WATERSIDE foodbank

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On December 15th 2008 Waterside Foodbank was launched. It doesn't seem possible that we are now at the end of our first year and we would like to thank everyone who has helped in ANY way with the Foodbank.

We have distributed some 224 Emergency Food Boxes, meaning that 318 adults and 232 children have been fed throughout the year.

The reasons for accessing the food are varied but the lack of adequate provision by the statutory authorities when changes occur in people's circumstances, is far and away the most pressing need for people in our area.

In total 3845.9 kg of food has been donated and 3468.4kg of food has been distributed in Emergency Foodboxes throughout the year.

None of this would be possible without the generous and constant support of local churches, schools and businesses, not forgetting the willingness of the Co-op and Tesco at Blackfield in allowing us to hold food collection days in their stores.

Harvest donations from churches and schools across the Waterside, from Marchwood to Fawley, amounted to a staggering 1411kg of food which means that we can begin a new year with our shelves well stocked. But considering it takes 24kg of food to fill an Emergency Food Box for a family of four, it doesn't take long for the supplies to be used!

So "thank you" so much to everyone who has supported us over the past year, especially our volunteers who sort out the boxes in the Warehouse, stand in supermarkets and man the Distribution Centre week in and week out. We couldn't run the Project without you, and we hope that you will be able to continue to support Foodbank as the demand is steadily rising with more professional agencies wanting to use the services of the Project.

We are so pleased that 15 professional agencies are now associated with Foodbank by way of holding vouchers and directing people to us in their time of crisis ... a testament to the value and integrity of the service we provide within the community.