

Holiday Season Guide 2016

Guide to Donating, Volunteering & Projects for Families and Groups



Courtesy of



Information & Volunteer Centre
FOR STRATHCONA COUNTY
www.ivcstrathcona.org

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INTRODUCTION

This guide is directed to families but all the activities and processes can be utilized by community groups and/or individuals.

Start a Tradition

Families share many traditions in celebrating the Holiday season and one of the most important is the tradition of giving – not only giving gifts to friends and family, but also giving in spirit through donations of time and service to the community.

Although opportunities to be involved in the community exist all year round, they are even more prevalent during the holiday season. With today's busy lifestyles, parents are especially eager to find ways of spending quality, meaningful time with their children. They want to instill values of compassion, sharing, community service and a personal belief system in their children. There is no better way to accomplish this than through volunteering together as a family.

How Your Family Will Benefit

- ★ Learn life lessons in compassion and empathy.
- ★ Allows families to spend quality time together at a particularly busy time of the year.
- ★ Helps children feel valued for their contributions while acquiring new skills.
- ★ Gives satisfaction in working together for a common purpose.

How to Get Started

- ★ Call a conference.
- ★ Make a list of everyone's ideas and discuss the merits of each one.
- ★ Keep in mind: the participant's ages, previous commitments, and time restraints.
- ★ Decide if you want to participate in On-Site volunteering or work on a project in your own home.
(see 'Options')
- ★ Keep your ideas scaled to an attainable goal. For example, if you want to volunteer for a local Christmas Bureau but your children are too young, you could have the family decide to make a donation of food or toys and take the children with you to place your donation in a collection bin.
- ★ Call your local Volunteer Centre at 780.464.4242. They may be able to assist you with ideas or suggest places that can use help on a seasonal basis.

OPTIONS

On Site Volunteering

- ★ If you decide that on-site volunteering is best for your family, compile a contact list of organizations that need help, include organizations listed in this Guide. Make sure the facility is an appropriate environment for your whole family. Involving younger family members in the selection of an agency helps them realize that volunteering is not just about showing up somewhere. Planning must take place.
- ★ Organizations are busy at holiday times, just as your own home is busy. Contact organizations early to avoid disappointment.
- ★ Talking to the Volunteer Coordinator of the organization you would like to work with is the best place to start. Explain your interest in volunteering as a family unit and be prepared to talk a little about your family.
- ★ Agencies that have never used families and/or children as volunteers may be hesitant to do so because of risk and/or supervision concerns. Assure the coordinator that you will assume all risk for any minor children and will provide supervision for them. You can be your family's own best advocate. Talk about the assets your family can bring to the organization and what your family is hoping to accomplish by volunteering.
- ★ If you have a particular skill or talent you wish to share, let the Volunteer Coordinator know. For example, you may have a musical family that would like to share a gift of music.
- ★ Find out what is required before your family can volunteer and follow through on these requirements. There may be a volunteer form, an interview, orientation, training or other things that you will need to do before volunteering.
- ★ Arrive at the agreed time and make sure everyone is ready to work. Have fun!



Make Your Own Project

- ★ Another great way to help is to come up with an idea for a family project. You can keep your group to just your immediate family or expand to include extended family members or even neighbours.
- ★ Refer to the '[Ideas for Your Own Project](#)' listed below and start with a brainstorming session that may include some of these ideas as well as new ones of your own. Decide what you would like to do and how you might accomplish your goals. Agree on a project by consensus.

- ★ Keep your plans **fun** so the children in the group will not lose interest.
- ★ Once you have decided on a project and the organization to help, make a phone call to the organization to let them know your plans. They may have advice or ideas on how to make your project a success and may also have some resources available for your family.
- ★ Schedule a regular time that is agreeable for everyone working on the project.
- ★ Set a completion date for your project. This helps keep everyone's eye on the goal. Also, plan to have a celebration after the successful completion of your project. Talk about how great it was to work together as a family or group.



