

Special Thanks



April 18-24 was **National Volunteer Week**. At Bridges to Hope volunteers are essential to our daily operations: every day they are busy packing hampers, baking bread, preparing homemade soup, and serving on our Board of Directors. No matter what role they fill, they all work tirelessly to help feed our neighbours and we are so grateful for their dedication. To all of our volunteers, a sincere thank you!

Renovations

On Wednesday April 21st we were presented with an incredible \$50,000 donation from Rotary Club of St. John's. This donation covers the cost of renovations to our facilities and will ultimately provide a more efficient design to our space. We are thrilled to receive this very generous donation and would like to thank Rotary Club of St. John's for their support!

Our new pantry officially opened on Tuesday April 20th and renovations to our storage space began the same day. When completed our storage capacity will greatly increase, allowing us to expand both the amount and variety of food we are able to offer.



In the Kitchen



Offering homemade options in our pantry is crucial to our mission: we are committed to reducing the effects of poverty through access to fresh and essential food. Every month over 400 bowls of soup and 200 homemade meals are prepared in our kitchen. This month, Steve has been busy cooking up homemade chicken noodle soup, chilli, lasagna, and cod au gratin for our clients!



Fundraising

We need your support! From June 1-30, we are participating in the Great Canadian Giving Challenge. This is a national public contest which benefits any registered Canadian charity. Every \$1 donated to Bridges to Hope in June automatically enters our organization to win an additional \$20,000. The grand prize draw is on Canada Day and with your help we could receive the grand prize.

So, what could we do with \$20,000? We could supply 4000 Smart Snack Kits to children in our community; provide 6000 healthy food hampers; or prepare over 25,000 bowls of soup! To support us in the Challenge, you can donate on our website during the month of June.

Volunteer Spotlight



We are so excited to have our volunteers back in the pantry this month! For the month of May, we're highlighting Betty who has been volunteering at Bridges to Hope for over 20 years. Betty packs hampers on Thursdays, and has assisted with our Bag to School program as well as various fundraising events. When asked what she enjoys about volunteering with us, Betty said:

“ One thing that stands out is the time we had planned a movie night for the children. Earlier that week I spoke to a client who told me the movie night was on her son's birthday. So that night we set up a few games and brought out a birthday cake for the boy and sang Happy Birthday. That was a good day. ”