

Oldham Community Advice Network (OCAN) Online Referral System Directory

Oldham Community Advice Network (OCAN) Online Referral System Directory, compiled in November 2021, this directory is an interim reference guide of organisations registered on the OCAN online referral system updated October 2023.

If you have any questions or amendments, please contact: ocan@actiontogether.org.uk

Organisation	Service Offer	Criteria	Face to Face	Phone/ Email	Website/ Social Media
The Ancora Project	To provide immediate help and ongoing support to the people of Oldham who are experiencing crisis. People can access support by presenting at any of the hubs in person or by contacting Ancora by email or phone and arrange a meeting. See website for details.	Anyone over 16		0161 669 5868 ancora@keyring.org	ancoraoldham.com ancoraproject AncoraOldham
Christians Against Poverty (Oldham and Saddleworth)	Free help with unmanageable debt	Open to anyone	Yes - if required by arrangement	0800 328 0006	Capuk.org/i-want-help capdebthelp.org
Support & Women's Network (SAWN)	Range of support and information provided to women and also run a furniture bank.	Open to Black African women	Yes - if required and by arrangement	07960 501 088 sawn.org@gmail.com	sawn.org.uk/services

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<p>REEL CIC - Real Education Empowering Lives Community Interest Company</p>	<p>REEL Rack - More than just clothes! Emergency Clothing support and essential baby items. We can provide individuals and families with a 7 day bundle of clothing, suitable footwear, coat and essential toiletries should they be required. We seek to provide all children's packs with new underwear and socks. We also offer individual items that might be needed hat, gloves, warm jacket or shoes. We aim to provide referrals for children whom have been placed in temporary accommodation e.g. DV or Homelessness with a fun creative pack and toy suitable depending on age. We seek professional referrals via OCAN or by email using our referral form as priority. We do accept self referrals as we wish to be as inclusive as possible. We also host small local pop up sales or online sales of affordable clothing and encourage individuals or families to connect with us to access affordable items</p> <p>When making an OCAN referral, please provide details of your client's shoe and clothing sizes.</p>	<p>Professional referral route is prioritised. Referral must be completed either via OCAN or by email. Details of the individual required to ensure correct support can be provided.</p>		<p>07551 357 202 rack@reelcic.co.uk</p>	<p>reelcic.co.uk reelrack reelcic</p>

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Support and Inclusion Team (SIT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debts (this can be Council Tax, rent arrears, credit cards, gas/electric) • Budgeting support (we can act as a third party and contact creditors on residents behalf once we have authority to discuss) • Benefit review (make sure the resident is claiming the correct benefits / discounts) • During the early contact when we are gathering information we establish what the main issues are and if we can't assist we signpost to one of the various services we are working with, which include ARRC (adult social care, Positive Steps, Mind, CAB, Welfare Rights etc) 	Anyone over 18	Yes - appointments held at Access Oldham or any of the place-based hubs	0161 770 3434 budgetingsupport@oldham.gov.uk	
Oldham Social Prescribing	<p>Oldham Social Prescribing connects you to community groups, activities and organisations that could support you to improve your health, wellbeing and social connections.</p> <p>Social Prescribing is available for people who live in Oldham and are experiencing things like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loneliness and isolation • Loss of confidence • Anxiety or low mood • Life changing events such as bereavement, having a baby, or retirement Living with long term health conditions • Challenges with finances, work, relationships or housing 	Over 18 and EITHER live in Oldham OR registered with a GP in Oldham		0161 339 2345 option 1 gmicb-old.socialprescribing@nhs.net	actiontogether.org.uk/ oldham-social-prescribing

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Yuvanis Foundation	<p>Yuvanis Foundation provides a wide range of inclusive wellbeing activities and services to support individuals from the BAME community in their mental and physical health, as well as personal development. Our approach is informal and welcoming, creating a safe and inclusive environment for all.</p> <p>In response to the challenges posed by the cost-of- living crises, we offer practical support such as shopping assistance for essential items like food, clothing, and household essentials. We understand the financial strains individuals may face and aim to alleviate those pressures through our assistance programs.</p> <p>Recognizing the importance of digital connectivity, we also provide free data sim cards to individuals who are experiencing or at risk of data poverty. By offering this support, we aim to bridge the digital divide and ensure that everyone has access to the online resources and communication tools they need.</p> <p>Accepted issued:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community care • Employment • Wellbeing activities • Course & training • Training and job search • Family <p>Please visit https://yuvanis.org/whatson/ to view our events and activities</p>	Open to anyone	Yes	07931167537 zakir@yuvanis.org	yuvanis.org/

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Local Welfare Provision	<p>We provide emergency support to help meet short-term emergency or immediate support needs. It is a fund of last resort which means that we will provide support to people who cannot access support through any other means. It is a discretionary fund so not everyone who applies will receive help. Examples of the type of people who can apply are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People fleeing domestic violence • People moving out of supported or temporary accommodation to their own property • People suffering a disaster such as fire or flood • Care leavers/prison leaver 	Aged 16 or over and a resident of the borough, or about to become one.	Applications via the online form only	0161 770 5468 LWP@oldham.gov.uk	www.oldham.gov.uk/info/100001/help_with_benefits_and_money/1837/emergency_support_-_local_welfare_provision
Local Food First CIC	<p>Local Food First in partnership with OMBC Environmental Services, primarily runs a project focused on Food Growing at Wildbrook Community Food and Growing Hub in Fitton Hill. The organisation offers a volunteer scheme of practical hands-on, skills-based opportunities to support growing produce for local community benefit (Oldham Foodbank and Community Vegbag) The volunteer scheme provides training, coaching and mentoring for people of all ages and abilities. Training can include food growing, cooking healthy meals from scratch, food budgeting skills, enabling participant led activity and increasing practical skills and knowledge. Other training opportunities include orchard maintenance and composting. Additionally the allotment and physical activities provide benefits to health and wellbeing from the outdoor space and natural environment with the bonus of receiving a share of produce grown and harvested at the sessions.</p>	Anyone over 18	Yes	07919377683 localfoodfirst@outlook.com	

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<p>Hollins Food Pantry</p>	<p>Food Pantry hosted at Hollins Methodist Church every Thursday evening, 7-8 pm. Food parcels cost £1.</p> <p>Hollins Methodist church offer a Warm Space for an hour with free refreshments, including hot food if the weather is cold. Chance to chat with volunteers and also with other people in similar circumstances.</p> <p>The church have links with 2 women's refuges in Oldham and Failsworth, together with local medical practice and baby bank. They also run a parent and toddler group.</p>	<p>Open to anyone</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>07837439261</p> <p>robertashton1@btinternet.com</p>	<p>https://www.facebook.com/Hollinsmethodistchurch</p>