

IMPACT REPORT 2024



@STRIPEYSTORK

FAMILY
SUPPORT
RECYCLED



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

WWW.STRIPEYSTORK.ORG.UK

Registered charity in England & Wales (1161613)

WHO WE ARE



THE FUTURE WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS



Every child in **Surrey and Croydon** has access to the essential things they need to develop and meet their potential.

HOW WE CONTRIBUTE

Stripey Stork alleviate the impacts of childhood poverty by providing a **practical way for families to help each other** with kindness and purpose.



WHY IT MATTERS

Because every child deserves the same start, **4.3 million children are living in poverty in the UK**. Even in 'affluent' Surrey the numbers are worryingly high.

By promoting the reuse of second-hand items, organisations like Stripey Stork can help to extend the life cycle of essential items for **0-18 year olds**.



OUR VALUES

Local families helping local families - we act as a connector between families, enabling them to pass on quality items their children have outgrown to others who need them.

Family support, recycled - we promote sustainability by giving preloved items a second life, always prioritising safety and quality.

At the heart of the community - our volunteers are at the core of what we do. We provide a welcoming, inclusive space and build meaningful partnerships that benefit the whole community.

A piece of the jigsaw of care - referral partners rely on us to provide a consistent and essential service, helping them support families in need.

Ready to respond - we work at scale with flexibility and efficiency, ensuring every referral is met with care, because behind every request is a family who have trusted us to help.



WAREHOUSE

51a Albert Road North,
Reigate, RH2 9EL



WORKSHOP

55 Albert Road North,
Reigate, RH2 9EL



PROJECT SITE

Raven House, 29 Linkfield Lane,
Redhill, RH1 1JP



FIND OUT MORE

www.stripeystork.org.uk
info@stripeystork.org.uk



@STRIPEYSTORK

In 2024, we continued to 'Spread Our Wings'. And not just as a theme, but as a commitment to reaching more families, strengthening our foundations, and ensuring that every child has the essentials they need to thrive. This year has been one of growth, change and dedication from Team Stork.

We expanded in every sense of the word. We've welcomed fantastic new members to our team, strengthening our ability to support families across Surrey. Alongside them, our new electric van has allowed us to deliver help directly to where it's needed, making our service more efficient and sustainable. Our second site in Reigate, made possible with support from our incredible partners, has allowed us to improve our capacity. With a refurbished, accessible workshop designed around the needs of our team and volunteers, we are now better equipped to meet the growing demand for our support.

Our strategic review reinforced the urgency of our work. In response, we extended our age range to 18 years, recognising the challenges faced by older children and young adults. We brought Croydon into scope, broadening our reach beyond Surrey to meet increasing need. And, as we continue to listen to those we support, we have placed an even greater focus on 'essentials' by addressing bed poverty, hygiene poverty and the fundamental items every child deserves.

This year, the trustees and senior managers conducted a strategic review. I am grateful to Skylark Consulting who once again supported us in this process. The review confirmed what we already knew - our service is more vital than ever. It highlighted the deep need for our support and the trust that families and referral partners place in us.

In response, we have strengthened our focus, expanded our reach, and deepened our commitment to tackling essential needs. None of this would have been

None of this would be possible without Team Stork. Our trustees, staff, volunteers, community and corporate partners, referral partners and the families who both support us and trust us to help them - each one plays a vital role. Their dedication, generosity, and belief in our work powers every referral, every delivery, and every family we help.

This report captures the impact of our collective effort. Behind every number is a story, a family, a child who has been given a better start. And we're set to do even more in 2025.

With my deepest thanks,

Nicola Dawes DL,
Founder & Chief Executive



possible without the remarkable dedication of every individual, business, and organisation that makes up Team Stork. You have risen to every challenge with determination and compassion. Thank you for being part of this journey; we couldn't do it without you.

Karen Lord,
Chair of Trustees



OVERVIEW - 2024



Since 2013...

50,061
Families helped

66,892
Children helped

Figures exclude Santa Stork

In 2024...

