



## **The Livery Food Initiative**

### **Urgent Funding Needed**

#### **London is facing a humanitarian crisis with food poverty increasing in the capital**

We are all very aware of the contrast between the wealth within the City and Livery Companies, and food poverty in nearby areas. Foodbanks and other charities are facing a decrease in donations at a time when the need is increasing exponentially. This is far worse than anything experienced during the COVID 19 lockdowns. 800,000 children are living in poverty in London, nearly 40% of all children in the capital.

#### **The Livery Food Initiative aims to reduce food poverty**

We are seeking funding to increase the volume of surplus food able to be redistributed in London by City Harvest. Funding will go towards the operating costs of keeping the food rescue vans running (*for detailed costs see appendix*). Given the deepening crisis, we plan to provide sustainable funding for City Harvest. We are asking for significant contributions. Every £190,000 we raise will enable us to keep one of the City Harvest vans rolling for 3 years, delivering 2.4 million meals over that time. We want this Livery-wide initiative to keep as many vans running as possible.

#### **The Livery Charity Chairs Group recognised that we could have more impact if we collaborated**

At the end of our September 2022 meeting we were reminded, as with the Livery Kitchen Initiative (LKI), that working together was the way to make the most difference with the grants we give - and very quickly realised that the current food crisis absolutely warranted such an approach.

#### **LCCG is therefore launching the Livery Food Initiative, partnering with City Harvest**

We are proposing a simple approach to gain maximum impact. We are raising funds for City Harvest, a food redistribution charity, which were involved with LKI and are already well known in the Livery movement. They currently rescue and deliver free nutritious food for over 1.1 million meals each month and need more resources to meet the escalating demand.

#### **City Harvest rescues food that is going to waste and delivers it to over 350 charities across London**

We are not only in a cost of living crisis but also in a climate change crisis. We will be supporting a sustainable solution, helping both people and planet. City Harvest takes high quality food which is about to go to waste from farms, manufacturers and retailers and redistributes it to charities throughout London, serving men, women and children in dire need. This two-minute video shows how they do this: <https://www.cityharvest.org.uk/about-city-harvest>

City Harvest:

- **Rescues Food** - food sourced from businesses that have surplus or wish to donate
- **Rescues People** – nutritious meals improve the health and well-being of those in need
- **Rescues the Planet** - landfill-bound food rescued, preventing release of methane - a gas 20 times more environmentally toxic than CO<sub>2</sub>.

City Harvest is a high impact charity, achieving a Social Return on Investment of £12.70 for every £1 donated.



#### **More City Harvest vans are needed to deliver food in and around the City**

LKI worked with City Harvest during the pandemic, at times providing 2,000 meals a week to be redistributed. They provided funding to enable City Harvest to appoint a Head of Community Impact, Marco Torquati who provided a strategic approach so that City Harvest could select charities with the greatest level of need.



Marco sent a message to the Livery Food Initiative:

*'Since I joined City Harvest in Feb 2022, there has been at least a 50% rise in demand for our supplies. Most of our current 350 charities would take more food if we were able to deliver it to them, especially nutritious staples. They are reporting weekly rises in the number of people turning up for food, including many people who have not previously used foodbanks. In fact, the sort of people who not long ago used to donate to their local foodbank.'*



**We are very pleased to have the support of the Lord Mayor Alderman Nicholas Lyons**

*'I am delighted to support the Livery Charity Chairs Group's 'Relieving Food Poverty' initiative. During a period of intense difficulty for so many amid the cost-of-living crisis, this work will provide crucial support to those most in need.'*

*LCCG partnering with City Harvest is a brilliant idea that will help tackle food poverty in the capital in a meaningful way. The work of City Harvest unquestionably needs more resources to meet the growing demand. And this initiative will serve to put more food on the table for those who need it most.'*

LFI is also supported by Sheriffs Alderman Alastair King and Andrew Marsden, Alderman Michael Mainelli, the chair of the Pan Livery Steering Committee and Deputy Philip Woodhouse, the Chair of the Livery Committee.

