

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to seek your support for our Hospital Sunday Appeal which provides a hardship fund for use by hospital social work, community health and advice services. The fund is used to meet the immediate needs of those who have fallen through gaps in statutory provision. I would welcome any help in widening the Appeal; encouraging collections in places of worship and donations from business and individuals.

The Appeal began in 1873 when religious and civic leaders came together and agreed to hold a collection each year on 'Hospital-Sunday', to assist the 'sick and poor' of London. In 2010 with the recession affecting so many lives we are seeing a growing number of requests for food, clothing, bedding and other essentials. Last year we provided funds to 56 agencies across London and helped 1,691 people including:

- Toiletries and clothing for a heart transplant patient with no income support admitted suddenly to hospital
- Bedding for a mother with five children fleeing domestic violence
- A travel card for a woman who when diagnosed with breast cancer was forced to leave her job as a nanny immediately
- A bed and furniture grant to a homeless older man to encourage him to leave his home in an abandoned car and move into sheltered accommodation.

The funds provide a safety net for people who are destitute; the homeless, isolated older people entering and leaving hospital and many with enduring mental ill health and often fills a gap left by delays in the benefits system. Every penny we raise through the **Hospital-Sunday Appeal** goes to those in need.

Hospital Sunday falls on **Sunday 6th June** and, while collections or fundraising events often coincide, donations are welcome at any time. If you would like any promotional leaflets and collection wallets please contact me by email ian.baker@peabody.org.uk or by telephone. Donations can be made through our website, www.londoncatalyst.org.uk, or by cheque payable to '**London Catalyst**' to our office.

The Appeal helps us to help more people and, fundamentally, maintains the spirit of compassion and co-operation that lay at the heart of our founders' original vision.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Ian Baker
Administrator

