



Red Door

FAMILY SHELTER

*Ending family homelessness...
one family at a time*



Shelter News Winter 2012

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Top Pick **Charity** 2011

Highlight:

Charity Intelligence Canada
Names the Red Door a Top Pick!

Charity Intelligence Canada, a non-profit organization that researches and analyzes Canada's charities to enable donors to make informed and effective giving decisions, has named the Red Door Family Shelter one of their Top Picks for 2011. This is the third year in a row we have been recommended!

The Red Door was one of only 33 Canadian Charities to receive this recommendation.

Holiday Wrap-Up: Thank you Supporters!

We at the Red Door are once again overwhelmed by the outstanding support we receive from the community over the holidays!

This past holiday season, with the help of many generous donors and family sponsors, we were able to provide special support to **over 140 families** in the shelter and in the community. From gift packages, special holiday meals, to lovingly prepared stockings, handmade stuffed animals and toys for children, our families were overjoyed by the generosity this year.

We wanted to take this issue to highlight some of the support our families received over the holidays and thank all of the incredible donors who helped make it happen.

One amazing source of support is our Holiday Family Sponsorship Program. Every year, more than 100 individuals, work place and community groups team up to help raise funds and items as part of the program. The program helps our ex-resident families who have recently left the shelter but are in need of support over the holiday period. In November, each family submits a holiday wish list which often includes toys for the children, clothing and household items. Groups and donors are assigned a family's list and together they purchase those items. This year packages were provided for 90 families.



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There were lots of gifts for our shelter residents as well. Many generous supporters provided an assortment of toys and gifts for each family including hand-made stockings (Mary Feldstein, Project A.J.), HBC gift cards (anonymous donor), baskets full of housewares and toiletries (Basketeers, Annual Basket Drive for Women's Shelters), and gift cards to purchases boots and shoes (Payless Shoes).

Many groups and donors also held toy and clothing drives that enabled us to provide special gift packages for resident families. New this year was a special donation drive called the Shoe Box Project, led by volunteers, Jessica, Vanessa and Katy Mulroney & Caroline Lapham. The project provided 390 gift boxes filled with make-up supplies, gift cards, toiletries movies passes and other goodies for all of the women staying in the shelter and many former residents.

The food support we received this year was particularly amazing. Through our foodbank, with support from Second Harvest, Re/Max and other donors, we provided close to 200 turkeys to help our residents make their holiday dinners special. Alex Wilson, a local real-estate agent treated the residents of our shelters to Swiss Chalet dinners the week before Christmas, and a team of volunteers helped prepare a special Christmas day dinner.

Additional support from local businesses included a special lunch for shelter resident's (Casey's Restaurant), dinner and snacks at our ex-resident party (St. Louis Chicken and Wings) and an additional party for residents provided by Om Tat Sat Yoga Institute.



Our resident holiday parties are always a highlight for both children and parents alike. Every year, we hold a dinner as well as a big party for ex-residents of the shelter, supported in part by the Chum Charitable Foundation. This year there were lots of great events for the kids including face-painting, balloon animals, a magician, and special visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

Once again, we are so pleased to receive such outstanding and generous support over the holidays. To all our supporters, from all of the staff, management and families at the Red Door, thank you so much for helping make it a happy holiday!

Volunteer Spotlight



A big thank you goes out to all of the volunteers who helped us during the holiday season. From sorting donations, to distributing food, and helping with our events, our volunteers were there to lend a hand.

Your support made a huge difference. We couldn't have done it without you!

For more information about getting involved as a volunteer, please visit:

www.reddoorshelter.ca/volunteer

Holiday Program Donor Spotlight

The Shoebox project provided 390 specially prepared gift boxes filled with goodies collected from a number of donors. The boxes were distributed to all of the women in the shelter on Christmas day.



Each year, the **Basketeers** have provided over 70 baskets filled with toiletries and other essentials for the families at our shelter.

Our resident food bank was overjoyed to receive 180 frozen turkeys from **Second Harvest** just before Christmas. We also partner with Second Harvest year round as they provide us with weekly deliveries of produce for our food bank.



An Online Makeover!

We rung-in the new year with the launch of a brand new, completely re-designed website!

We hope you'll find the site more user friendly, easier to navigate and visually appealing.

If you're on [twitter](#) or [facebook](#), let us know what you think!



