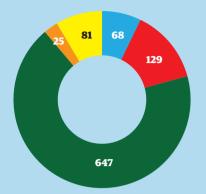
**Furniture recycled** 

100% deliveries made within 2 Days

Referrals made by Sheffield City Council

# **Who and** why do people use us?

#### Reason



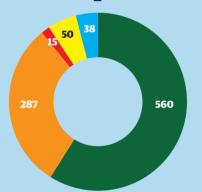
Domestic Abuse

Financial Hardship

Staturory Homeless

Discharge from care

#### **Purpose**

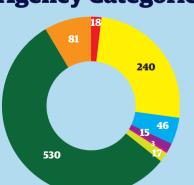


Unfurnished Tenancy Existing Tenant in need

Discharged from Care to a new tenancy

Needed to manage health/disability Other

## **Agency Categories**



**Housing Association Registered Charities** 

Religious

Other

**NHS Sheffield** 

Probation **Sheffield City Council** 

Advice Centres

# **Making it better** - Case Study

Julie has five children, aged between 5 and 15. One December day the 5 year old child started talking about home life at school and how "daddy had broken in again last night and woken us all up. Mummy was frightened and crying and this made me sad and I cried too."

The school teacher was obviously very concerned and investigated the matter. Julie and her husband had split up over a year ago, due to domestic violence which she had been victim too over a sustained period of time. There was an existing injunction against the father, however Julie had been too frightened to report him following the break ins. The decision was made to move Julie and her children to another area in Sheffield immediately so her husband wouldn't find out where the family were living.

We received a referral from the High School which two of the children attend. We delivered two beds, a dining table and dining chairs, a 3 piece suite and a lot of smaller household items, to make the house feel like a home.

Julie and her children are now settled into their new home and she is able to sleep at night, of the help she received she said:

"I was living a nightmare, not knowing when I went to bed at night (on the occasions I actually went to bed), what the night would bring. When it was suggested that we move home, I didn't think it would be possible. I didn't have the money to buy furniture and didn't have any means of getting any money. What St Vincent's have done for my family is life changing for us all.

My children are happy, and are all doing well at school. I am happy and looking back on so many dark days I never thought that any of this would be possible. Thank you all so much."

# **Feedback from Beneficiary**

"Thank you so much to St Vincent's for your help. I was homeless having served in the army and also suffering from PTS disorder.

I had been living in supported accommodation and was then provided with my own flat however it was unfurnished.

I was refused a local assistance grant and didn't have any money to purchase any items for my flat. The furniture I received from St Vincent's was in really good condition and also it came really quickly. I gave the driver a donation of £5.00 and am so glad I could do this. Thank you once again."

## **Service** reedhad

"Here at Baby Basics we had a support worker come to collect some things for a baby and he was singing your praises - he could not say enough good things about St Vincent's - the service he received and the items given. You are Amazing!"





### **Lord Mayor of Sheffield Cllr Anne Murphy**

Cllr Anne Murphy was invited to the St Vincent's Furniture Store AGM last year as the Lord Mayor of Sheffield Cllr Murphy was really impressed with the work that St Vincent's Furniture Store carry out with clients who are in need.

"The people who use St Vincent's Furniture Store are the most vulnerable people in our community many have dual diagnosis mental health, learning disability's Drug and Alcohol and homeless problems

Many people are in need due to various life issues that have affected their lives over many years. St Vincent's offers nonjudgemental support advice and practical help by way of helping people move into and sustain their properties.

This is a very important aspect of the work they do as it is part of playing a role in our community cohesion, sustaining people in their accommodation keeps families together, children remain at their local school and retain friendships and continuity in their lives. This then aids stability. People are then able to manage their mental health issues have a local GP service and are supported to manage finances benefits and employment opportunities.

I am very pleased to give this report to the SCC in support of St Vincent's Furniture Store and the work they do". Cllr Anne Murphy

# The Difference we make to those in Crisis

We collate feedback from referral agencies. We contact the people who have referred their clients to find out the impact our service has had on these people. Below are a few comments from referrers regarding the impact we have had on people's lives:

Kieven was very grateful for the furniture that he received from St Vincent's and he says that this contributed to him feeling settled in his new property. Kieven came to our service due to being a prison leaver. He says that the help he was given has helped him towards not re offending again as he feels he has too much to lose. He is now settled in his home and due to this has even managed to re-enter the work environment.



Our volunteers really make a difference to in our day to day running

Ruth still resides with her 2 sons at the same address. Assistance from you provided the family with a more pleasant, appropriate, manageable and welcoming home. Due to poor mental health and behavioural struggles a more pleasant and functioning home was provided. The family has financial difficulties and this change to their living environment wouldn't have been an option without your support.



One of the children from a family we helped drew this picture as a thank you to us.

Michelle was really pleased with the furniture that you were able to supply to her and the speed at which you were able to provide them. She was able to sit her children at the dining table during meal times which provided and opportunity for the family to converse. The furniture made the house feel more like a home after the family had to move suddenly from their previous home. I feel this contributed to the children being able to settle quicker at school and for Michelle to start thinking about being able to consider future training and employment.

Tara, her husband and their 3 children were sleeping in one bedroom and the children were having problems. The eldest daughter was struggling immensely with this situation. The help that St Vincent's gave ensured that the family could move into the other bedrooms within the home. The eldest daughter now has her own bedroom; her behaviour has improved beyond recognition, especially her treatment and relationship with her younger siblings. The improvement in the families living conditions has ensured that they can all stay together.



One of our many generous donations being collected ready to

Your service benefitted Fouzia by helping her have furniture for her and her children in her new home when she wouldn't have been able to afford these by herself. She was very grateful for the help you gave as it meant that she could move from the furnished private rented property she was in which was very damp and was making her children very ill. Fouzia (and I) believe that your help has contributed greatly towards the improvement in her children's health and wellbeing. Thank you so much.



Some of the local agencies that benefit from our services who attended our **Agency Day in September 2017** 

PEOPLE saving of 578

were able to leave hospital and move back home due to our assistance. On average it costs approx £628 per night to keep a person in hospital. Also on average our assistance ensures a person can move back home at least 5 days early, this is a massive

**HOURS WORKED PER WEEK** 

**DIVIDEND:**