**For immediate release: Arsenal fans raise £35,000 for local charity in five days**

**London, UK, 26 October 2020**

In the last five days, 2300 Arsenal supporters have given a total of £35,000 to Islington Giving. These donations were given to charity as an alternative to paying £14.95 for the pay-per-view match between Arsenal and Leicester which was broadcast on Sunday evening.

The Arsenal Supporters Trust initiated the donations. Akhil Vyas, Board Member of the Trust said:

“We are delighted that so much has been raised for Islington Giving. Our campaign was designed to give supporters an alternative to paying an exorbitant Pay Per View Charge.  Their generosity shows how much Arsenal fans care about the community in which their club is based.”

Islington Giving funds local projects that help people going through tough times. Their director, Sarah Benioff, said:

"At Islington Giving we're overwhelmed by the generosity of Arsenal's supporters. Thanks to the incredible outpouring of donations, we can now fund even more projects helping people through this tough year. The money will go to organisations like *the MildMay Community Partnership*, who provided food and essentials to local people throughout the Covid-19 crisis, or *Sports and Life skills,* who help local families stay active. Every penny will be well spent. Thank you!"

Islington Giving works through partner organisations to support young people develop skills, to connect isolated older people with each other, and to help families survive and thrive in one of the most unequal boroughs in London.  Through the Covid-19 crisis they raised and distributed over £400,000 of funds, to both cover the necessities of life, and to ensure other local charities could continue supporting residents having a hard time.  Every penny raised goes back out to local projects as their fundraising and administration costs are covered by one of their founders. Find out more at [www.islingtongiving.org.uk](http://www.islingtongiving.org.uk/)  For more information please contact: Anne Phipps anne.phipps@islingtongiving.org.uk