Ideas for Your Own Project

- ★ ***Make gift baskets*** for seniors at a Care Centre. Call the centre to find out what types of items would be appropriate to include (i.e. small lotions, shampoos, soaps, large print books, or small clothing items like cozy socks or slippers).
- ★ ***Make "Caring Kits"*** for an inner city organization. Include items such as combs, shampoos, lotions, toothpaste, tissues, dental floss and soap.
- ★ ***Make a Christmas hamper*** for a family and deliver it.
- ★ Have a ***"Family Craft Day"***. Make crafts and decorations for a local organization to decorate their facility or to sell at their holiday craft sale.
- ★ Call the ***local women's shelter*** and ask how you can help the children in the shelter over the Christmas season.
- ★ Go through your ***children's' books***. Ask your children to pick out their favorites or those that are no longer used and donate them to the local women's shelter for the children in the shelter.
- ★ ***Collect food items*** for the local Christmas Bureau. Purchase them as a family and take them to the depot or drop off Centre as a family.
- ★ Host a neighborhood ***"Open House"*** and ask neighbors to bring a toy or food for the Christmas Bureau. Collect all the items and take them to the depot or drop off centre as a family.
- ★ Offer to ***take seniors shopping for their Christmas needs***. Check around your neighborhood or faith community to see if there are seniors in need of this assistance.
- ★ Help a senior do some ***Christmas baking***.
- ★ Leave ***anonymous treats*** on the doorstep of someone that you know is alone over the holiday season.

- ★ Have a **Family Cooking Day**. Bake all types of Christmas goodies and take them to the Youth Empowerment and Support Services Centre (YESS).
- ★ Go **caroling** in your neighborhood.
- ★ Have a Christmas Party and **collect pet food** for the local Animal Protection Society.
- ★ **Visit an elderly neighbor** as a family or invite them over to a family evening.
- ★ Go out as a family **and purchase mittens, socks and/or toques** for the local Christmas Bureau or an inner city charity.
- ★ Have your **church choir** sing at a senior's home.
- ★ **Make Christmas Cards** for seniors at a senior's lodge, care centre, a youth shelter or the local women's shelter (include some generic ones too).
- ★ Help **prepare or serve a Christmas dinner** for those in need.
- ★ Call an organization and see what's on their **"wish list"** and then provide those **materials** for that group.
- ★ Have a family **"Clean the Closets"** day. Collect unneeded clothing, books and toys for those in need.
- ★ Do a **family quilt project**. Each family member makes a square and everyone helps sew them together. Donate the finished product to charity.
- ★ **Make Christmas decorations** together and then donate them to charity.
- ★ Have the children **draw Christmas pictures** on 8 1/2 x 14 paper, or cut-out old Christmas cards and glue them; then have Mom or Dad laminate the finished product and donate them to a care centre as place mats or table decorations.
- ★ **Make a Christmas centerpiece** together and donate it. Or make one for other special occasions or for everyday use.
- ★ Have a Mom and Daughter **knitting spree** and knit scarves for the needy.
- ★ Help a senior give their home a good **holiday cleaning**.
- ★ Help a senior **put up decorations, lights and trees**.
- ★ Help a **senior wrap and mail their Christmas gifts**.



IDEAS FOR ORGANIZATIONS TO DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR

Following is a list organizations that identifies their needs for volunteer services or items that they are in need of, especially over the holiday season. This may be a direct volunteering opportunity or an idea for a project that can be done from home. Also included are some special "Wish Lists". These are items that organizations are in special need of this holiday season that may be easy for you to collect and donate. These organizations are located in Strathcona County or Edmonton.

A Safe Place Women's Shelter

Website: www.asafeplace.ca

Provides short-term accommodation to abused women and their children, on a 24 hour basis.

Phone: 780.449.2581

Volunteer Coordinator: Jean or Carla

Volunteer Coordinator Contact Number: 780.449.2581

Volunteer Coordinator Contact Email: jcremer@telusplanet.net

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

These items are given to women when they leave the shelter to give them a jump start on starting their new home.

