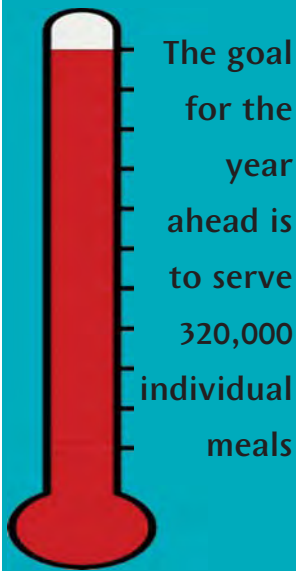




“Help is just a neighbour away.”



See the list of foodbank needs on pages 3 & 4

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Denise Arkell
Executive Director
- Marlene Atlas
President
- Glen Watts
Past President
- Brenda Ness
Secretary
- Ed Brink
Treasurer

DIRECTORS AT LARGE

- Jim Rankin
- Kyle Watts
- Trish Colton
- Sam Febraro
- Jack Robertson

A Christmas made merrier

This is Estelle's first Christmas as a single mom. The 43-year-old woman suddenly found herself the sole provider and caregiver of her young son after her husband's abrupt departure.

Money is extremely tight now for this postal worker on leave due to injury.

She's grateful for Neighbour to Neighbour's Christmas Hamper program to help make the season a more cheerful one for her little boy.



Throughout this difficult year Neighbour to Neighbour Centre has been a lifeline for Estelle. She has been able to keep her family fed due to the Foodbank, and found ample support in the Home With a Heart Program, and Resource Counsellors who have helped her access subsidized housing, budgeting advice and more.

“Neighbour to Neighbour has helped me and my family keep our heads above water, practically and emotionally. It would have been a tougher year without all of the Centre's help,” said Estee.

This year Neighbour to Neighbour has expanded the Christmas Hamper Program to two locations and is providing for nearly double the number of people — from 850 last year to 1,500 this year. Neighbours can now pick up their hampers, which are filled with dinner supplies, toys for children age 12 and younger, a family gift and stocking stuffers at Immanuel Christian Reform Church, on the west Mountain and at Emmanuel United Church on the east Mountain.

For a list of ways you can help make the season brighter for a family like Estelle's, for lonely seniors and many other Neighbours for whom a festive season would be out of reach due to financial straits, please turn to the back page of this newsletter.

To all of our donors, fundraisers, volunteers and community partners whose unwavering support has made this year far more manageable for Neighbour to Neighbour to meet the increasing demands of the unemployed and underemployed, thank you and Merry Christmas!

Our Mission:

Through diverse programs and partnerships we are the first stop with individuals and families who want help with difficulties they encounter on their path to self-sufficiency.

Our Vision

Leading poverty prevention in our neighbourhood.

Jim Drury's generosity boundless

In every organization, there are people who work behind the scenes to help get things done. They go about their support quietly, and without looking for recognition. Jim Drury is one of those people. He has been involved with Neighbour to Neighbour for many years, in many ways. There are very few events at Neighbour to Neighbour that the Drurys don't support with personal and corporate donations.

On top of running three Keg franchises, in Hamilton, Brantford, and Waterdown, Jim has sat on numerous fundraising committees and just recently completed his term on the board of directors.

Jim also ran a fundraising summer kick-off dinner for two years at The Keg. He has been a major sponsor of the Centre's corporate golf tournament since 2007, and each Christmas donates food and cash through the Hamilton Keg's Christmas fundraising.

And anytime that Neighbour to Neighbour is looking for prizes or participation in events, he is there. You may have seen him at the Vintners Dinner, the Flamborough Downs Corporate event, the Golf Tournament, or the Gowlings event. He is a fixture at the Centre, and for that everyone at Neighbour to Neighbour is extremely grateful.

So, to Jim, Sheila, and The Keg Steakhouse & Bar, thanks for your ongoing support!



Volunteer Janet Logue

For 12 years Janet Logue has been among the dedicated volunteers who keep the Centre's Foodbank running smoothly.

Every Wednesday morning she arrives to help Neighbours make their way through the grocery store-like setting, filling their bags and offering cheerful conversation.

"It helps keep me sane and it's very rewarding," said Logue who retired about 14 years ago from her job as a book keeper. "It gives me some place to look forward to going every week and I feel good about myself for helping out a bit." Her fellow volunteers are very friendly people and she has made some great friendships from all her years of volunteering.

This busy mom of three with two grandsons and four great grandchildren also helps stock the layettes for newborn babies, filling large gift bags with diapers, wipes, hand-knitted sweaters and blankets, sleepers, toys, bottles and more. Janet also helps with the annual Christmas Hamper program.

During her off days she's out walking several times a week with a neighbour in the east Hamilton Mountain neighbourhood where she has lived for 48 years.



Rothsay, Maple Leaf, Canada Bread



Thank you to all of the generous employees at Rothsay, Maple Leaf and Canada Bread for their donations of hams, turkeys, sausage and bacon that went into last year's Christmas Hampers. The kind crew also contributed monetary donations and gifts for the Hampers making the holidays much brighter for many.