11,571
Families helped

18,629
Children helped

Supporting
children
ages 0-18

VALUE OF ITEMS



£1,265,629
OVERALL VALUE

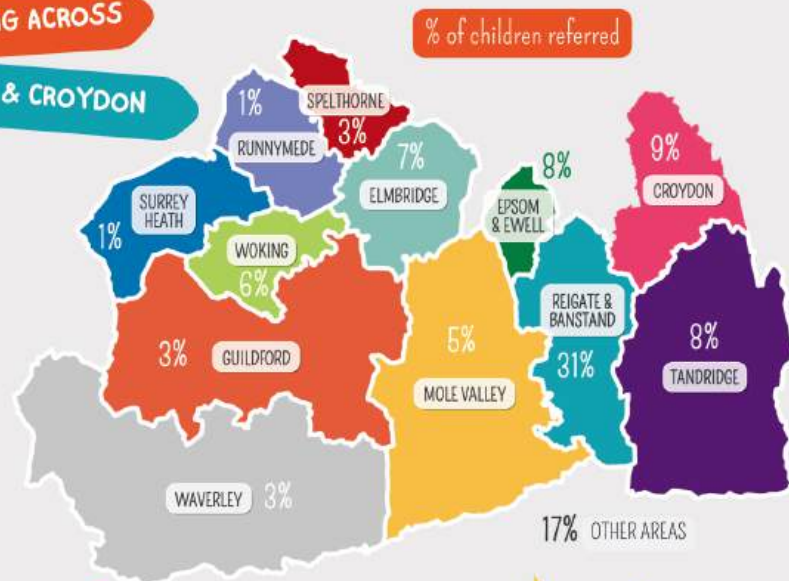


* Amount includes Santa Stork

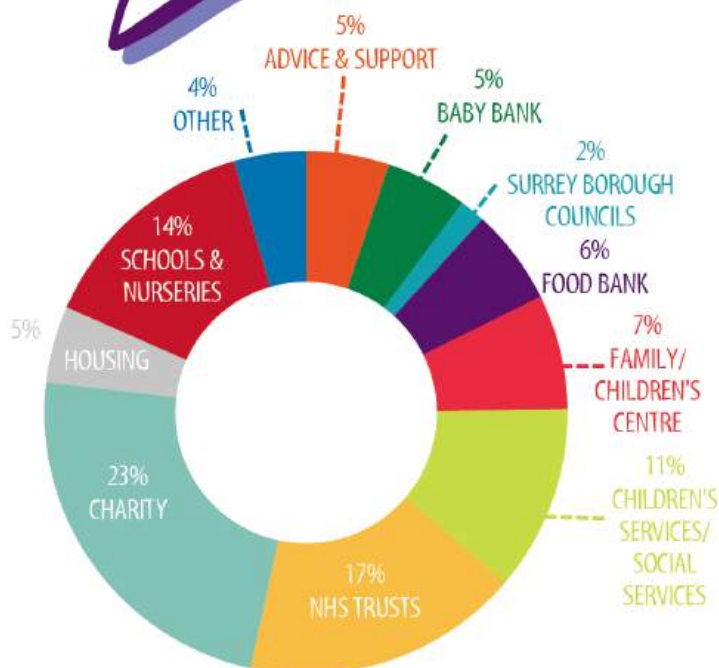


REACHING ACROSS

SURREY & CROYDON



REFERRAL
ORGANISATION
BY TYPE



991 PARTNERS
REFERRED



from

345 REFERRAL
ORGANISATIONS



we use

8 DELIVERY
HUBS



Powered by
volunteers

546 VOLUNTEERS

gave **15,792** VOLUNTEER HOURS

including **2,433** CORPORATE HOURS



THE ESSENTIALS WE PROVIDE



211 high chairs

494 book bags

5,348 toiletry packs

506 buggies/prams

101 baby carriers/slings

1,721 toy bundles

505 moses baskets/baby boxes

1,258 bedding bundles

WE RESPONDED TO...
11,571 FAMILIES IN NEED OF SUPPORT
= 18,629 CHILDREN

423 cots/beds

329 stairgates

214 baby gyms/play mats

1,456 activity packs

1,453 mattresses (new)

15,505 school uniform items

5,058 shoes/trainers

1,894 school bags filled with stationery (new)

4,870 packs of nappies/wipes

4,449 clothing packs (prepacked by age/gender)

385 newborn baby packs (average of 20 items per pack)

"You all work so hard to provide such a needed and valuable service, I could not do my job of supporting the parents with everyday products without you."
- Referral partner -

On average, we helped 964 families each month...

In 2024, we responded to requests to support **11,571 families** (with **18,629 children**). This represents a **25% increase** from last year and, as in line with previous years, does not include those helped through Santa Stork. This rise is representative of the increased capacity we have built, the early impact of the van, and the continued success of the School Days campaign.

