



GENERAL MILLS UK

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July 2016

FareShare and General Mills UK Partnership

General Mills UK is recognised as one of FareShare's leading supporters and we are building plans to further develop our partnership this year.

Even with the best stock management system, General Mills recognises that there will inevitably be a certain proportion of products with a short shelf life which cannot be sold to customers. To make best use of this surplus stock, General Mills have put a systematic process in place which ensures that when food cannot find a commercial outlet, it is redistributed to FareShare on a monthly basis.

Although imbedding the process of charity food redistribution has been challenging, requiring the buy in and support from many internal departments, we feel the initial effort has been thoroughly worthwhile to ensure that no good food goes to waste, and that it should be used to feed people first.

So far in 2016, General Mills have provided enough surplus food to make 32,000 meals for vulnerable people. Since our partnership with FareShare began three years ago, the food we have supplied equates to nearly 100,000 meals.

The food we have redistributed in 2016 is already three times as much as we sent to FareShare in the whole of 2015, demonstrating our level of commitment to using our surplus food to help fight food poverty.

As well as redistributing surplus stock to FareShare, we also provide FareShare with substantial funding. Through a partnership between the General Mills Foundation, The Global FoodBanking Network and FareShare our funding has played a key strategic role in supporting FareShare's development and growth. Last year, FareShare grew their charity members and food provision by 30% compared to the previous year.

The funding is making a huge practical difference and has included the purchase of five new walk-in fridges to store chilled food at FareShare's Regional Centres, including the new FareShare Lancashire and Cumbria. We have increased the capacity of FareShare London and FareShare West Midlands by funding them to run two additional delivery vans so they can reach more charities.

Our grant also provided the vital initial funding to develop the new and innovative FareShare FoodCloud that is linking charities to store level surplus across the Tesco estate.

General Mills UK is a trading name of General Mills UK Limited

Registered Office: Harman House, 1 George Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 1QQ Tel: +44 (0)1895 201100 Fax: +44 (0)1895 201101

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After all this, there was just enough left to buy the army of fantastic FareShare volunteers who make all this happen a mince pie at Christmas!

Lindsay Boswell, CEO of FareShare said: "On behalf of all the charities and community groups that we work with, we would like to thank General Mills. The extra funds will enable us to access more surplus food from retailers and manufacturers, and develop the capacity of three of our Regional Centres, so they can support more frontline charities in their vital work."

About FareShare

FareShare is a unique food redistribution charity, working with the food industry to prevent surplus food from going to waste and using it to feed vulnerable people instead. By making sure good food is not wasted, they turn an environmental problem into a social solution.

The food FareShare redistributes is not waste food, it's just surplus to the food industry's requirements, so it is good quality, in-date and absolutely fit for human consumption.

FareShare redistributes this surplus food to over 2,200 charities and community groups across the UK - such as breakfast clubs for disadvantaged children, homeless hostels, community cafes and domestic violence refuges - which transform it into nutritious meals for vulnerable people.

In 2015, FareShare provided food for 17.7 million meals, helping to helping to feed 194,650 people per week.

The food that FareShare provides brings disadvantaged people into these charities and community groups, which also offer vital support services aiming to address the causes of their problems, to help get lives back on track.

To find out more, please visit www.fareshare.org.uk