

MIGRANT DESTITUTION FUND SURVEY

**OVER MAY AND JUNE 2024, THE MIGRANT
DESTITUTION ACTION GROUP RAN A
SURVEY FOR MDF RECIPIENTS.**

**THE RESULTS CONFIRMED THE CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE
OF OUR GRANTS IN MEETING ESSENTIAL NEEDS AND
SUPPORTING PEOPLE'S WELLBEING.**

FINDINGS AT A GLANCE

DESTITUTION IS A LONG TERM BURDEN



MOST OF THE RESPONDENTS TO THE SURVEY WERE LONG TERM APPLICANTS TO THE FUND, WITH SOME ACCESSING THE FUND FOR MORE THAN 2 YEARS.

MDF HELPS PEOPLE AFFORD ESSENTIALS AND ALLOWS FOR DIGNITY OF CHOICE

THE VAST MAJORITY OF RECIPIENTS REPORTED THAT THEY SPENT THE MONEY ON FOOD, OVER HALF USED THE FUND TO PURCHASE TOILETRIES AND OVER A THIRD USED THE CASH TO TRAVEL TO MEDICAL OR LEGAL APPOINTMENTS.

MANY SPECIFICALLY USED THE FUNDS TO PURCHASE CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE FOOD OR FOOD FOR DIETARY REQUIREMENTS, WHILST OTHERS USED THE MONEY FOR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND EDUCATION OR TRAINING COSTS.

MDF IS A LIFELINE

WHEN ASKED HOW HELPFUL MDF HAS BEEN TO THEM, RESPONDENTS WERE OVERWHELMINGLY POSITIVE, WITH 94% RATING THE FUND BETWEEN 8-10 OUT OF 10.