- New pots & pans
- New towels & face cloths
- New single sheets
- New double sheets
- New crib sheets
- New coffee pots
- New toasters



Bissell Centre

Website: www.bissellcentre.org

Provides services to inner-city residents and assists them to achieve self-reliance. As an inner city community service agency, Bissell Centre provides lots of opportunities for neighbors to help neighbors who are struggling.

Location: 10527-96 Street, Edmonton, Alberta

Phone: 780.423.2285

Holiday Coordinator Contact Number: Lauren Becker at 780.423.2285 ext.365

Holiday Coordinator Contact Email: lbecker@bissellcentre.org

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

Become a Bissell Elf!

Put on your Elf hat and #GiftWrapforBissell! From November 12th to December 24th shoppers at Southgate Mall can have their gifts wrapped by Bissell Elves for a donation to Bissell Centre. To get involved, just go to our website and fill out the volunteer registration form.

<http://bissellcentre.org/bissellelf/>

HOLIDAY IDEAS

Host a Bissell Giving Tree Party!

Turn your Christmas event into a fundraiser! This Christmas season, when you host a dinner party or staff event, you can also give to people in need. Bissell Centre will provide the tools for you to turn your event into a meaningful fundraiser! What do you do?

- Invite: Host an event, and invite guests to bring a donation in support of Bissell Centre.
- Give: Have guests place donations in the supplied Bissell Giving Tree envelopes.
- Decorate: Decorate your Christmas tree, wall, or mantle with your donation envelopes.
- Share: Delight in your collective generosity! Snap a photo and share it on social media.

Festive Giveaway

Each year Bissell Centre transforms our Activities Room into a Holiday Wonderland where struggling families can come choose gifts for their children. Grab a few friends or family members and go shopping for some gifts for the kids or stuff a few stockings for mom & dad and bring them down to Bissell Centre on Sunday December 4th & Sunday December 11th from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm. New Items only please.

Gift Ideas:

- Infant (0-2): Clothes, Rattles, Plush Toys, Musical Toys, Books, Blankets.
- Children (3-11): Coloring Books, Puzzles, Lego, Cars & Trucks, Dolls, Blocks, Books, Toboggans, Toys.
- Teens: ***Teen items are MOST in need!*** Remote Control Vehicles, Craft or Science Sets, Hand Held Electronic Games, Sporting Goods (Soccer/Footballs), Cosmetics (Nail Polish, Hair Accessories, Makeup), Hoodies, T-Shirts, Accessories, Gift Cards, Art Supplies, Books.

Stocking Ideas:

- Women's: Small Sweets/ Chocolates/ Gum, Razor/ Shaving Cream, Shampoo/ Shower Gel/ Lotions, Cosmetics (Mascara, Lip Balm, Eye Shadow), Small Perfume/ Body Spray, Hand Warmers, Thermal/ Wool Socks, Travel Mug with Hot Chocolate Pack, 2 Bus Tickets, \$5 Coffee Gift Card
- Men's: Small Sweets/ Chocolates/ Gum, Razor/ Shaving Cream, Body Wash, New Underwear, Work Gloves, Hand Warmers, Thermal/ Wool Socks, Deck of Cards, Travel Mug with Hot Chocolate Pack, 2 Bus Tickets, \$5 Coffee Gift Card

DONATE GOODS

New Items Needed:

- Adult & Children's Underwear & Socks
- Personal Care Items (Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Razors)
- Bottles of Water & Refillable Water Bottles; Travel Mugs
- Baby Diapers Sizes 4, 5, 6 & and all sizes of Pull-ups
- Baby Formula, Wipes, Shampoo, & Lotions

"Gently Loved" Items Needed:

- Men's Work Gloves and Work Boots
- Water/wind proof hats & gloves
- Family Outerwear & Footwear