Referral trends continue to highlight the growing financial pressures on families due to rising living costs, leading us to place an even **greater focus on essentials**. This includes the high-value, large

equipment items such as beds, to everyday essentials like hygiene products and school uniforms.

And of course we're more than just a 'baby bank' and we're also there for older children in the family. As part of this commitment, we formally extended our service to **children aged 0-18 years**. As a result, in 2024 we have **supported more children over age 10** than any other age group, and given out **857 teen clothes bundles** over the year.

THE NEED WE'RE MEETING

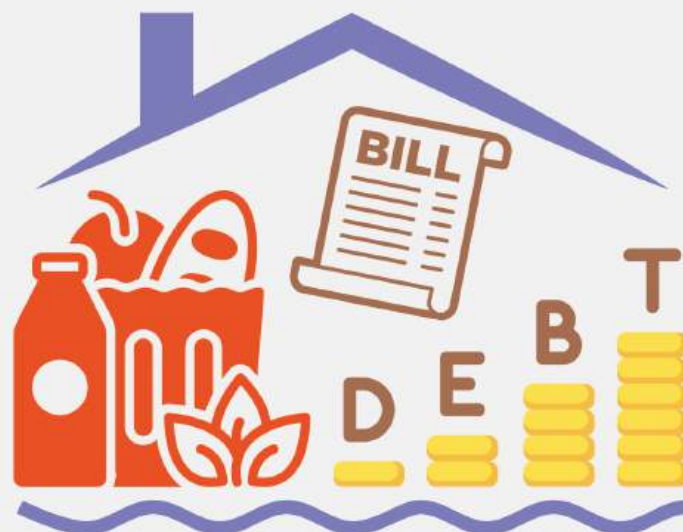


The Joseph Rowntree UK Poverty 2024 report* highlights that family poverty is not diminishing, with **4.2 million (around three in every ten) children in poverty** in 2021/22.

Closer to home, Surrey's** poverty update reveals that **19,967 of children in Surrey (9%) live in absolute low-income households**, with 70% of these from working households. Child poverty rates in **Croydon are even more alarming, at 31%**.

* www.jrf.org.uk/uk-poverty-2024-the-essential-guide-to-understanding-poverty-in-the-uk

** www.surreyi.gov.uk/dataset/2nddx/child-poverty-and-disadvantage-in-surrey



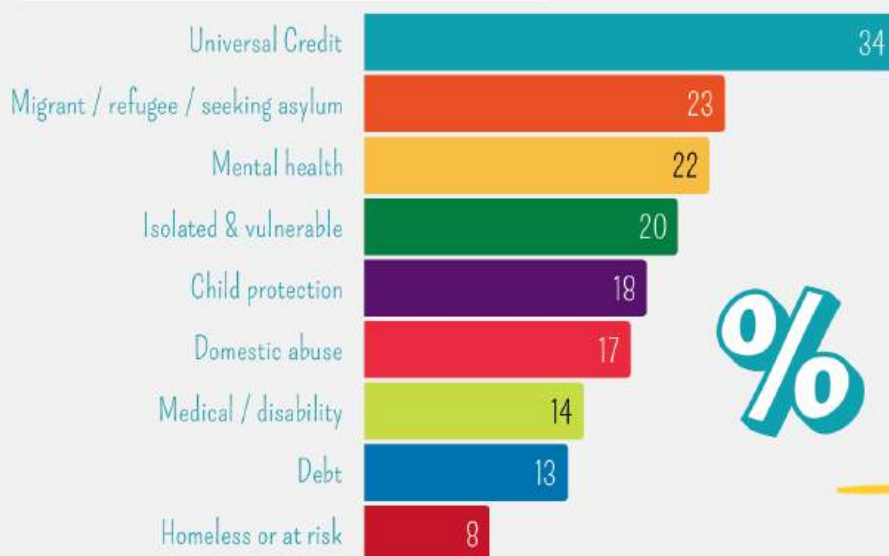
All the children in the families we help are living in poverty, to some degree. But the situation can be complex, being referred to us for many different, sometimes overlapping, reasons. The rising cost of living is a major factor. We've seen an increase in families referred to us who receive **Universal Credit** - 34% in 2024, up from 31% in 2023. Additionally, 13% of referred families are not just struggling financially but also **living in debt**.

Poverty is often triggered or worsened by unexpected upheaval. Our support for those affected by **domestic abuse** has risen to 17% (up from 8% in 2023), predominantly due to requests from the expansion of two refuge sites in Surrey and the increased support of other domestic abuse organisations across the region

- Mum -

The boys were all smiles as they opened the packages, and it was heartwarming to see how much they loved the new clothes. Their excitement was truly priceless. You helped lift a heavy load off my shoulders, and I can't thank you enough for your kindness.

