



Community First's Achievements

A collection of our highlights over the past few years...

Version 1 – wide Covid Appeal in India

£11,897 was raised by staff with Version 1 matching this and external donations of £1010 meaning a total of £24,804.

India faced an unprecedented wave of coronavirus infections. Version 1 put out an urgent appeal for India and focused on fundraising in support of the immediate need for charities that was thought could really make a difference: the [SNEH Foundation](#) in Pune and the [ACT Foundation](#) (Awake Commit Transform India) in Bangalore. Community First has always been about supporting our local communities. Those communities in Pune and Bangalore needed our help.

We helped these communities; people in vulnerable situations during this time of crisis have needs that are urgent and immediate, like food, shelter, medicine, oxygen or support. Our aim was to organise a swift response and in just over a week, we have doubled our initial target and therefore will be able to contribute towards;

1. Feeding over 650 families in need across Bangalore and Pune
2. Helping vaccinate at least 1,500 people in vulnerable communities



Version 1 – wide Support for Ukraine

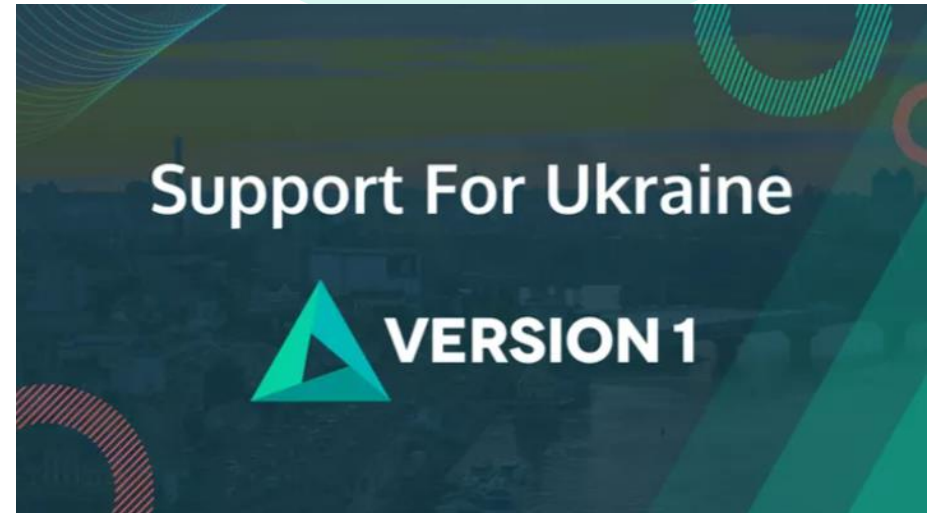
£14,664 was raised with Version 1 matching donations up to £10,000 meaning a total of £24,664.

In response to the humanitarian crisis, Version 1 staff raised money on behalf of UNICEF to help scale up life-saving support for children and their families in Ukraine during this incredibly difficult time.

How are UNICEF supporting children in Ukraine?

- Providing families with access to clean water and nutritious food.
- Helping to make sure that child health and protection services are sustained.

Working with partners and the UNHCR to assess the refugee situation across neighbouring countries.



Version 1 UK & Ireland – wide Action for Children Byte Night

A regular event supported by IT companies across UK and Ireland, Version 1 staff participate in this annual event to raise funds for homeless children by spending an October evening under the stars, and more recently rain! This is only a slight exposure to the hardship our young people suffer on an ongoing basis.



**Byte
Night** 

NIPANC fundraiser from the Belfast Marathon

Staff from Version 1 take part in the Belfast Marathon to raise funds for a dedicated charity each year. Between those brave enough to run the full marathon, relay teams and walkers, this year we raised £3,300 for NI Pancreatic Cancer, a local charity. working to improve the outcomes of pancreatic cancer by:

- Increasing public understanding of this cancer
- Promoting awareness of the cancer's signs and symptoms by both medical professionals and members of the public
- Funding vital research
- Supporting patients and their families



Belfast Marathon 2021



Version 1 NI are participating in the Belfast Marathon to raise money for NI Pancreatic Cancer charity in memory of Kevin Yu.

Any support will be appreciated!

Thank you for your donation!



Belfast Welcome Organisation

In the run up to Christmas, Version 1 staff collected food, clothing, sleeping bags and toiletries to help the Belfast Welcome Organisation provide a range of potentially life-saving services to around 1,400 people affected by homelessness across greater Belfast every year.



Gardening at Laurel Hill House



Improving the garden at Laurel Hill House, a residential care facility for people with dementia that aims to maximise each client's potential both cognitively and physically in a secure environment.

The Giving Tree 2021



In Edinburgh, Version 1 staff provided toys for children in local refugee homes.

Smart Works Edinburgh

Donation of 2 boxes filled with professional smart/casual/office attire. This charity helps women by giving them a complete outfit of clothes and accessories, which is theirs to keep, as well as advice on presentation. It also provides one-to-one interview training delivered by experienced volunteers.

SMART
WORKS



Junior Achievement Ireland

Through the Community First programme, we have the opportunity to make a real difference in the communities where we live and work. We are delighted to be continuing our volunteer efforts with Junior Achievement Ireland (JAI) for this school term and we are looking for people based in the Dublin and Cork offices to get involved!



Teen Turn

A donation from Version 1 to increase STEM third level qualification numbers attained by girls from disadvantaged and underrepresented communities.



teenturn 

80km challenge for Cork ARC House

Version 1 staff took on the challenge to fundraise for Cork ARC House, a safe haven for people with cancer and their families, where you can find information, practical help and emotional support. Whatever stage of your cancer journey, you are not alone. If you are a cancer patient or someone close to you has cancer, we are here to offer you specialist professional support.



Limerick Youth Service

Version 1 staff raised funds for the service which engages with over 4,500 young people annually in providing a diverse range of youth work, education, training, employability & volunteering opportunities.



Educating the next generation

Version 1 in India provided ongoing sponsorship for the education of 10 children since 2020, providing children in care in India a lifechanging opportunity for self development

Knutsford Multi Academy Trust

There continues to be a strong ongoing partnership with Knutsford Multi Academy Trust (KMAT), most recently sponsoring their 'Star of the Week' initiative. Other KMAT activity has included online and in person work placements, funding to support attendance at mock assessment centres, delivery of a 'Digital Footprint re employability session', funding for laptops and graphic tablets to assist in remote Covid teaching, the purchase of a Visualiser to assist with science lessons, and annual delivery of a Coding Club for Year 7 girls.

Version 1 have also offered support to 'The Welcome' drop in centre, helping their community (all ages) with digital Inclusion.



Sponsorship of Team Wild Waves

Version 1 are proud to be sponsoring Jessica Oliver and Charlotte Harris who are rowing across the Atlantic ocean (in winter!) to raise money for Shelter and Women's Aid. This event covers 3000 miles of treacherous ocean and Jessica and Charlotte will row in two hours on / two hours off rotation for 60 days straight to cover the distance.



WILD WAVES

Heart of Kent

IT support sessions for Heart of Kent Hospice to develop their IT, leading to improved administration and freeing up time for staff to support patients.



Supporting local schools

Staff from Version 1 in Bengaluru have been teaching the rural students on the basics of computers and English language in the same four schools where they have distributed 8 refurbished laptops and related items such as monitors, science equipment, stationery items (notebooks, pens, pencils, erasers and sharpeners), fans, globe, masks, cooker, mixer.