- Backpacks and Purses
- Bedding and Linens (towels for our Drop-in Centre)
- General Household Items (pots, pans, cutlery, small appliances)
- Collectables, Decorative Items, and Jewelry

Food Items Needed:

Please drop off at Bissell Centre East Building 10527 - 96 Street

- Store purchased Meat: Beef (Hamburger), Chicken, Pork
- Fresh & Frozen Fruit & Vegetables
- Coffee, Black Tea
- Sugar, Power Cream, Cookies
- Saran Wrap, Sandwich Bags, & paper Lunch Bags
- Paper & Styrofoam Plates and Bowls, and Plastic Cutlery
- Paper Towels



Boyle Street Community Services

Website: <http://boylestreet.org/>

The mission of Boyle Street Community Services is to build and provide community support for people with multiple barriers to inclusion.

Our vision is to see that all people grow healthier through involvement in strong, accepting and respectful communities.

Location: 10116-105 Avenue, Edmonton

Phone: 780.424.4106

Volunteer Coordinator Contact Number: 780.424.4106 ext. 208

Volunteer Coordinator Contact Email: jkaikkonen@boylestreet.org

Development Manager Contact Number: 587.335.7371

Development Manger Contact Email: bguidinger@boylestreet.org

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

- Monetary donations, both through our website as well as in-person at our downtown location
- In-kind donations of new or gently-used winter appropriate clothing, including:
 - Winter coats
 - Underwear
 - Pants
 - Footwear
 - Shirts
 - Socks
 - Toques
 - Mittens
 - Backpacks
- Meal sponsorships are also a very meaningful way to give back this season! Boyle Street has a brand new menu of delicious meals available for sponsorship. Please contact us for more details.

- Volunteers are always welcome; from sorting donations and serving our community members to quasi-professional administrative assistance and special events chaperone's and greeters. Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator for additional details.



CARE CENTRES

Capital Care Strathcona

Website: www.capitalcare.net

Located in Strathcona County, CAPITAL CARE Strathcona has 75 continuing care beds and operates the Community Day Support Program. It also provides care to residents residing in Laurier House Strathcona and the Strathcona Alzheimer Care Centre.

Location: 12 Brower Drive, Sherwood Park, Alberta T8H 1V3

Phone: 780.467.3366 (Reception)

Coordinator of Volunteer Services: Terry De Visser

Coordinator of Volunteer Services Contact Number: 780.417.4329 (Thursday & Fridays 8 am – 4 pm)

Coordinator of Volunteer Services Contact Email: terry.devisser@capitalcare.net

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

- Caroling at the care centre over the holidays
- Reading Christmas, or others stories, to the residents, putting on a Christmas play, assist residents in recreation programs such as Bingos, Crafts, Happy Hours, etc.
- Donate to our Capital Care Foundation supporting Capital Care Strathcona pets or Resident center home like enhancements.

For anyone 15 years and up, who are interested in volunteering once a week or a few times a month, please submit a volunteer application.



Sherwood Care

Website: <http://sherwoodcare.com>

Long term care facility for elderly or disabled persons, including nursing, dietary, laundry, physical therapy, occupational therapy, chaplain, recreation and housekeeping.

Location: 2020 Brentwood Blvd. Sherwood Park

Phone: 780.467.2281

Email: hhempel@sherwoodcare.com

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

- Organize a choir to come in and sing for the residents.
- Caroling at the Care Centre over the holidays



CHRISTMAS BUREAUS

Christmas Bureau of Edmonton

Website: www.christmasbureau.ca

To provide a festive meal and coordination of Christmas giving to Edmontonians in need.