[facebook.com/reddoorfamilyshelter](https://www.facebook.com/reddoorfamilyshelter)



[@RedDoorFamilySh](https://twitter.com/RedDoorFamilySh)



FEATURE

REAL STORIES

EVENTS

Upcoming | Past

www.reddoorshelter.ca

Thank you to all of our Holiday Program Supporters

Family Sponsors

Fullerton Family
Hilary and Morgan Zimmerman
Kulkarni Family
Langdon Family
Lazovick Family
Oreskovich Family
Staff of Applied Business Solutions Technology Application Group
Staff of Bastedo Stewart Smith
Staff of Russell, Reynolds and Associates
Staff of the Canadian Country Music Association
Staff of the Communications Branch at the Ministry of Health
Staff of the Office of the Budget Treasury Board
Staff of WSIB
Beth Zilinski
Blain, Kathleen, Paul and Katherine Hicks,
Joanne and Andrew Anderson, and Mrs. Hord
BMO Department Canada Team
Brian Armstrong
Colleen Moloney and Family
Connie Venere
Davidson Family

Jessica Snow
Jonathan Khan
Legal Department at The Bank of Nova Scotia
Lousia Jewell's Book Club
Members of 124th Toronto Sparks
Members of the Sai Nilayam Spiritual Organization
Members of Toronto Chinese United Church
Monica Bell
Papadimitriou Family
Staff of Scotiabank
Scotiabank Pension and Benefits Team
Sonya Singh and Friends
Staff of Maple Leaf Sports
Staff of Allstream Global Carrier Solutions team
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Staff of Maxus Canada
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Jamie Holmes
Barbara Lollar
Staff of Keel Cottrelle LLP
Sandra Dumond
Wade Burton
Eric Salsberg
Jean Cloutier
Paola Melconian
Eric Dempster

In-Kind Contributions

McDonald Family
Sales Department at Johnson & Johnson
Sharma Family
Shoe Box Project
Staff of Insight Information
eBay, PayPal & Kijiji Canada
Anna, Evan, and Kate Jakubek
Arjun Jindal
Baird MacGregor Insurance Brokers LLP
Brownies - 120th Unit-Beaches
C. White
Calvary Charismatic Centre
Canadian Martyrs Catholic School
Catherine Jetle
Congregation of Shiloh Baptist Church
Dahlia
Early Enrichment Day Care
Emily, Julia and Chloe Brown
Future Engery Systems Ltd
Fynn's of Temple Bar
Gallant Family
Gavin Green
Girls Group at R.H McGregor P.S
Institute of Medical Science Students Association
Ken Vadjifdar
Staff of Core Realty Group INC. Brokerage
Lisa Bradley
Mary Feldstein
Maryvale Public School
Matthew John Daycare Centre
Monika Lewis
Naomi Chapter No.8, Order of the Eastern Star
Natalie Rahilly
Nickelodeon Consumer Products Canada

Petite Maison Montessori
Podemski Family
Re/Max Hallmark Realty Ltd, Brokerage
Residents of Claremont Condominiums
Robert Cormack
Royal LePage Shelter Foundation
Samantha Keay
Saskia and Zane Parker
Sisters of St. Kosmas Aitolos Greek Orthodox Monastery
St. Brendan's School
Staff and Management of Dundee Realty
Staff and Management of Hays Toronto
Staff and Management of Publicitas ARP
Staff of Zarek, Taylor, Grossman, Hanrahan LLP
Barristers and Solicitors
Staff of Armenian Family Support Services and St. Sahang and St. Mesrob Armenian Saturday School
Staff of Canderel Commercial Services Inc.
Staff of Crawford
Staff of Crown Property Management
Staff of Fairfax Financial and Hamblin Wasta Investment Counsel
Staff of Ganz
Staff of HH Angus
Staff of Insight Information
Staff of Keller Williams
Staff of Legal Aid Duty Counsel
Staff of Osgoode Professional Development
Staff of Postmedia Integrated Advertising
Staff of Rogers Communications
Staff of Royal LePage
Staff of Scotiabank - Public & Corporate Affairs

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Staff of Talk&Text.ca
Staff of TEC Marketing
Staff of The Learning Partnership
Staff of the St. Michael's Hospital Palliative Care team
Staff of Total Credit Recovery
Staff of TVO Canada
Staff of Vale Corporate Office Base Metals
Stephanie Wood
Students of International House Toronto
Students of the Medical Science Students Association
Suzanne McNamee
Tobias House Attendants
Tony Roost
Toronto Toy Tea
Toys for Tots
TPL Lighting
TSSC 1848 Security Staff
Unilever
Veronique Dagenais
Payless Gives Shoes 4 Kids
Project A.J.
Basketeers
Annual Basket Drive for Women's Shelters
Security Self Storage
Kenair Apartments
St. Louis Chicken and Wings
Gordon Food Service
Om Tat Sat Yoga Institute
Toronto Police Service - 54 Division
St. Mathew's Cathedral
Casey's Restaurants
Joe Suntherland Rentals



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