

## A campaign seeking justice for the most vulnerable in our communities

An estimated six million people in the UK have been swept into debt as a result of Covid-19, with the biggest increases in debt amongst the poorest households. The financial impact of lockdown fell hardest on people living on low incomes and those with little or no savings. This has led to a large and growing problem of household debt.

19 per cent – almost one in five – of households borrowed to buy food or other essentials in July alone.

Six million people have fallen behind on rent, council tax and other household bills because of coronavirus.

## #RESETTHEDEBT How can you get involved?

We would like you to write to your local MP and to the Chancellor of the Exchequer requesting that a Jubilee Fund be established to help the most vulnerable and enable them to regain a stable footing instead of being plunged into deeper poverty.

Letters to MPs and Government Ministers can get "lost" as they receive so many. A few years ago we sent angels to MPs asking for Good News around the Universal Credit implementation and the feedback we received was that they noticed our communications because they were different.

So, this year, we want to use the image of the **STABLE** in our communication. We are asking you to either choose a Christmas Card with a stable scene on or find a small stable Christmas decoration which you could send. We have produced a sample letter you could include but feel free to personalise it. You can obtain this sample from www.newcastlemethodistdistrict.org

This Advent and Christmas season affords us the opportunity to remember that Jesus was born in unstable times and came as a sign of Hope and Justice especially for the poor and marginalised. In using the image of the stable we can remind people of the ongoing relevance of the Christmas message and seek justice for our neighbours.

For more information on the campaign visit www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/resetthe-debt/