Phone: 780.414.7682

Volunteer Coordinator's Contact Number: 780.414.7682

Volunteer Coordinator's Contact Email: volunteer@christmasbureau.ca

DONATE OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

- Run Donation Desk Ambassadors (West Edmonton Mall, Bonnie Doon, Southgate, City Centre, Kingsway, Commerce Place)
- Gift wrapping at Bonnie Doon
- Special Events
- Craft Sales
- 'Adopt-A-Teen', a Christmas gift program that provides \$50 Walmart gift cards for Edmonton teens aged 13 to 17 years from low-income families



Strathcona County Christmas Bureau

Website: <http://scb79.ca>

The Strathcona Christmas Bureau serves individuals and families in Strathcona County during the Christmas season by providing food hampers and/or toys to individuals and families in need. Those requiring assistance may be self-referred or referred by social services, church, school, friends or family.

Phone: 780.449.5353 (leave first name and phone number and you will receive a call back)

Volunteer Coordinator's Contact Number: 780.919.8517

Volunteer Coordinator's Contact Email: VolunteerSCB@gmail.com

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

- Volunteer at the Christmas Bureau wrapping gifts and making hampers.
- Volunteer at delivery day on December 17, 2016 (everyone must be 18+ in vehicle)
- Volunteer at take down of the Bureau in January
- Donations of toys and gift items at various venues. Sherwood Park Mall and Information Volunteer Centre (IVC) located at 100 Ordze Ave, Sherwood Park)

- IVC also accepts monetary donations for the Strathcona County Christmas Bureau



Dreamcatcher Nature Assisted Therapy

Website: www.dreamcatcherassociation.com

Dreamcatcher is an organization that is located in Ardrossan on a 40-acre beautifully treed and trailed ranch. Dreamcatcher believes in a holistic approach to healing and offers a wide variety of traditional and unique therapies to help children, youth and adults find healing, balance, joy and personal growth.

Location: 53044 RR #213 Ardrossan, Alberta, T8G 2C4

Phone: 780.809.1047

Volunteer Coordinator: Dayna Stark

Volunteer Coordinator Contact Number: 780.809.1047

Volunteer Coordinator Email: volunteerdreamcatcher@hotmail.com

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

Sponsor a Caring Critter

The Sponsor a Caring Critter program provides the opportunity for individuals, groups and businesses to make a charitable donation to Dreamcatcher Association for the care and well-being of the Dreamcatcher animals that make such profound changes in the lives of the people they work with. Donations to this program go toward the general and veterinary care of the animals as well as the maintenance and up keep of the animal shelters and enclosures. Along with a thank you package which includes a biography of the animal, a certificate and photo, donors will also receive a charitable tax receipt.

Fund the Fuzzy Face Express

The Fuzzy Face Express program is a mobile animal program which provides therapeutic recreation; aid for mental health disorders; social interaction and joy for those who are elderly, sick or shut in; humane education for school-aged children; motivation and engagement for youth at risk; purpose and hope for the homeless and much more. Funds are needed to allow our amazing team of animal handling volunteers to engage these hard to reach and vulnerable populations. Tax receipts are available for donations of \$20 or more.



E4C

Website: e4calberta.org

E4C is a non-profit charitable organization that moves vulnerable people toward positive, healthy, and lasting change.

Location: 9321 Jasper Ave, Edmonton

Phone: 780.424.7543

Volunteer Coordinator: Selena Arcovio

Volunteer Coordinator Contact Phone: 780.424.7543
Volunteer Coordinator Contact Email: SArcovio@e4calberta.org

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

- Donate online through our Canada Helps Giving Page (<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/e4c/>). You can make a general donation and support the area of greatest need or donate to a specific program by selecting their individual fund.
- Support E4C programs on a *monthly basis* automatically through our Canada Helps Giving Page. (<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/e4c/>)
- Send a cheque directly to our organization: E4C, Attn: Debbie Buchynski at the above address (please indicate if you want your donation allocated to a specific program) or phone 780.424.7543 ext 114
- In-kind donations – new items only (can be dropped off at 9321 Jasper Avenue)
 - New toothbrushes and toothpastes
 - New shampoos and conditioners
 - New body wash
 - New mitts, gloves and touques