REASONS FOR REFERRAL (%)



*** More than one reason may be cited for a referral so note that the total of percentages may exceed 100%

THE NEED WE'RE MEETING

THROUGH OUR DELIVERY SERVICE



versus
2,707
in 2023

As a key part of our commitment to 'Spreading Our Wings' – and building capacity to support up to **20,000 requests for help by 2026** – is our delivery service. This service means we can deliver specifically requested and bulk items closer to referral partners via our regional hubs.

Regional hubs are where referral partner organisations act as drop-off points, allowing nearby organisations to collect from them instead of making a special trip to us. We have continued to strengthen relationships and establish new delivery hubs in high-demand areas or where referral partners face barriers to access.

Thanks to **Raven Housing Trust**, 2024 marked a major milestone with the arrival of our very own, fully electric delivery van. In July, following the appointment of Chris as our Distribution Referrals Coordinator, we launched our regular regional delivery service.

Since then, we've expanded our delivery service further, formally incorporating Croydon into our scope to better support local partners and families. In November, we launched our first Croydon delivery hub at the **Family Hub at Woodlands Family Centre, South Croydon**. This initiative brings together 24 different key family services and is used by those previously unsupported by a baby bank. Plans are in place for additional hubs in the north and centre of the borough. We're also **expanding our reach through schools**, where needs are often identified first – especially for families who don't meet traditional thresholds but still face hardship.

Referral partners tell us that our delivery service is now an essential part of helping them maximise the support they offer. And no journey is wasted, with some of our **hubs acting as collection points** for wish list items that supported families no longer need – recycling and kindness at its best.

IN 2024...

DELIVERY HUBS = 8

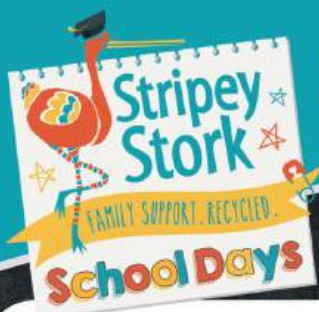
DELIVERED REFERRALS = 4,339

Having more local hubs has helped us as a service to be able to help more people. It has also given us the opportunity to see what happens at the hub organisation.

The delivery service has been invaluable to the families we support. Without the service we would not be able to collect the quantity and volume of goods due to time and capacity constraints.

The delivery service allows my team to have a stock of essentials that can be provided immediately when there is the need.





READY FOR THE SCHOOL DAY



Our **School Days** project provides children with **practical items for school**, from everyday basics like non-branded uniform and school shoes, to more specific needs such as World Book Day costumes and school trip essentials. We offer both pre-loved and new items, supporting children pre-school age right up to college students. We believe that when children feel equipped and ready for the school day, they can fully embrace school life and make the most of their learning.

While we have always provided school items as part of our core service, we launched School Days to expand and enhance this support. 2024 marked the first full year of the campaign, and having space at **Raven House** for volunteers to check, sort, prepare and stock items has allowed us to meet the rising need in the community. Although School Days is at its busiest before the start of the academic year, we offer this service **year-round** to support families as circumstances change, children outgrow uniforms, and school essentials need replacing. Thanks to running School Days from our project site, we've been able to keep it fully operational throughout the year.

In 2024, we supported **46% more families** with school items than in 2023. To meet this growing demand, throughout the year we ran donations drives and are grateful to the many school communities that collected pre-loved school items on our behalf.

IN 2024
SCHOOL DAYS
HAS HELPED...

3,894 FAMILIES
(vs. 2,650 in 2023)
6,727 CHILDREN



BY PROVIDING...

15,505 SCHOOL UNIFORM ITEMS
2,759 PAIRS OF SCHOOL SHOES & TRAINERS
1,894 NEW SCHOOL BAGS (+ STATIONERY)
670 PE BAGS & LUNCHBOXES

- Mum -

The children had been increasingly missing school, refusing to go because they were worried they'd be picked on or called out for not having the right uniform. Now they have what they need, the cycle of anxiety around school attendance has been broken and mornings are much calmer in our house.

- Referral partner -

Thank you for your speedy assistance with this. It gives me a little lift each time I see the shoes being worn, knowing that one worry has been removed from this family.



