

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Surviving Winter Appeal reaches £10,000

The Surviving Winter Appeal, coordinated locally by Devon Community Foundation has reached a fantastic milestone just in time for Christmas. The campaign, which asks people who can afford it to donate their Winter Fuel Allowance to help the hundreds of vulnerable and elderly people affected by fuel poverty in Devon has so far raised over £10,000.

The money raised will be used to help alleviate fuel poverty for the most vulnerable members of our communities. Across Devon 17.6% of all households are living in fuel poverty and 600 elderly people are at risk of dying as a result of fuel poverty this winter.

Martha Wilkinson, Chief Executive of Devon Community Foundation said, *"We have had a fantastic response to the Surviving Winter Appeal so far. We are thrilled to have reached such a milestone amount in time for Christmas, when a lot of elderly and vulnerable people in our communities are at an even greater risk. The generosity of Devon communities can really be seen here and we have been able to start to allocate grants in order to begin to make a real difference to peoples' lives. (Maybe something like ranging from ..... to .....) These include the Whipton Luncheon Club who support 20 elderly and vulnerable in their community and a vulnerable man from Plymouth who is unable to work due to a crippling injury at work."*

Martha continued, *"However, we continue to appeal to anyone who feels they would like to donate to this campaign. January and February are often the coldest times of the year in Devon and we hope that the Surviving Winter Appeal will begin to warm the homes of some of our most vulnerable this winter."*

To donate to the appeal visit <http://localgiving.com/communityfoundation/devon>

**ENDS**

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