Hope Mission

Website: www.hopemission.com

Hope Mission is a not-for-profit Christian social care agency caring for impoverished men, women, and children across Alberta. By providing essential services such as meals, shelter, addiction recovery, and preventative children's programming, we exist to serve, strengthen, and uplift men, women, youth, and children through the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ

Location: 9908 106 Ave NW, Edmonton

Phone: 780.422.2018

Volunteer Coordinator Contact Number: 780.411.2018 ext. 266

Volunteer Coordinator Contact Email: volunteer.coordinator@hopemission.com

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

To sign up to volunteer, please fill out an application form at www.hopemission.com/get-involved):

- Sandwich Area: Volunteers help staff to make 1500 sandwiches for the various programs in Hope Mission that require them.
- Community Meals: Volunteers would help with preparing the meal, serving it, and cleaning up afterwards.
- Holiday Christmas Meals: Volunteers would help with setting up the tables for seating's, serving the food, and cleaning up afterwards. We start taking Christmas volunteers on October 1st. To sign up for this, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer.coordinator@hopemission.com.

Kid's Volunteering:

- Kids Giving Hope: This program is offered to children ages 6 – 12 years old. Children will come accompanied by a parent to learn about Hope Mission and the people we serve, play games, make crafts, and partake in a volunteering activity. At our holiday Christmas meals, the kids will get the opportunity to hand out care packages to the guests as they leave the meal. For more information and to subscribe to the newsletter, please go to www.hopemission.com/get-involved/kids-giving-hope.

Donations:

- Financial Donations: to donate, please go to www.hopemission.com/donate or through phone by calling us at 780-453-3877.
- In-kind Donations: To donate, please drop off items at our main building (9908 106 Avenue) Monday to Friday between 9am – 5pm or to our Bargain Shoppe (2403 Ellwood Drive SW) Monday – Saturday between 9am – 5pm.
- Items we always need:
 - Underwear & Socks
 - Mittens/Gloves
 - Jackets & Hoodies
 - Men's jeans size 30 - 36 & men's belts
 - Running shoes
 - Hygiene items like toothbrushes, deodorant, body wash, combs, etc.
 - Sweatpants
 - Shirts/Sweatshirts



JCI Edmonton Holiday Hamper Program

Website : hamperprogram@jci.com

The annual Holiday Hamper Program has been creating positive change in our community for over 13 years. Our goal is to provide food and gifts to over 850 local families who cannot afford to do so on their own. 2015's contributions to the JCI Holiday Hamper Program led to over 3,700 Edmontonians eating over 11 tonnes of turkey and over 42 tonnes of food. Plus over 2300 children opened presents on Christmas Day. That's was 830+ Edmonton families who would not have had a Christmas if it wasn't for the generosity of our supporters and volunteers last year. The program launches each year in mid-October.

Contact Email: hamperprogram@jci.edmonton.com

How this Program Works

Members of the community sign up to become our Hamper Elves, this can be done at holidayhamper.ca. On December 1st, 2016 JCI Edmonton will assign a family member to each Hamper Elf. At that time the composition of family members and their ages will be released (i.e. Mom, 5 yr. old boy, 9 yr. old girl).

Groceries & Gifts

Upon receipt of the details for their assigned families, the Hamper Elves are then tasked with buying groceries(from a pre-approved grocery list provided by the program) and buying gifts for the kids

assigned to them. Hamper sizes are based on family size. JCI Edmonton will provide the turkeys and roasting pans on delivery day.

Delivery Day

The Hamper delivery date is scheduled for Saturday, December 17th. Delivery will take place between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. The meeting place for delivery is at Northlands Edmonton Expo Centre, Hall A. Participants will need to register upon arrival. At that time they will be given the address of the family, as well as a turkey, cooking instructions and a roasting pan. The Elves then personally deliver the hampers to their assigned families.

If a participant is unable to deliver their hamper another volunteer will deliver it.

Everyone can participate! Recruit friends, family and co-workers to put together hampers.

