## **Bromley Relief in Need**

During the Coronavirus pandemic, many of us have been spending significant amounts of time at home. But imagine if that home didn't contain a bed, a fridge, a washing machine?

Bromley Relief in Need (BRiN) is a small charity that provides people living within the London Borough of Bromley with essential appliances and furniture to meet their daily living needs. Many of these people are women and children fleeing domestic violence, carers looking after disabled or elderly family members, looked-after children leaving care and other people with very low incomes who cannot afford to buy or replace essential items with even second-hand goods.

BRiN encourages referrals from social workers, mental health workers, GPs, health visitors and other professionals, usually for items costing up to £300. These items make a significant difference to how individuals and families are able to eat, sleep and stay healthy. For example, BRiN has funded:

- A washing machine for an incontinent older person who cannot get to a launderette
- A fridge-freezer for a disabled person who has frozen meals delivered
- A bed of his own for a 15-year-old boy who was sharing his father's
- A microwave for a mother with learning difficulties to cook hot meals for her children

During the pandemic, applications to BRiN for aid have risen with the growing number of people in Bromley facing financial hardship – up 166% between 2019 and 2020. Donations are vital for saying 'yes' to as many eligible applications for help as possible.

More information about BRiN, making a referral and giving donations can be found at: https://bromleyrelief.weebly.com/