- Mum -

I felt like I was failing my three boys despite doing my best to provide for them, and it was even affecting my sleep. I am so grateful for the generous support with school uniform; it took away a huge financial burden and gave me peace of mind. With my middle son, you went out of your way to get him the right size uniform as he is tall so it's always a struggle.

READY FOR THE SCHOOL DAY



For referral partners unable to collect School Days items from us - due to distance, space, or resources - we have been offering our delivery service. Thanks to our new Stripey Stork van this year, we delivered large quantities of School Days items and extended our reach to organisations further afield, including **schools in Croydon and Stanwell Events in Spelthorne**. During our busiest months (May to September), we also made **weekly deliveries to our regional hubs**.

Having greater control over distribution allowed us to trial a **Pop-up Shop** with Oasis Charity in Cobham and Walton Charity in Elmbridge. These partners hosted 'Giving Events' where families tried on and selected the items they needed - restoring an element of **choice** that is often lost when experiencing poverty.

A huge thanks to everyone who has contributed to School Days this year, making a difference to so many children at such a crucial stage in their lives. A special thank you to the **Peter Harrison Foundation** for covering our essential core costs, and to our regular School Days volunteers - we were delighted to see their hard work recognised with the Reigate and Banstead Borough Council's **Volunteer Team Award**.



I don't want my children worrying about how I'll afford school essentials. All they want is to fit in, and the thought of them facing bullying because I can't afford what they need breaks my heart.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



SARAH: When I first started looking for volunteering opportunities after my stroke, I faced a lot of barriers. Many places weren't sure how to accommodate me, and I started to wonder if I'd find somewhere I truly belonged. But from the moment I stepped through the doors at Stripey Stork, I was welcomed with open arms. Ruth, the Volunteer Team Leader, showed me around, asked what I'd like to get involved in and made sure I had the support I needed. A special chair near the bundling table meant I could be comfortable while still being part of the action, and the accessible parking bay made getting here so much easier.

Now, I'm proud to be part of the 'Monday crew', a fantastic team who have become true friends. We even formed our own quiz team, but don't ask us where we came in the rankings!

My stroke may have changed some things, but it never changed my desire to give back to my community. I'm so grateful to have found a place where I can do just that.

Mum had to give up work due to ill health and she's a single parent providing for her children on her own. Having the basics is a daily struggle - after food and heating, there's nothing left. Kitting out her three growing children for school would have plunged them further into debt. She shields her youngest from financial worries, but the older two understand all too well. They know that asking for anything means more stress and upset for Mum, so they go without.

With free school meals, they receive some support for branded uniforms, but every parent knows that school essentials go far beyond that. Through the **Good Company** referring them to our School Days project, we provided uniforms, footwear, and coats, meaning they could go to school feeling confident and prepared - without the weight of financial worries.

STORK STORY



A MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE FOR EVERY BEDTIME

More than **a million children in the UK do not have a safe place to sleep***. Many families we support have to focus on paying bills, rent, and buying food before they can afford new beds and warm bedding.

Bed poverty often arises from a change like a new baby being born, a bed breaking, or moving into temporary accommodation. Children who share beds or sleep in unsuitable conditions often struggle with tiredness, which affects their learning, physical activity, and mental health.

We have seen a significant rise in requests for safe and warm sleep essentials, with ongoing **waiting lists** for Moses baskets, cots, toddler beds, and new mattresses. To meet this growing demand, we knew we needed to do something 'big', so we applied to take part in the **Big Give's Christmas Challenge**.

* www.barnardos.org.uk/blog/what-bed-poverty

Our aim was to ensure that there was never a waiting list for items like cots, mattresses, warm bedding and nightwear in 2025.

The idea was simple: supporter **donations would be doubled** during the campaign's live week (**3-10 December**), thanks to the **£40,000 matched funding pot**.

Our ambitious target was to raise **£80,000...**

- **£20,000** from a **main pledger(s)** - thank you to **The Wisley Foundation** and **PowerTutors**.
- **£20,000** from a **champion funder** via the Big Give - thank you to **The Julia Rausing Trust**.
- **£40,000** from **supporter donations**.



STORK STORY



COMFORT FOR COMFORT

To highlight the urgency of the campaign and the impact the funds would have, we are incredibly grateful to Comfort's family for sharing their story in our **campaign video**.

 **WATCH NOW**



Having a safe space for Comfort to sleep means the world to us. She sleeps so well in her warm cot and snuggly pyjamas, with her mobile lullaby sending her to sleep every night. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts, I will never forget the help you have given us.

