



IMPACT REPORT

THE STORY SO FAR

The Resources Cupboard launched as a charity in June 2021 with a mission to resource the local church to make young disciples. In June 2025, we merged and became the CYF offering for Rural Missions, in recognition of our shared passion for helping rural churches to think and be more missional. This has enabled us to build on the foundations we set in place in the first four years, to reach and serve more churches, both on the ground in Bedfordshire and across the UK.

We follow the same three simple ways to help churches:



Activate

Take practical steps into mission



Connect

Build relationships and grow in confidence



Equip

Access tools, training and support

BEDFORDSHIRE BASED

We have been working with churches in the Sharnbrook Deanery in the very north of Bedfordshire, as they have sought to listen to young people and share the good news of Jesus. Most recently, this work has been as a Growing Faith learning hub. Our full reports on this work are available on the Growing Faith website.

Our coffee shop catch ups have provided a regular opportunity for children's and youth workers, volunteers and all those interested in connecting with children and young people to share ideas, pray together and discuss the issues they are facing in a safe space.

Our local library, set up with a grant from Bishop Radford trust and local donations, has provided a range of resources for local churches. Our Christingle costume has been used in local churches, schools and nurseries. Puppets and play equipment have been used by local churches to help bring Bible stories to life.

We have worked with local churches to explore new ways of serving children, young people and their families through; holiday clubs, school engagement, toddler groups and new approaches to youth ministry including hot choc stops, transition groups from year 6 - 7 and combined youth gatherings.

"Thank you so much for an inspiring meeting on Saturday. It was moving and motivating, hearing all the wonderful initiatives and projects that are flourishing with your planning and inclusive actions. As you know, I came with one idea and left with seven!"

We have loved getting out and about on the road over the last five years. Training opportunities have taken us west to Wales and east to Norfolk, as well as trips to Blackburn, Cambridgeshire, Birmingham and beyond. Online training means we've even spoken to those beyond the UK. (Exotic invitations always welcome!)

I found Becky's talk really powerful. I helped with our toddler group for 20 years but always struggled to change the format to be specifically Christian and we saw very little crossover to church. Lockdown has given the space for me to step back, a new team to launch a more Jesus focussed toddler group, and guess what? Two Mums have just shown interest in going to the group who are ex-youth group members, just like Becky was describing!

Joining Rural Missions has given us the opportunity to raise awareness across the UK about the unique gifts and challenges of rural children's and youth ministry through media interviews and national gatherings.



We have created a growing collection of resources available at a very low or no cost! These include our Visiting Church booklet, curriculum, videos and more.

NATIONAL REACH

Join Us

Everything we do is offered free of charge to the local church.

We are able to do this because of the generosity of those who believe in rural mission.

Pray

Stand with rural churches in prayer

www.ruralmissions.org.uk/pray

Give

Help us reach more churches

www.ruralmissions.org.uk/donate

Invite

Book us to come and share with your church or group

www.ruralmissions.org.uk/contact

“A rural church in Derbyshire recently trebled its regular attendance after rethinking how it connected with its community.”