How to Get Involved

- Sign up as an elf at holidayhamper.ca
- Make a contribution to the program at hamperprogram@jci.com
- Sign up to be a delivery day volunteer – Email hamperprogram@jciedmonton.com



Mustard Seed

Website: www.theseed.ca

The Mustard Seed (Edmonton) has been dedicated to meeting the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of people in Edmonton's inner city since 1988.

Location: 96 Street & 106 A Ave (10635 -96 St. Edmonton AB)

Donation Drop off Depot: 10568 114th Street (9am to 5 pm)

Main office Phone: 780.442.5600

Volunteer Coordinator Name: Paul Thorne - 780-442-3568 (groups;); paulthorne@theseed.ca

Aly Kamara (individuals) - 780-442-3558; alykamara@theseed.ca

Volunteer general mailbox Contact Email : volunteeredmonton@theseed.ca

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

Volunteer over the Holidays

- Donation Sorting Groups (5-12 people)
- Baking Groups 9.30 am to 12 noon (8 to 10 people) Mon. Tues. Thur. Fri. (December Only) remainder of the year Tues and Thursday only
- Musical Groups (4-5 people) dates can be arranged (8pm to 9.30pm)
- Meal Sponsorship
- Christmas Events Committee

COFFEE DRIVE

Mustard Seed serves 1,700 cups of coffee every day! Consider holding a **coffee drive** to collect ground coffee, sugar and creamer for the coffee bar. **We need that ALL year.**

MUGS OF JOY

- thermal or travel mugs
- coffee gift cards
- warm socks
- pocket hand warmers
- bus tickets
- hand wipes
- chocolate bar

TOY DONATIONS

Donate NEW unwrapped toys for children 1-12 and teens 13-17 as well as gift wrap, ribbons and tape for the Kid's Christmas Party.

WINTER BACKPACK DONATIONS

Please include the following in a backpack with a list of contents attached. Please make the items gender neutral.

- Wool/Thermal Socks
- Gloves, toques, scarf
- Toilet paper
- 2 Bus Tickets
- Soap
- Deodorant
- Travel Toothbrush and Toothpaste
- Small Warm Blanket (attached to outside of backpack if it won't fit)
- \$5.00 Coffee Card
- Lip Balm
- Emergency Candles and Matches
- Pocket Hand Warmers

CAROLING

Always welcoming groups interested in caroling at afternoon drop-in for an hour on Monday or Friday afternoons. Groups of 2-20 adult singers are welcome or choirs of youths 12-17 years of age accompanied by adults.



One! International

Website: <http://one-international.com>

One! International Poverty Relief (One! International) is a registered Canadian charity; a non-government, non-profit, non-sectarian organization working in India. We strive to assist children, youth and families to achieve their potential and become responsible members of society. Basic education for children is a must.

Location: Head Office -Sherwood Park, Schools - India

Contact: Marilyn Spilchen

Contact Phone: 780.467.6254

Contact Email: info@one-international.com

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER IDEAS

Donations

Financial donations can be made directly or through: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/one-international-poverty-relief/>

There is an ongoing need for toothbrushes, toothpaste, children and adult pain medication, construction paper, duo tangs and white board markers. All of these things are either not readily available or of poor quality in India. One International collects them and takes them over during the year.

Give-a-Child-a-Chance Program

Your family can virtually Give-a-Child-a-Chance by giving \$30 a month. When you donate to this program, you will be given information such as name, birthday and family life about one of our children. Stories and pictures will be sent to you via email unless otherwise requested. You will also get to see your child's exam results, artwork and/or crafts whenever possible. We want you to see the evidence of your wonderful monthly donation at work.

Emergency and Major Medical Fund

Donate to the Emergency and Major Medical fund! It accepts donations to allow One! International to respond to medical situations not covered in daily administration. One! International covers the daily medical needs for children (boils, flu, cuts, burns, viral infections). The Emergency and Major Medical Relief Fund will help to cover severe problems such as: tumors, epilepsy, cataracts, surgeries, and serious accidents such as severe burns, or injuries that require immediate medical attention. Any donations made to this program will be used for emergency medical needs only.