“



Her newborn baby had been sleeping in an Amazon box until you provided a Moses basket, filled with warm bedding and essentials.

Mum had no cot for her 8-month baby and had given up her mattress so baby could sleep, which left her with only the hard base to sleep on.

WHY THE SAFER SLEEP CAMPAIGN WAS NEEDED

The family are living in a single room with one single bed and Mum is sleeping on the floor.









£94,343 RAISED - WHAT A RESULT!

As the campaign went live, we watched in awe as donations poured in. In just three days, we hit our target. By the end of the seven-day challenge, we had raised **£94,343***!

Thanks to this generosity, we have been able to go into 2025 with confidence – knowing we can say 'yes' to every request for a safe and warm bedtime.

** More including offline donations and Gift Aid*

SAFE SLEEP REQUESTS



2025 = WE'RE READY TO DO EVEN MORE!

OUR NEW WORKSHOP

In the second half of 2024, **we secured our second site in Reigate (55 Albert Road North)**, a complementary space to our main warehouse next door at 51a. This expansion is a significant milestone in our growth and being able to support more families across Surrey and Croydon. With a 'little help from our friends', we've been transforming it into a fully operational space, and the result will have such an impact on our work.

We now have an **accessible space**, with dedicated stations for working on **large and pre-loved equipment** like cribs and cots for our safer sleep campaign, as well as buggies, prams, and highchairs, all of which are high demand items we often have waiting lists for. This new workshop increases our storage capacity, streamlines sorting and distribution, and provides ample space for cleaning and safety checks - ultimately amplifying our impact. It also enables us to welcome more volunteers, including those with physical accessibility needs, and invite corporate groups to work on large equipment items.



We are grateful to all those who made our new workshop a reality. **Unum** generously covered the first year's rent. **Surrey County Council**, through a **Your Fun Surrey** grant from Councillor Victor Lewanski, funded essential infrastructure. **SMP Alliance**, alongside **WJ Group** and **Core Highways**, improved accessibility.

Overbury led the six-week pro bono transformation of the space, coordinating a network of skilled subcontractors – including **ADS, Bancroft, Berkeley Projects, Loughtons Flooring, Formation Lighting, ProAV, Taylor Made Joinery, and Celtic Contractors** – who carried out extensive renovations.

Thanks to this incredible collaboration, we now have a fully functional and inclusive workshop that will help us support even more families in need.



OUR SEASONAL CAMPAIGNS



SANTA STORK

Santa Stork is our annual campaign that brings the community together to ensure local children in need have **a gift to open on Christmas Day**.

Recognising that some children may have a specific gift in mind this year we **partnered with Truly Giving**, an established local organisation that connects children with donors, eager to fulfil their wishes. This collaboration allowed us to share knowledge, resources, and sometimes stock – but most importantly, it ensured families in Surrey and Croydon received the right level of support during what can be an extremely difficult time of year.

Once again, the community came together to spread Christmas magic, warmth, and comfort.

IN IT'S 11th YEAR, SANTA STORK 2024...
supported 3,955 children
& 865 children through Truly Giving

One child told me that the only presents she received this year were those given through Santa Stork. It was hard to hear but also a powerful reminder of just how vital this campaign is.

For victims of domestic abuse, this campaign can be the difference between feeling like giving up and finding the strength to go on - healing, accepting help, growing, and ultimately living a happier, healthier life.

STORK
STORY

A Father's Story of Love,
Loss, and Gratitude



I've seen one of our young teens wandering around the house wrapped in his hooded blanket. His parents say he wears it all the time. He really appreciated the smellies too.



A GIFT FOR MUM

A Gift for Mum is Stripey Stork's **Mother's Day** campaign. Every year we distribute pampering gift sets, each accompanied with a specially designed card handwritten by one of our amazing volunteers.

The Mums, Grandmothers and female carers referred to us, often lack the usual support network to ensure they feel recognised on Mother's Day. This campaign is about showing that they are appreciated and loved - and reminding them about the importance of taking a little time for themselves.

Dads, Grandfathers and male carers are never forgotten - we make equivalent gift bags around **Father's Day**.

- Mum -

I didn't know what to do or say when my daughter came out of school with something for me, as nothing is ever just for me. I could see that it gave her self-esteem to be able to do something for me, all by herself.

580

Mother's Day gifts
distributed



STORK
STORY

We also recognise important cultural events, such as the Islamic celebration of Eid al-Fitr.



