

# welcare

strengthening families since 1894

Dear Friends & Supporters,

I wanted to write to let you know the steps we are taking to maintain our support for vulnerable children and their families at this time of great anxiety and uncertainty.

For those parents with least resources, a particularly challenging time will be when children stop receiving school meals especially as food banks have seen donations drop. Welcare staff will distribute supermarket vouchers, donated by generous church and community supporters, to the families we are working with and who are in greatest need. We will launch a digital campaign next week to help provide more supermarket vouchers for the families that urgently need our support. If you can donate or forward this request to your friends and families and [DONATE TODAY](#) you will help us reach even more families.

We will also use technology to continue to offer emotional support to children who have been attending MySpace, our domestic abuse treatment and recovery groups and are planning other ways to extend this to other families. We will continue to keep in contact with the children and families we support and will share local information that will benefit them. Although a majority of our staff will be working remotely we will continue to take calls and respond to emails. A Covid-19 update has been published on [our website](#). This will be updated as this unprecedented event unfolds.

We plan to find out how we can support our service users better and shape our referral programme to enable more vulnerable families to access emotional and practical support from Welcare. We are also considering other ways our supporters like you can join us in helping those in need. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact me directly either by phone or email. Sadly we have also cancelled all fundraising events for at least the next six weeks including the Lent lunches organised by our supporters. However we hope that you will encourage your friends and families to donate to us through [the following link](#) to enable us to provide practical and emotional support to families in need.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff and trustees, I would like you to know that our thoughts and prayers are with you as we live through these unprecedented and unsettling times because of the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak. Even on Monday we could hardly have imagined what this week would bring in terms of the impact on our lives and those we serve. The trustees have established a standing committee to assist and develop contingency planning.

I know many of you and your families personally and am aware that we all have loved ones we are especially concerned about. I remain inspired by those who have gone before us over the 125 years Welcare has served vulnerable babies, children and parents. We have survived many challenges including two World Wars and have come through all these events by supporting and caring for each other.

Please continue to keep in touch and if you need any help please let us know.

Take care,



**Keep up to date with COVID-19 and Welcare**

**In light of the school closures and children not being able to attend school and church activities, we would like to present you a virtual way forward for the campaign.**

**You can now support Welcare for FREE through digital channels**



## Keep in touch

For more information, and to stay up to date with all our latest news, sign up to our newsletter at [welcare.org/newsletter](http://welcare.org/newsletter), or contact us on 020 7820 7910.



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