

Food Justice Network & Projects Lead

Location: Blaydon (with travel across Gateshead and the North East)

Hours: Part time, 25 hours per week

Contract: Fixed Term – 12 Months

Salary: £34,000 pro rata

Reports to: CEO

About Feeding Families

Feeding Families is a North East charity tackling food insecurity for people who fall through the gaps of traditional provision.

We get the right food to the right people at the right time, but we don't stop there.

We're building something bigger. A regional model focused on access, affordability, and resilience, working through trusted partners to create routes out of crisis that actually last.

Demand is growing. This role exists to ensure our funding grows with it.

Purpose of the Role

To lead the delivery and development of the Gateshead Food Justice Network, ensuring it is effective, inclusive, and leads to tangible improvements in local food provision. The role is hosted and managed by Feeding Families and delivered in partnership with Gateshead Council.

The postholder will also take responsibility for the coordination and delivery of a small number of projects linked to food access, affordability, and community resilience.

Key Responsibilities

1. Network Leadership and Coordination

- Lead and coordinate the Gateshead Food Justice Network
- Engage VCSE organisations, food aid providers, people with lived experience, and public sector partners
- Build and maintain strong, trusted relationships across the network
- Facilitate regular network meetings, ensuring they are purposeful and outcome-focused
- Support the development and agreement of the Network's Terms of Reference, aims, and priorities
- Ensure the network moves beyond discussion into agreed actions and delivery

2. Project Management and Delivery

- Take ownership of projects aligned to the Food Justice Network and Feeding Families' wider objectives
- Support the development of new initiatives emerging from the network
- Plan, coordinate, and deliver projects within agreed timelines and resources
- Identify risks and issues and take appropriate action to keep delivery on track

- Work collaboratively with internal colleagues and external partners to ensure successful delivery

3. Mapping, Insight and Development

- Contribute to mapping of free and affordable food provision across Gateshead
- Identify gaps, pressures, and opportunities within the local system
- Support the development of practical solutions that improve access, quality, and dignity of food provision
- Contribute to the ongoing development of the local food directory in partnership with stakeholders

4. Learning, Influence and Reporting

- Identify and share examples of effective practice locally, regionally, and nationally
- Contribute to briefings and reports for Feeding Families and Gateshead Council
- Ensure learning from the network and projects is captured and used to inform future work
- Maintain monitoring information aligned to agreed outputs and outcomes
- Contribute to mid-year and end-of-project reporting

What Will Success Look Like

- Food Justice Network established and actively engaged
- Regular network meetings delivered with clear outcomes
- Terms of Reference and priorities agreed and reviewed
- Projects delivered to agreed scope, time, and quality
- Evidence of improved coordination and collaboration across partners
- Mapping and insight outputs completed and used to inform local activity
- Reporting requirements met in line with partnership expectations

What We're Looking For

Essential

- Experience working within or alongside VCSE organisations or community settings
- Strong relationship-building and partnership working skills
- Experience of coordinating or delivering projects
- Ability to manage multiple priorities and work independently
- Strong organisational and communication skills
- Understanding of issues relating to poverty, inequality, or food insecurity

Desirable

- Experience convening networks or partnerships
- Knowledge of the Northeast VCSE landscape
- Experience involving people with lived experience in service design or decision making
- Experience working with local authorities or public sector partners

Reporting and Accountability

The postholder will report to the CEO of Feeding Families UK.

They will work closely with Gateshead Council and other key partners but will remain accountable to Feeding Families for delivery of the role.

How We Work

At Feeding Families, how we do things matters just as much as what we do.

Dignity - Every pound raised represents people going through something. We treat supporters, partners, and each other with respect.

Integrity - We are honest about what we can deliver. We build trust by doing what we say we will do.

Action - We do not wait for problems to grow. If something is off track, we deal with it early.

Together - We work across the organisation. We support each other and step in where needed.

The Kind of Person Who Will Thrive Here

You will not wait to be told what to do.

You will take ownership, spot where things are not working, and act to move them forward.

You will be comfortable working in complexity, bringing together different organisations, perspectives, and priorities, and helping turn conversations into practical action.

You will build strong, trusted relationships and know how to keep people engaged, focused, and moving in the same direction.

You will care about the work. Not just the meetings or the projects, but what this actually means for people experiencing food insecurity, and how systems can work better for them.

Why Work With Us

You will join a small, committed team doing work that matters.

This role offers real responsibility, visible impact, and the opportunity to shape how food support works locally - improving access, coordination, and dignity for people across Gateshead and the wider North East.

You will be part of an organisation that values action, works in partnership, and is focused on building practical, long-term solutions to food insecurity - not just short-term fixes.

How to Apply

Application Deadline: 16th May 2026

Interviews: w/c 25th May 2026

To apply, please complete our Application Form and outline why you meet the criteria of the job description to Wayne Dobson at wayne@feedingfamilies.org.uk.



More than food. A way forward.

If you have any questions about the position, you are welcome to contact us on 0191 908 7163.