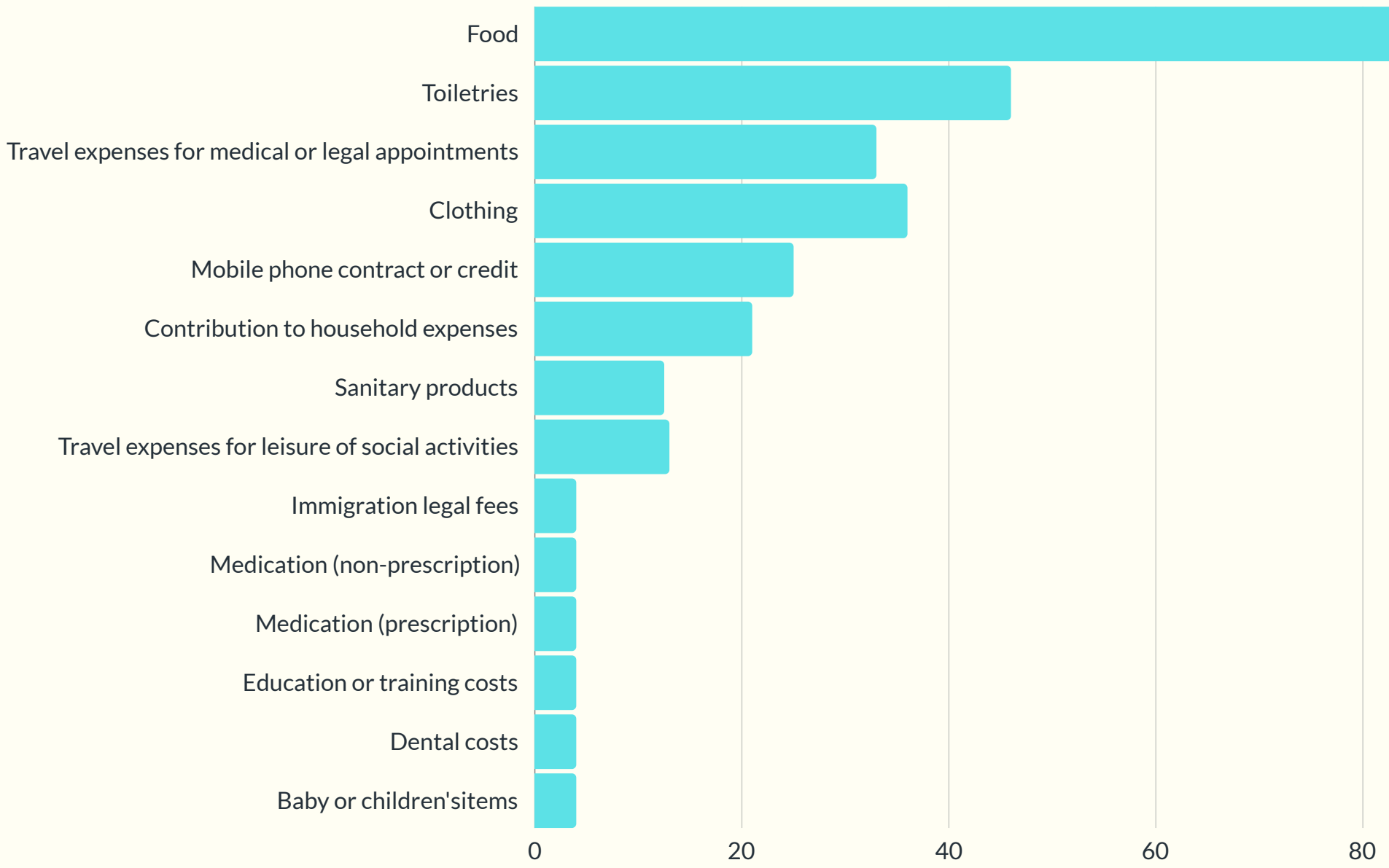
MDF PROVIDES SOME LIGHT IN THE DARK

WHEN ASKED HOW BEING ABLE TO ACCESS THE MDF GRANT MAKES THEM FEEL, THE MOST COMMON ANSWER WAS 'HAPPY'



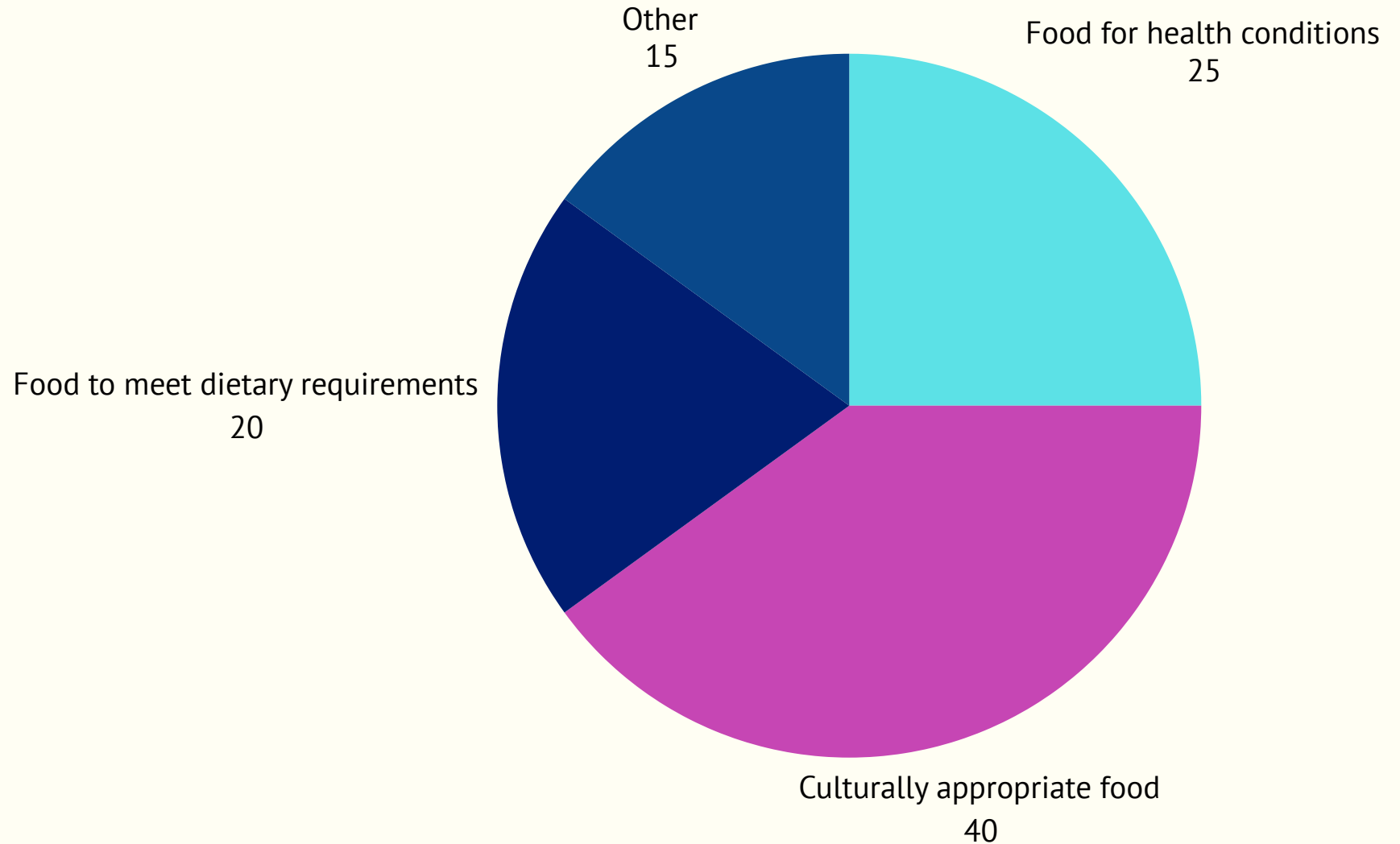
WHAT RESPONDENTS HAVE USED OR WILL USE THE FUND TO BUY

