Dear Everyone

There's still time to book for our upcoming 'Rethinking Food Aid' conference in Chester this Saturday the 15th of September. Sessions will focus on referral systems and good food projects with IFAN's Jon May, Steph Ellis and Chris Sunderland. While from Scotland we will be welcoming Pete Ritchie of Nourish Scotland to discuss 'Dignity in Practice' and Polly Jones of A Menu for Change. The End Hunger UK exhibition 'Behind Closed Doors' will also be on display throughout with an opening event during our conference break.

Last week A Menu for Change and IFAN launched a ground-breaking joint project to gather food parcel distribution data across Scottish local authorities. You can read much more about this here. If you run or work with an independent food bank operating in Scotland it would be very good to hear from you!

Our End Hunger UK petition on Universal Credit is growing every week. We've reached over 6,000 signatures by now and if you haven't signed already please do! End Hunger UK week is set for the week of October 15th and our coalition's annual conference will be held in London on Tuesday the 16th of October. Our Chair of Trustees, Professor Jon May, will be a panellist during the final session. The conference is followed by an event to launch the ‘Behind Closed Doors’ exhibition at the Palace of Westminster kindly hosted by Emma Lewell-Buck MP. The ‘Behind Closed Doors’ exhibition will also be displayed in Carlisle and Northampton in the coming weeks.

Some of you may be interested in the First Steps Nutrition Trust's guide to Health Start. This resource is designed for volunteers and those who run food banks with information on supporting pregnant women and women with infants and young children who may use their services. You can read the report here.

More soon and we hope to see you in Chester or London.

Best wishes, Sabine on behalf of IFAN