



Almoner's Briefing - May 2021

Welcome to your regular Almoner's Briefing produced by the Masonic Charitable Foundation (MCF). Your role within freemasonry may feel different since lodges were first prevented from meeting in 2020 but your support remains critical to the welfare of those within your masonic community.

The MCF has turned five years old! Help us celebrate by spreading the word to lodge members and your family. Since 2016 the MCF has awarded £90 million in grants, or in other words we have awarded £50,000 per day to masonic communities. In the short time it will take you to read to the bottom of this page we will have awarded £34 for each minute it has taken! You can read more about how we are making a difference on our website – www.mcf.org.uk/impact

Getting help for somebody is straightforward. Simply contact the MCF's Enquiries Team on freephone 0800 035 60 90 or email help@mcf.org.uk or alternatively you could contact your Metropolitan/Provincial Grand Almoner (MetGA/PGA) for guidance.

Why not share the following information with your lodge members? You could include it in an email it or use it as part of your update at a lodge video meeting:

Did you know? One of the many ways the MCF, the Freemasons' charity, has helped families and children during lockdown has been by providing an additional 200 laptops and tablets to help with home schooling and socialising. As this current lockdown has eased the MCF continues to help by offering financial support with counselling, additional tuition and school uniforms. Its new online eligibility checker will indicate whether potential support may be available – www.mcf.org.uk/get-support

Don't forget that freemasonry is here to support your needs too! It will naturally feel like an unsettling time as lockdown restrictions begin to ease so you might need a listening ear or some reassurance. You may be unsure about taking those first steps to visiting somebody you haven't checked up on in a while. Your MetGA/PGA is on hand and can guide you. In addition, the MCF has produced a series of factsheets containing general information on topics ranging from loneliness to addiction. These can be found on your section of the MCF website – www.mcf.org.uk/resources/almoner-resources

If you found this useful, why not sign-up to receive the MCF's e-newsletter. You will be one of the first people to receive the latest news about the work of the MCF which may be of additional interest to you as almoner (and you will get a free MCF lapel pin!). Sign-up at www.mcf.org.uk/sign-up

Disclaimer: this information does not constitute legal advice and, while care has been taken to ensure that the information is accurate, up to date and useful, the MCF will not accept any legal liability in relation to the content.