OPTIONS



PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS

OF THOSE WHO USED THE FUND TO PURCHASE FOOD, THE FOLLOWING PERCENTAGES USED THE MONEY TO PURCHASE:



HOW HAS BEING FORCED INTO DESTITUTION MADE YOU FEEL?

A word cloud of feelings associated with being forced into destitution. The words are arranged in a roughly circular pattern. The largest word is 'Unhappy' in dark blue. Other large words include 'Depressed' in purple, 'Anxious' in purple, and 'Powerless' in purple. Smaller words include 'Desperate', 'Stressed', 'Bad', 'Frustrated', 'Annoyed', 'Low self esteem', 'Less of a human', 'Taken for granted', 'Robbed by the system', 'Difficult', 'Energy draining', and 'Desperate'.

Depressed
Difficult Desperate
Energy draining Stressed
Powerless Bad
Unhappy
Annoyed Low self esteem
Less of a human Frustrated
Taken for granted Anxious
Robbed by the system

HOW DOES BEING ABLE TO ACCESS THE MDF GRANT MAKE YOU FEEL?

A word cloud of responses to the question 'HOW DOES BEING ABLE TO ACCESS THE MDF GRANT MAKE YOU FEEL?'. The words are arranged in a roughly circular shape, with 'Happy' being the largest and most central word. Other prominent words include 'Good', 'Very helpful', 'Valued', 'Relieved', and 'Better'. The colors of the words vary, including shades of pink, purple, blue, and teal.

Good
Much appreciated
Some relief
Accepted
Very helpful Valued
Happy
Relieved
Better
Very good
On top of the moon
Very happy

QUOTES FROM RESPONDENTS

“IT’S THE MOST STRESSFUL TIME
AND [MY] MENTAL HEALTH IS NOT
IMPROVING AT ALL, NOT
ALLOWED TO WORK AND NOT
ALLOWED TO STUDY, HOW CAN [I]
AFFORD TO LIVE”

“DESTITUTION DESTROYS THE
LIVES OF BRAVE WOMEN. IT
MAKES YOU LOSE YOUR SELF-
ESTEEM”

“THIS IS THE WORST THING YOU
CAN EVER DO TO SOMEONE
ESPECIALLY FAMILIES AND
THOSE WHO ARE ABLE TO WORK.”

“WHY ARE THEY MAKING LIFE
DIFFICULT FOR SANCTUARY
SEEKERS?”

THEIR MESSAGES TO POLITICIANS AND GOVERNMENT

“DESTITUTION IS A SLOW KILLER PILL.

POLITICIANS IT'S HIGH TIME STOP POLITICS AND FOCUS ON HUMAN BEINGS WHO ARE IN NEED. WHAT MAKES A NATION IS PEOPLE NOT BENCHES IN PARLIAMENT. RAISE UP, LOWER YOUR READING GLASSES, DEMONSTRATE FOR THE INJUSTICES, SORT [THE] HOME OFFICE, FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE UNPRIVILEGED, DESTITUTE, BRUISED.”

“TO STOP MAKING US DESTITUTE, BECAUSE EVEN THEY THEMSELVES [COULD NOT] STAND SUCH A SITUATION [AS WHAT] WE'RE GOING THROUGH WITHOUT KILLING THEMSELVES.”

“DON'T LET OTHER PEOPLE SUFFER LIKE I HAVE SUFFERED. THIS IS NOT NORMAL TO BE LEFT FOR 22YRS WITHOUT SUPPORT. THIS IS A PRISON.”

“[DESTITUTION] HAS TERRIBLE IMPACT ON PEOPLE, NO ONE SHOULD BE HOMELESS AND DESTITUTE. [THE] GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO CREATE A SCHEME TO SUPPORT DESTITUTE PEOPLE.”

“TO ALWAYS CONSIDER THEM [PEOPLE IN DESTITUTION] IN POLICY MAKING.”