To volunteer at Neighbour to Neighbour Centre call Mary at 905 574-1334

"HELP IS JUST A NEIGHBOUR AWAY"

Olivia's a better reader

Olivia O'Neill always looked forward to her one-on-one time with Neighbour to Neighbour Centre volunteer tutors Mr. Dragon and Miss Nancy. These highly-trained helpers headed to her school, George L. Armstrong, every week to help the

Grade 1 student improve her literacy.

"It was her special time out of class that she really looked forward to," said Olivia's mom Kelly. "There were no right or wrong

answers, just time to read something that Olivia was interested in. It was so nice to hear the excitement in her voice about what books she had read with them."

Olivia's progress is obvious. She had a successful year in Grade 1, in part, because of Neighbour to Neighbour Centre's Children's Literacy Program. Olivia can also read more fluently now, comprehends well and tackles big words much more confidently, her mom added.

Her improved literacy aids her success in other subjects. Now that Olivia is in Grade 2 she better understands math questions, science, social studies, and more and is getting better marks as a result. She's an avid recreational reader at home now too, said Kelly.

To become a Children's Literacy volunteer call Deban at 905 574-1334



Children's Aid Society Market 26



Toiletries and cleaning supplies such as shampoo, feminine hygiene products, anti-perspirant, laundry detergent, dish soap and floor cleaner are a luxury expense for anyone living on a fixed income.

"Food is scarce too," said Domenic Verticchio who is executive director of the Children's Aid Society in Hamilton.

For children who have grown up in the care of the CAS, turning 18 is a huge transition year. It's the year they leave foster care and become independent adults.

The CAS helps with this adjustment, finding an apartment, job and/or post-secondary school program

for some 100, 18 to 21-year-olds.

Budgeting on the earnings from a minimum wage job or social assistance is difficult. It covers rent and utilities and little more. So that's why the CAS created Market 26 last year. It's a foodbank at the Barton Street and Centennial Avenue office that these transitioning adults can access one to two times per month.

Neighbour to Neighbour is helping to keep the Market stocked with all of these necessary supplies.

"Neighbour to Neighbour has been wonderful in filling the void," said Verticchio. "We can't thank them enough for their commitment."

Food donations needed most

- Kraft dinner
- Pasta
- Spaghetti sauce
- Canned tuna/salmon
- Soup
- Sidekicks
- Mr. Noodles
- Taco kits
- Hamburg & Tuna helper
- Cereal
- Flavoured oatmeal packages
- Granola bars
- Pudding cups, fruit cups
- Peanut butter & jam
- Flavoured rice cakes
- Cookies
- Jello
- Brownie, muffin & cake mixes
- Mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard
- Tea, instant coffee, hot chocolate
- Juice boxes/bottles

"HELP IS JUST A NEIGHBOUR AWAY"

Neighbour to Neighbour Sounds of Motown



Thursday January 27, 2011 7PM

Dinner & Show \$55.00p.p.

Carmen's Banquet Centre 1520 Stone Church Rd E Hamilton

Call 905-574-1334

USED BOOK STORE

Open Monday to Friday
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Located on second floor of
Neighbour to Neighbour Centre

SHOP OR DONATE

BOOKS WILL ACCEPT

- Recent Paper Back Fiction
All in good condition
- Historical Romance
- Harlequin Romance
- Mystery & Suspense
- General Fiction
- Science Fiction
- Horror, Western
- Classics
- DVDs

BOOKS WILL WE NOT ACCEPT AT THIS TIME

- Hard covered Fiction
- Hard covered and paperback
Non Fiction
- Cookbooks
- Encyclopedias,
Dictionaries
- Readers Digest
- Audio/Video tapes & CDs
- Text books
- National Geographic

CHRISTMAS HAMPER NEEDS

MONETARY DONATIONS

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

- Vouchers in \$10 denominations
- Toys for Children \$25 to \$35
- Stocking Stuffers \$15

COMPLETE FAMILY HAMPER

- Family Gift \$25
- Senior's Hamper \$95
- Family of three \$165
- Family of six \$275

COMPLETE DINNER DONATION:

Turkey, Stuffing, Cranberry sauce, Turkey gravy, Canned corn, peas, Fresh potatoes, squash, carrots, onions, apples, Cereal, Kids cookies, Juice, English muffins, Bread, Brownies, Tuna, Coffee, Tea, Jam, Toiletries, Danish, Candy and Candy canes.

TUTORING SUPPORT

- Adopt a School \$7,000
- Book kits for one school - \$1,200
- One-on-one literacy assistance training and materials for one student for 30 hours - \$600
 - Certificate of Reading, books, school supplies and a knapsack - \$50

OTHER WAYS TO HELP

- Volunteer
 - Conduct a Food Drive
- Participate in our Fundraising Events
 - Organize a Fundraising Event
 - Memorial Donations
- Donations in lieu for anniversary, birthday, Christmas or other celebrations
 - Bequests

Nov. 2010 Dec. 2010 Jan. 2011 Feb. 2011 Apr. 2011

- Vintners Dinner
- Senior Junior Volleyball Tournament
- Santa Claus Parade

- Christmas Hamper & Food Drive
- OPP Food Drive
- Ancaster Firefighter Toy Drive

- Motown at Carmen's (see flyer at top of page)

- Clergy Breakfast
- Ancaster Food Drive
- First On Site Bowlathon

- Easter Food Drive
- Direct Mail Campaign
- Pub Challenge

"HELP IS JUST A NEIGHBOUR AWAY"