



March 2018 Newsletter

**Contact us:**

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**Find us on Facebook @**

**Family First Ipswich**

It has been an exciting time of growth since our last newsletter. Following our launch as Family First our focus has been on raising our profile and building and strengthening links with others. This has included meeting with many new organisations and teams including: North and East Ipswich Children's Centres, local toddler groups, local Councillors and Christian Youth Ministries.



#### Dec – March Highlights

- We were thrilled to meet with the Mayor of Ipswich, Sarah Barber. She was very interested in our work and what we are achieving.
- We attended the Crown Him event which involved productive conversations with many other groups and churches which led to two potential volunteers
- We successfully gained additional funding to enable us to extend our work to include parenting courses and money management courses for our families and were awarded nearly £10,000 from the Awards For All lottery funding.
- We are training another team of potential new volunteers in March

## Looking forward

We need to focus on fundraising this year. As a charity we are solely reliant on successful grant funding applications however we need to hold more fundraising events.

Our fundraising quiz last year was a great success and we plan to make this an annual event as well as introducing new fundraising ideas.



Would you be willing to:

- Join our fundraising team and help plan and run regular events?
- Plan your own event such as a coffee morning to raise funds for us?
- Support our team members as they take on challenges such as The Orwell Walk or even enter your own team?

## Jan's challenge

Our brave and fearless Service Lead and Trustee Jan Baker has started the ball rolling in our fundraising quest and will be undertaking The Wye Valley Challenge – a 100km walk through the stunning countryside in August. Please see our Facebook page and website for full details of how you can support her.

## BT MyDonate

We are now registered with a charity on this website who do not take a commission or charge us to use the site. It is easy to use and you can give a one off gift, set up a regular donation or sponsor an event.

You can link directly to the site from our Facebook page or visit it at:

[www.mydonate.bt.com](http://www.mydonate.bt.com)

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If just 10 people gave £10 per month, with Gift Aid, we would raise £1500 in a year.

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If you are interested in anything above or have ideas of your own please contact us – we would love to hear from you. Why not join us at our first **Fundraising Committee meeting:**

**When:** April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm

**Where:** 60 Sidegate Lane West IP4 3DB.

**RSVP:** 07570093097 (Michelle Jones)

### **Points for prayer.**

**Give thanks** Praise God for all his has done over the past year and pray we continue to grow and thrive spiritually, in numbers and financially.

**Families** Pray for all the families we work with that they may come to know God's love and compassion through their involvement with us.

**Team** Pray for the protection of the team as they engage with families in difficult circumstances. Pray they are able to be filled with the Holy Spirit and shine God's light in the darkness.

**Funding** We have faith in Gods plans for us and that He will provide and continue to pray for funding opportunities.

**Focus** Lord, please help us to keep you at the heart of all we do.

Thank you for your continued support of all we do. If you would like to be removed from our contact list for any reason, please contact us.