**We are asking all Livery Charities to give what they can over the next three years**

It is absolutely understood that every charity is constrained by the confines of their objects. There are, however, a number of possible ways your charity or company could consider making contributions:

- Giving single or multiple donations from your charity over the three year period;
- Encouraging your members to make individual donations for you to pass on to City Harvest;
- Match funding member donations from your charity or company resources.

**We are asking that you give your contributions direct to City Harvest**

The City Harvest bank details are in the appendix together with information about how to reference your donation. Most importantly, please email details of your gift to Hilary Lindsay at [liveryfoodinitiative@gmail.com](mailto:liveryfoodinitiative@gmail.com). As with the Livery Kitchen Initiative, we will be sharing the total raised and the names of the individual Livery Companies and Guilds who have contributed, in order to raise awareness of this unique initiative.

**Looking forward**

The Livery Food Initiative will evolve over the next three years. We will be sending out regular updates on the impact your donations have had. At present we are asking for financial contributions but, if you feel you might be able to help this extremely worthwhile cause in any other way, please let us know. We will explore further ways you can help in due course, for example by volunteering.

**Any queries**

If you have any queries or would like any more information about any aspect of the Livery Food Initiative, please contact Hilary Lindsay at [liveryfoodinitiative@gmail.com](mailto:liveryfoodinitiative@gmail.com).

**Finally, and on behalf of all members of the Livery Charity Chairs Group,  
may we thank you for your support with this much needed Livery Food Initiative.**



## Appendix

### 1. Van operating costs

Annual Food Rescue Van Costs			
Driver Costs			£28,284
Van Operating Costs			£16,379
	Maintenance	£1,142	
	Petrol	£7,337	
	Insurance	£5,268	
	Taxes and Other Charges	£1,584	
	Van tracking and navigation systems	£1,048	
Fleet Overhead Costs			£8,726
	Share of Operations Manager cost	£3,176	
	Share of Logistics Manager cost	£2,076	
	Share of Logistics Planner costs	£1,920	
	Share of Assistant Transport Manager cost	£1,554	
Depreciation			£10,248
Total Annual Costs			£63,637

### 2. Bank details

Please add to your payment the reference: **LFI your company name**

City Harvest Bank Details	
Account name	City Harvest Ltd
Account Number	00099236
Branch sort code	40-52-40
IBAN	IBAN GB28 CAFB 4052 4000 0992 36
Swift/BIC Code	CAFBGB21XXX (corr bank HSBC - MIDLGB22)
Bank name	CAF Bank Ltd
Address 1	25 Kings Hill Avenue
Address 2	West Malling
Address 2	Kent ME19 4JQ

and email details of your gift to Hilary Lindsay at [liveryfoodinitiative@gmail.com](mailto:liveryfoodinitiative@gmail.com)

### 3. Background information

**City Harvest** was founded in 2014. Its company registration number is 08986929 and its charity registration number 1163055. Its registered office is Unit 8, Acton Park Estate, The Vale, London W3 7QE and its website [www.cityharvest.org.uk](http://www.cityharvest.org.uk). Copies of its accounts up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 are available on the Charity Commission website. The LCCG members of the Food Task Group carried out appropriate due diligence on City Harvest. City Harvest will provide quarterly impact reports to LCCG, who will share the information with contributors.



The **Livery Charity Chairs Group** was founded in 2021 and already has over 80 members from 70 Livery Companies and Guilds. Its Steering Committee members are Julia Sibley MBE (Innholders), Steve Graham (Glaziers), Hilary Lindsay (Chartered Accountants) and Peter Alvey (World Traders). The LCCG Food Task Group members are Richard Winstanley (Drapers), David Laxton (Bowyers), Hilary Lindsay (Chartered Accountants), Denise Fellows (Management Consultants) and Laura Winningham OBE and Fiona Hollis from City Harvest.

<https://www.liverycommittee.org/charities-and-education/charities/livery-charity-chairs-group/>