

“Baby—  
basics”  
Sheffield  
Impact Report 2021

## A Note from our Sheffield Co-ordinator, Bethany Millward

2021 was another busy year for us at Baby Basics Sheffield. Our staff and volunteers have continued to run at full pace to keep up with the increase in demand once again. We are proud to have been able to support more families, providing a little relief from the stresses and pressures of raising children in the various challenging circumstances families found themselves in. Many of these challenges were heightened by the ongoing effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and families, who had been managing before, found themselves needing to ask for help for the first time. We heard stories that brought us to tears and also joyful stories of the difference our support made to families.



We are very aware that, as we have been busy and felt a little overwhelmed at times, this is just a small fraction of the pressure felt by those who are referring to us and working on the frontline with families. We are thankful for the times we have been able to be there to support our Midwives, Health Visitors, Local Council Workers and other Charities and Organisations. We admire them for the incredible work they are doing in such challenging circumstances.

We could not have done any of this without all the work of our amazing volunteers and the incredible support of the people of Sheffield, who have continued to support us faithfully despite lockdowns, isolation, bad weather etc. Our community came through so many times for extraordinary requests and urgent pleas and we were blown away by the generosity of people. We saw thousands of items come into our building through our seasonal campaigns for Mother's and Father's Day Gifts, Harvest toiletry collections and Christmas presents.



We have been supported by local shops, pubs, knitting groups, sports teams, toddler groups, cake sales, friendship circles, individuals and more as well as some amazing corporate donations distributed to us by Baby Basics UK.

In the summer of 2021, we saw the opening of the Baby Basics UK National Warehouse which meant we gained some extra storage space in our building. This was an amazing blessing and was full almost immediately! Just a few weeks later, the warehouse became the base for support to Afghan families, as we joined a coalition of charities called Afghan Welcome to support Afghan families being resettled in the UK. At our Sheffield centre we have been providing Moses basket starter packs and clothing bundles to support the work of the warehouse.

As we leave 2021 behind and move into 2022, we are very aware that many of the challenges faced in the last 12 months are coming with us into the new year. Many families will be continuing to face financial hardship with the rising cost of living and will need our support. We are committed to being here for them and continuing to provide our service for as long as we are needed.



**In the last 12 months Baby Basics Sheffield has supported**

**10,220** children and their families

**28%** increase on previous 12 months

**12371** items have been freely given including:

**3218** Packs of nappies

**3179** Clothing bundles

**1596** Toy bundles

**1177** Care packages of toiletries

**507** Prams/pushchairs/slings

**411** Moses Baskets

**213** Bouncy Chairs

**197** Cots/Cot Beds

**194** Play Gyms

**112** High Chairs

**We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported us in 2021 – no matter how big or how small. Every donation makes a huge difference to our work.**

- All the churches across the city who regularly collect donations for us
- All those who have given one-off donations
- All Regular Financial Givers
- Christ Church Walkley
- Clever Cloggs Trading
- Crafting 2gether
- Dore & Totley United Reformed Church
- DHL Sheffield
- Football for Foodbanks
- Gripple Ltd
- Inner Wheel
- Irise
- Jenny Buchan-Smith
- John Lewis Sheffield
- Killamash Methodist Church
- Lush – Meadowhall & Fargate
- Morrisons – Broomhill & Hillsborough
- Nicky's Crafting Crew
- Sew 4 Others
- Sharewear Sheffield
- Sheffield Family Centres
- Sheffield Shoebox Appeal
- South Yorkshire Community Foundation
- Stanley Road Bunanza
- St Luke's Lodgemoor
- Tesco Abbeydale Road & Infirmery Road
- The Beehive
- The Facey Foundation
- Warm Baby Project
- All those who donated to our seasonal collections for
  - Mother's & Father's Day
  - Easter Eggs – Especially Alice Cleverley & HSBC Sheffield
  - Harvest
  - Christmas Presents - Especially Katie Bell Physio & King's Centre Church
- All the wonderful individuals & teams who Volunteer, Sew, Iron, & Knit or crochet for us
- All the Corporate Support we have received through Baby Basics UK

