

# Denbighshire HomeStart

Inbox x



**Bleddyn**

**Williams** [Bleddyn@denbighshirehomestart.co.uk](mailto:Bleddyn@denbighshirehomestart.co.uk) via [homestartdenbighshire.org](http://homestartdenbighshire.org)

Annwyl Mrs Roberts,

I am writing on behalf of Home-Start Denbighshire to ask if the Councillors of Bodfari Community Council would consider supporting our work.

We are a local charity which helps families build better lives for their children. Our early support service is a practical way of helping children and families to help themselves and overcome problems before they escalate into crises. No other local charity does what we do and we fill an important gap in service provision for some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

For over 18 years, we have been offering free and confidential outreach support to families in their own home, tailored to the individual needs of each family and delivered by trained and supervised volunteers who are carefully 'matched' to the families they help. Volunteers visit weekly and give practical help such as getting to health appointments, help with budgeting, cooking and nutrition, supporting healthy lifestyle behaviour change, and emotional support and friendship to help build confidence and parenting skills.

Last year, staff and volunteers supported families within your community. The families respond extremely well to the 'low key' non-judgemental and confidential support offered by Home-Start Denbighshire, without which many of the parents would need the assistance of specialist mental health services, and more children would be vulnerable to potential risk of harm. Benefits of the support we gave included improved health and wellbeing of parents and children; improved behaviour in children; better family relationships and reduced social isolation through building wider support networks/engaging with other local services.

We know that tackling problems before families reach crisis point is better for everyone and can save public money, especially at a time when budgets are squeezed. However, at a time when the need for our service is growing, funding streams are being curtailed. We currently have families from your community on our waiting list who are in need of support.

£300 will cover a volunteer expenses for a year, £850 is the average cost of supporting a family, but any amount of donation will help Denbighshire Home Start continue their work.

We hope you may be in a position to make a grant award at this time and I am happy to give a presentation at one of your meetings if you feel that this would be appropriate.

Gyda llawer o ddiolch

Meira Wyn Owen  
Scheme Manager