OUR EVENTS



STRIPES4STRIPEY



There's no better way to raise awareness of Stripey Stork than by asking the local community to wear stripes for all to see. **Thursday 20th June 2024** was firmly marked in the calendar and our fundraising hats were on.

The weather was also on our side, which was lucky because we had stripey ice cream (thanks to **Sundae Scoop**) and stripey ice lollies (sold by **Banstead Preparatory School**). And if that wasn't enough, **Beryl & Pegs** were selling the most delicious stripey cake. We love seeing how everyone gets creative with their stripes, and it doesn't stop with our human supporters - **The Paw Shed** even added a stripey bowtie to every dog groomed on the day.

Our corporate supporters also got in on the action - thank you to **Unum UK**, **SES Water**, **WTW**, **Celtic Contractors** and **nTrust** for raising awareness and funds.

As the stripey day turned into night, we gathered at **Reigate Manor** for our annual curry and quiz event. It's always a joy to see so many of Team Stork together, having a blast. And who doesn't love a game of heads or tails, plus a raffle to top it off?

Thank you, as collectively we raised an incredible **£5,327** to support our ongoing work.

RUN REIGATE



On **Sunday 22nd September 2024**, Run Reigate returned to Priory Park and Team Stork was out in full force. Alongside individuals and family runners, we saw a surge in corporate teams wanting to run for us, leading to a fantastic **pre-race event** at our warehouse, where runners saw firsthand the impact of their fundraising.

Race day was filled with energy, cheers, and jelly babies, as we supported our runners every step of the way. A special shoutout to **Ben from Reigate Squash Club**, who ran a marathon and a half for Stripey Stork, completing the Lisbon Marathon shortly after.



This year was a record-breaker for Team Stork - our 58 incredible runners raised **£20,163!**



OTHER EVENTS

We're always inspired by creative fundraisers like **Olivia** and her friends, who sold bookmarks and lemonade. **Jake**, who completed a 30-day skipping challenge. **Beverley**, who asked for donations instead of 70th birthday gifts. A huge thanks to everyone who gives back in their own special way.



In June, we held a Family Fun Day at **Hartsfield Manor**, packed with games, prizes, and excitement. Our stall was a hit, helping raise an incredible **£2,021** to support our work.

OUR COMMUNITY

POWERED BY VOLUNTEERS

Our pool of volunteers is a **diverse group** that includes regular volunteers, young people including those working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Award, employees using Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) hours, and corporate teams on away days. We value every one of them for their time, skills, and enthusiasm - they truly are the definition of Team Stork.

Our **corporate volunteering** offer has expanded and now runs three days a week - one day at the warehouse and two days at Raven House. The feedback remains overwhelmingly positive, and it's not uncommon for corporate volunteers to return as regular volunteers or even introduce us as a new volunteering opportunity when they move to different employment.



Stripy Stork is an amazing place to volunteer and I love every second! Thank you for all the incredible work you do for our community and the support you give to your volunteers.

- Regular volunteer -



I particularly enjoyed the week when the staff had cake with the volunteers. It was really interesting to hear what they all do and their backgrounds.

- Regular volunteer -



I always look forward to my volunteering sessions. I have made new friends and everyone is very professional and welcoming. I always come home feeling good and have enjoyed hearing the stories of the difference we are making to the supported families.

- Regular volunteer -



unum



We started the year with the exciting news that **Unum Dorking** had chosen us their charity partner for the next two years. It has been a pleasure to welcome **131 employees over 12 team volunteering sessions, contributing an impressive 497 hours** of their time.

“Volunteering at Stripy Stork is a meaningful and practical way to make a positive difference in our community... It was great to hear and understand more about the challenging circumstances of the families they support. This was one of the best corporate volunteering days that I've taken part in, and I'm extremely impressed by the charity's cause and achievements.”

Mark Till, CEO Unum

OUR COMMUNITY

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

We have completed our **second full year of Duke of Edinburgh volunteering**, and the programme continues to thrive under the guidance of our Volunteer Coordinator for Young People, Helen, who joined us in May. Insight from our young volunteers on teen clothing, care packs and Christmas gifts ensures that recipients receive items that are both relevant and useful.



“

I wanted to share how wonderful my son's experience has been volunteering with Stripey Stork as part of his DofE. It's been such a rewarding experience, the staff and volunteers have gone out of their way to make him feel welcome and part of the team.



IN 2024, WE'VE HAD...

