



bridges to hope

NEIGHBOURS FEEDING NEIGHBOURS

Newsletter - February 2021

What's New

Renovations

In February, renovations to our building at 39 Cookstown Road will begin. Our main office will move upstairs, and once renovations are complete the pantry will move to the main building. These changes will allow hampers to be packed faster and more efficiently, and improve accessibility for our clients and volunteers.

Reusable Bags

Since the ban on retail plastic bags came into effect in Newfoundland and Labrador in October 2020, we have been transitioning to the use of reusable bags for our hampers. We are currently accepting donations of reusable bags to support this transition.

Hamper Delivery

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, we have partnered with two community groups to deliver hampers to vulnerable populations in the St. John's-Metro region. Connections for Seniors is available for hamper delivery to those above the age of 65, and Local Wellness Collective—an initiative of Food First NL—is available for hamper delivery to people of any age who require assistance in accessing a food hamper.

Coming Up...

We will soon be accepting applications for our Canada Summer Grant positions. These grants are open to youth under the age of 30. If you are interested in working with us this summer, please forward your resume to info@bridgestohope.ca.

In the Kitchen

Thanks to our volunteers, almost 500 loaves of bread are baked fresh every month. On Thursdays, we prepare nutritious homemade soup, and always make sure to sneak in a batch of cookies here and there. Here's a snap of our newest bread baker, Nikki!

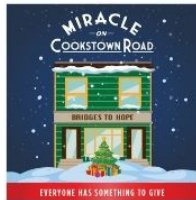


Programs

In November 2020 we began partnerships with two local groups. Thanks to Sharing the Harvest NL, we can now accept donations of moose meat from hunters in our province. Through Fishing for Success, we are able to distribute fresh cod fillets. These partnerships allow us to provide a healthy and local protein option for our clients, and are a step toward addressing food security in our community.



Miracle on Cookstown Road



2020 was an unforgettable year for all of us. Yet, despite the struggle, every day at Bridges to Hope we have been fortunate to witness the miracle of kindness: Neighbours feeding Neighbours. Throughout the holiday season, your generosity gave us the means to continue providing healthy hampers to our neighbours in need. Thank you!

Volunteer Spotlight

Angeline has been volunteering with Bridges to Hope since 2006. She packs hampers for our clients and is also a member of our Occupational Health and Safety committee. We've included a message from Angeline below. Thanks for all your hard work, Angeline!



"Over the last 15 years I have volunteered with many amazing people who, like myself, just wanted to help others. My day to volunteer has always been on a Tuesday and so the other 'Tuesday people' have become good friends. When my husband died in 2013 these friends became a continued source of support and purpose and I look forward to coming back each week. Our clients are always appreciative of what we are able to provide for them: the last couple years we've been able to expand our food selection to include wholesome things such as meat, fish, fresh vegetables, fruit, eggs, and healthy snacks for children. It is my hope that sometime in the future our province can put an end to the food insecurity that results in our growing number of clients, but I appreciate the Board, staff and other volunteers at Bridges to Hope for all their efforts to meet these needs."