

Helping people to...

Cook meals
at home



Get a good
night's sleep



Save money by storing
fresh food for longer



Go to school with
confidence, wearing
the correct clothing



People pushed towards poverty

With the closure of a large number of local authority welfare schemes, the vital safety net for many has disappeared. This leaves them in challenging situations, without access to the most basic items necessary for a safe and comfortable home life.

That is why we award small one-off grants for essential household items and clothing. We make no restrictions on who we award our grants to, so long as they are legally resident in the UK.

2018/19

6,610 grants awarded



total value of grants



7,005
items given

Working with our partners

During 2018/19, we worked with:

1,150 partner agencies across the UK

including housing associations, citizens advice bureaux, probation services and other charities

2,982 support workers

submitted applications to us



“Glasspool grants provide a safety net and immediate intervention for those in desperate need, so they can rebuild their lives. Every day I see the devastating impact of poverty on people’s lives. I also see the difference this type of help means to people. Glasspool fulfils a vital gap many people sadly need.”

Tina Brown, case worker at Positive East, a community-based charity in London supporting people living with HIV



The situation

Finding fast solutions for difficult times

Meet Peter

When Peter was released from jail he had no home to go to. With little family support, Peter ended up in a homeless night shelter, before being allocated a council flat.

“ I desperately needed a washing machine but couldn't afford one. At first I went to the laundrette, but with my health issues, getting there became impossible, so I started washing my clothes in the bath.”

Peter



There are many more

Sadly, Peter's situation is not unique. Thousands of people need a bit of extra help to enable them to live a comfortable and productive life. In 2018/19, we supported 11,520 people who were financially vulnerable, living with poor mental or physical health, experiencing domestic violence or homeless.

11,520
people helped

6,610
households helped



The application

Last year Framework Housing Association support worker Mike McMahon applied for a grant on behalf of Hameera who was living in Lincoln with mental health issues. Hameera rebuilt her life and was allocated a new council flat, but had no means to furnish it.

A cooker was high on the priority list if Hameera was going to be supported to live a healthy, independent life. With no means to buy one, Mike turned to Glasspool for help.



“ Making an application with Glasspool is easy and straightforward. The team are always very prompt with answering any questions. It’s a really good system. ”

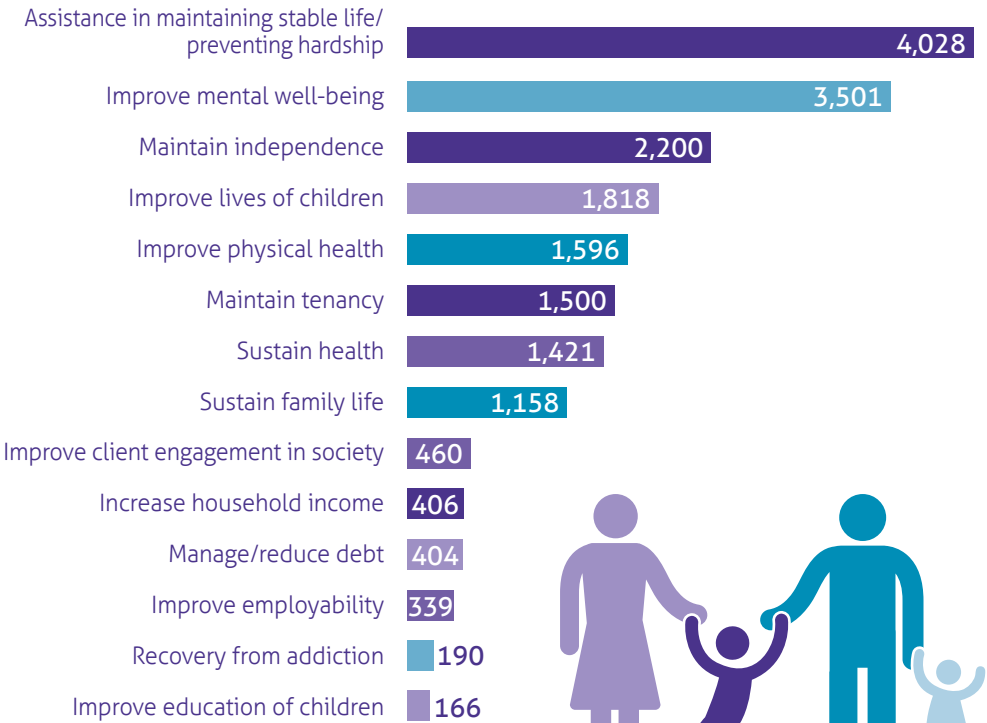
Mike McMahon, a support worker at Framework Housing Association

7,005
items given



The impact

How our grants helped



“When I was told Glasspool was providing me with a washing machine I couldn't believe it. It has made such a difference to me and made my life easier. I'm very grateful there are people out there like them – they helped me out of a tough spot.”

Peter



Extending our impact

We know that by working with partner agencies, people receive packages of support which extend the impact of our grants. These agencies provide a range of practical and emotional support that helps people stabilise their lives and move forward.

One of these organisations is Foundations First, a partnership between Shelter Scotland and Renfrewshire Council, set up to support children and their families in Renfrewshire.

The families they help are either homeless or worrying about losing their home. They are often struggling financially or in rent arrears. Many live in poor housing conditions including overcrowding.

Foundations First offers:



Housing support



Advice and advocacy



Help with resettlement to families



Emotional support



Parenting support



Financial support through Glasspool's Essential Living Fund

“Glasspool’s grants are a brilliant resource for our clients and the financial awards and white goods which have been provided have helped immensely and allowed people to make their houses a home.”

Fiona Brown, Advice Plus worker at Shelter Scotland



Our valued supporters

We are able to help more people like Peter and Hameera with the valuable support we receive from the Mercers', Drapers' and Goldsmiths' livery companies. Their combined support over the last year enabled us to award grants to meet essential needs to 387 households and over 500 people in financial need.

“ Following the success of an initial three-year grant providing targeted support to families and individuals in need in four North East London boroughs, the Drapers' Company renewed its support for a further three years, confident in the knowledge that the grants which Glasspool provides play a significant role in improving the quality of life of people facing hardship or other challenges.”

Andy Mellows
Director of Philanthropy,
The Drapers' Company



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