962 HOURS BY
77 DofE STUDENTS
FROM 8 SCHOOLS/COLLEGES

STUDENTS COMPLETED AWARDS
35 BRONZE 11 SILVER 2 GOLD



SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Our mascot, Stripey, often appears at school assemblies, fairs, and fundraising events, and we love the enthusiasm from children, parents, and teachers supporting us.



Dunottar School in Reigate hosted a **nappy tower building competition**, where students donated large-sized nappies and competed to build the tallest tower. While house points were awarded, the real winner was Stripey Stork, as we received two huge nappy deliveries. In total we received 385 packs, meaning we could meet requests for several months.

The **Reigate Grammar School** family of schools (Reigate St Mary's, Chinthurst, and Micklefield) continues to support us year-round with collections of coats, shoes, stationery, Christmas gifts and teen clothing. Reigate Grammar also runs a **volunteering elective**, and we love welcoming their students to the warehouse each week.



After choosing us as their Charity partner, the **Banstead Preparatory School** community has been working hard and creatively on ways to support us, from running donation drives to selling stripey ice lollies.

This year, we've welcomed several new schools to our growing community. **St John's Leatherhead** held a winter coat collection and donated new Christmas gifts following an assembly talk. Their sixth formers delivered and sorted donations, while Year 8 students chose us for their **First Give Competition** - we look forward to supporting their fundraising in 2025.

King Edward's Witley generously donated new, unbranded school uniforms that were surplus after a design update. **Claremont Fan** students won first place in their **First Give Competition** with an inspiring presentation on our support for teenagers experiencing poverty, securing a £1,000 donation plus £560 from fundraising. We're excited to see how these new partnerships develop.



“Following a traumatic Channel crossing, six-year-old Hassan developed an extreme fear of water – so severe he couldn’t even wash his hands.”

Hassan’s family fled conflict in the Middle East, enduring a dangerous journey to the UK. On the final leg, their overcrowded boat hit rough seas, and Hassan was swept overboard. He was pulled back onto the boat, but the terrifying experience left lasting trauma.

Once in emergency accommodation, the family had nothing – but thanks to First Community Health and Care’s Inclusion Team making a referring to Stripey Stork, they received all the clothing and essentials they needed. Later, a seemingly simple request arrived: swimming shorts for Hassan.

Hassan’s nursery nurse was worried about the long-term impact his fear of water would have on him if not addressed sooner. She created a step-by-step plan to gently expose him to water, starting with dipping his fingers in coloured water, then introducing bubbles.

His family joined in, using laughter to ease his anxiety.

The next challenge was the shower – something he feared deeply. The swimming shorts became a symbol of safety, first worn around the house, then near the shower, and finally under running water. Slowly, his fear began to ease. The family who donated those swim shorts could never have imagined their impact – but for Hassan, they became a turning point in overcoming trauma and regaining confidence.

This therapy has been a healing process for the whole family. They were met with kindness and support along the way, helping them rebuild their lives. We’re pleased to have played a small part in their journey.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Donate FUNDS: either a one-off or regular contribution
[HTTPS://CAFDONATE.CAFONLINE.ORG/9010](https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/9010)

Is there something you wish to DONATE?
DONATE@STRIPEYSTORK.ORG.UK

Can you VOLUNTEER some time to help us?
VOLUNTEER@STRIPEYSTORK.ORG.UK

Are you a business or community group who would like to PARTNER with us or FUNDRAISE?
PARTNERSHIPS@STRIPEYSTORK.ORG.UK

Are you a professional wanting to make a REFERRAL?
REFER@STRIPEYSTORK.ORG.UK

SCAN ME



IN-KINDNESS

VOLUNTEER WITH US

We are always looking for volunteers – whether as individuals, with friends, on a work team away day, or as part of a community group. We welcome regular volunteers, those available on an ad hoc basis, and those interested in a specific campaign. You will be making a real difference in your community, by joining our inclusive and welcoming team. **Team Stork!**

In 2024, we received inkind donations worth **£313,537**. These are new products that may be end-of-range, surplus, or sample stock. Such donations are vital in helping us to create bundles, toiletry packs, and gift bags. If you have connections with an organisation that might be able to help, we’d love to hear from you. **Thank you!**

We’d like to extend our heartfelt gratitude with **one big collective thank you** to all the staff, trustees, volunteers, referral partners, donors, corporates, schools, and funders for your incredible support this year. We couldn’t have had such an impactful year without you. And finally, thank you to the families we support for entrusting us to help, we promise to never forget that behind every referral is a family that needs a helping hand.



Members' Community Allocation

