

LINCOLN COMMUNITY LARDER.

The Lincoln Community Larder was the brainchild of Mrs Mary Eckmyre who lived in the Monks Road area of Lincoln. She became increasingly aware that some people were finding it difficult to feed their families in a time of crisis when money was short, so she decided to do something about it herself.

She started by keeping a small stock of tinned goods in her front room which she would use for those in need in her community. As word spread it became clear that a larger space was required and it appears, she got involved with local churches and the YMCA. The result was that on August 18th 1989 the Larder was opened for the first time in the YMCA Annexe in Rosemary Lane, where it has remained for over thirty years. Clients are referred to us using a new online system by local referral agencies and this allows the client to collect from the Larder sufficient food for three days.

Sadly, the demand for food has increased over the years and the Larder's operation has become more complex. There have been times when it almost closed due to lack of funds and volunteers, but the commitment of a few people helped it to survive and now we have a pool of about 25 volunteers and a healthy bank balance.

Donations of money and goods are given throughout the year by individuals, churches, supermarkets and other businesses. Our major collection is at Harvest time when gifts from schools and churches are donated. Several years ago, these were stored in the garage of one of the Trustees but as the supplies became greater, we leased a warehouse where food is sorted and stored for use throughout the year.

The Larder is now also open on two estates to the north of Lincoln, in Welton village, and the villages of Martin and Wragby to encourage its use by families who may not be able to get to town. All this has grown from the commitment of one woman and the generosity of local people.

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Most useful donations:-

Jam/Marmalade/Honey

Tinned Fruit

Tinned rice pudding and Tinned Custard

Tinned meats eg. Minced beef, stews, curries, meatballs

Hot dogs

Tinned tuna

UHT Milk, semi skimmed

Tinned Sweetcorn

Tinned carrots

Tinned peas

Tinned tomatoes

Tinned potatoes

Weetabix

Pasta sauces

Small jars of coffee

Sweet biscuits

Angel Delight

Jelly

Meat/Fish Paste

Squash.

We are of course happy to receive any donations, but please could we ask that the donations are not out of date.

Many thanks for your support. If you would like any further information please email us or look at our website.

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