

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN SUPPORTING HOMELINK'S #HOMES4FAMILIES CAMPAIGN.

ABOUT US

HOMELINK is a Sussex-based homelessness prevention charity that helps people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless into housing. Our interest-free loans cover the cost of a landlord's deposit and advance rent. We also provide emergency grants for essential items of furniture.

Families dealing with the breakdown of a relationship, mental health issues, domestic violence and the loss of employment are all helped by HOMELINK.

Set up 20 years ago in Lewes District, we are the only charity in the South East of England dedicated to helping homeless people and

families into privately rented housing through interest-free loans. Loans are repaid at a rate agreed with clients that they can afford. Repayments are 'recycled' as soon as they are made to help the next person in need. Much of the charity's funding is therefore re-used year on year in a sustainable cycle of giving to help prevent homelessness.

A loan from HOMELINK isn't a hand-out, it's a hand-up for people who can manage an ongoing tenancy but don't have the funds to cover the upfront costs needed to access a privately rented home.

#HOMES4FAMILIES

There has been an alarming rise in the number of people recorded as homeless and in 'priority need' by local councils in recent years.

Families who have lost their home and parents separated from their children because of their housing situation make up a significant proportion of HOMELINK clients.

Our interest-free loans help parents to access a safe, secure and permanent new home, without having to move away from friends and schools, giving children continuity of community, education and healthcare.

Raising awareness of the life-changing benefits that a permanent home provides for family life and children's wellbeing - and the right of every child to have a safe and secure place to call home - is at the heart of our #homes4families campaign.

"The highlight of my week is hearing how a permanent address can lead to emotional recovery, getting qualifications, a new job, or best of all, access again to children who weren't allowed or able to stay with a homeless parent."

Pippa Grace
HOMELINK Service Manager



HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are lots of ways that you can get involved with #homes4families and help HOMELINK to provide more support for homeless parents and children in Sussex.



MAKE A DONATION

Regularly donating or making a one-off donation is simple and can be done via PayPal, Standing Order or cheque. If you're a UK taxpayer, you can also include Gift Aid to your donations which increases the value of your charity donations by allowing charities to reclaim the basic rate of tax on your gift at no extra cost to you. That's an additional 25p for every £1 you give.

- ★ **FREE RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE** to support your fundraising efforts including #homes4families badges, bunting, sponsorship forms and collection tins.
- ★ **Nominate HOMELINK as your Charity of the Year.**
- ★ A HOMELINK representative would be happy to visit your workplace to explain our work in more detail and to make a presentation to staff.



HOLD A FUNDRAISING EVENT

Fundraising events are vital for raising funds and awareness for our work. Get inspiration from our 'A-Z of Fundraising Ideas for Corporate Partners' leaflet and have some fun raising funds for HOMELINK with your colleagues, customers or clients.

"I had left an abusive relationship and was living in a tent when I applied to HOMELINK. Now that I've been in a secure address for five months, I've heard that the process can start for my son to come home to me. That means the world to both of us."

Suzie | HOMELINK client

"A home has meant starting work again and the chance to have my little girl here at weekends."

Joe | HOMELINK client

"The best thing is seeing my daughter happy, settled and care-free, social and looking into new apprenticeships."

Laura | HOMELINK client

"Having the rent paid in advance means that I'm always a month ahead which was a godsend when my new housing benefit took two and a half months to come through."

Tonya | HOMELINK client

"I was about to lose my home and quite possibly my two little boys if I couldn't come up with another solution to rehouse us. My eldest son is mildly autistic so I was desperate for him to stay at school in Lewes where the SENCO support is so amazing."

Amy | HOMELINK client