

## **A huge thank you to Manchester Arndale**

In 2015 Home-Start Greater Manchester was chosen to be Manchester Arndale's 'Charity of the Year.'

During that time we have been lucky enough to receive donations from two Christmas gift wraps, a volunteer recruitment campaign that we ran in the centre back in June as part of National Volunteers Week, and a new Trustee too.

In total staff, retailers and generous shoppers have raised a total of almost £22,000.

That means all seven of our Home-Starts working in communities right across Greater Manchester have been able to support even more families who are struggling to cope and who are dealing with a range of issues from illness and disability to poor mental health, poverty and multiple births.

All seven Home-Starts across Greater Manchester would like to publicly thank everyone at Manchester Arndale for their commitment to Home-Start across the year. To have such wonderful corporate support has made such a difference.

Every charity needs money to survive, (now more than ever), but something that Home-Start needs on top of funding is volunteers. Being able to run a high profile volunteer recruitment event at the Arndale was a fantastic opportunity to speak with shoppers about our work and how they might help.

Each Home-Start across Greater Manchester will be running training courses for new volunteers across the year. Thanks to some Lottery funding, there is now a brand new service running in Wigan, which means that every single part of Greater Manchester and the city, is now covered by Home-Start.

We are looking for new volunteers who have parenting experience to get involved and help us give even more local children a better start in life.

If you are interested in our work and would like to find out how you can support-volunteering, fundraising, or choosing us as your 'Charity of the Year', please do get in touch. [www.gmhomestarts.org.uk](http://www.gmhomestarts.org.uk)