

£15 for 15 years: local charities seek support

As charities Be Enriched and Brixton People's Kitchen (BPK) jointly celebrate a decade and a half of supporting local communities they are asking for donations to help continue their much-needed work.



It's five years since Be Enriched became a charity with a focus on enriching the community through food, while BPK has been showing how sharing tastes better for 10 years. From bringing people together to reduce social isolation, helping those in need access healthy food, to entertaining youngsters, and ensuring they get a wholesome meal during school holidays, the sister charities have done a lot to support Lambeth, Southwark and Wandsworth during this time.

The teams are now asking locals if they can spare £1 for each of the years the pair have been working, in order that they can take their efforts further, especially as winter closes in, and the results of the pandemic continue to make it hard for those who live in the area.

Kemi Akinola, CEO of Be Enriched and Managing Director of BPK, explains: "While a birthday is normally a time for celebration, we are well aware of the challenges facing those who use our services at the moment. There is so many more people we can help and we are asking the public if they can make a donation to help us continue our vital work. We know that money is tight for many, and anything anyone can donate means the world to us. Over 400 people a week benefit from these projects and we'd love to do more with everyone's support."

To help both charities support and empower communities they are asking for £5, £10 or £15, recognising the years each has been working to connect locals with food and with each other:

£5 provides a three course meal for one person.

£10 provides a weekly shop for a person.

£15 will help feed an adult and a child, who may struggle otherwise to access a healthy meal.

Donations can be made via <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/fifteen-years-of-be-enriched-and-bpk>. This includes a match funding element so whatever is donated will be doubled.

There is plenty coming up for Be Enriched, which will soon launch its unique, one-of-a-kind, London Food Bus, to bring essential food and household items to areas that struggle to access it. This is on top of its popular Community Canteens, and related projects. Following losing its premises earlier in the year, BPK continues to do what it can to share food in its local area, while moving forward with securing a new home to run its operation from. Both wish to go further and support more people and the donations will help towards this.

More details about Be Enriched can be found at <https://www.be-enriched.org/>

More details about BPK can be found at <https://www.brixtonpeopleskitchen.com/>

Note to Editors

About Be Enriched

Be Enriched is a charity, founded in 2013, focused on enriching the community through food. It runs several successful projects, including the Community Canteens (currently at Elephant and Castle, and Graveney) and The London Food Bus, as well as Healthy Holidays, a programme which provides youngsters with development activities and healthy meals when schools are closed.

About BPK

BPK started in 2011 due to the lack of social cohesion and places for local people to come together and share ideas. Horrified by the amount of domestic food waste produced, the team developed community lunches, which were held in carparks, green areas, schools, and anywhere people could congregate, cook and converse. Since then the team has built a kitchen on a bicycle, run several community pop ups and a cafe. It now works with the community across South London, ensuring as many people as possible have access to a good meal and a decent conversation.