Step Sponsorship

The Step Sponsorship Program provides the operational funding for the One! International school in Khar Danda, Mumbai. One! International aims to cover the annual Rent and Professional Staff Wages. The school functions on a 10 step program along with a Pre-Step (Kindergarten) group for a total 11 steps, at a cost of about \$2000/step per year. With the Step Sponsorship Program, individuals or companies' donations will help to cover the operational costs of a single step classroom.



Ronald McDonald House

Ronald McDonald House Charities® Northern Alberta (RMCHNA)

Website: rmhcna.org

RMCHNA is a home away from home for families with seriously ill or injured children seeking medical treatment in an Edmonton facility. The House features 36 family suites, three kitchens, heated underground parking, a school for guests in Grades 1-12 and several spaces for families to gather. Our staff and hundreds of volunteers help to provide support to the families staying at the House.

Volunteer Coordinator: Kristin Wong

Volunteer Coordinator Contact Number: 780.439.5437 ext 212

Volunteer Coordinator Email: kristin@rmhcna.org

Donation Enquiries: Sue Chaffrey: sue@rmhcna.org
Conation Enquiries Contact Number; 780.439.5437 ext 247
Donation Enquiries Email: sue@rmhcna.org

DONATE OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

- Volunteer as a Holiday Welcome Elf giving tours and greeting guests
- Volunteer as a Holiday House Elf keeping the house in order by picking up toys, sanitizing play areas, wiping counters, unloading dishwashers etc.
- Volunteer with Gift Wrapping in Santa's Workshop December 15-23
- Volunteer for our Casino December 22, 23, 24
- Volunteer to make a Meals that Mend for our families
- Donate cash, gift cards, gas cards and toys
- Visit our Wish List at www.rmhcna.org/ways-to-donate/wishlist/



Salvation Army

Website: www.salvationarmy.ca/alberta

An international Christian organization devoted to helping those in need.

Location: Edmonton and Strathcona County

Phone: 780.423.2111

Volunteer Coordinator: Cheryl Brown

Volunteer Coordinator Contact Number: 780.412.2635

Volunteer Coordinator Email: Cheryl_Brown@can.salvationarmy.org

Kettle Campaign Volunteer Coordinator: Julia Boyko

Kettle Campaign Volunteer Coordinator Contact Number: 780.412.2636

Kettle Campaign Volunteer Coordinator Email: edmonton_kettles@can.salvationarmy.org

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

Volunteer for Christmas Distribution Days December 15, 16, 17, 18 & 21 – for groups or individuals (individuals must be adults; children may volunteer if accompanied by an adult)

- Commit to dates and times
- Register- Fill out Group Application or Single Application
- Fill out waiver – each person must sign one and bring the day of volunteering
- Submit group application immediately

Volunteer for the Salvation Army's Christmas kettle campaign located in local malls. Contact Kettle Campaign Volunteer Coordinator for information.

Collect toys for Salvation Army to give to clients during the Distribution Days (Dec 15-17) Toy pick-ups happen the week of Dec 7-11. Just give them a call to set up a driver.



Santa's Anonymous

Website: <http://santasanonymous.ca>

630 CHED Santa's Anonymous is devoted to bettering the lives of children in our community by delivering the spirit of Christmas to less fortunate children in Edmonton.

The warehouse is open from November 17, 7 days a week, 9-9on weekdays and 10-5 on weekends.

Location: Jerry Forbes Centre for Community Spirit – 12111 68th street next to J. Ennis Fabrics)

Phone: 780.428.8697

Email: santa@santasanonymous.ca

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

Santa's Depot: Santa's Depot is open for individuals and groups of 2 or 3 to drop in and volunteer on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Welcoming to 1-4 People (Ages 16+), individuals and groups of 2 or 3 to volunteer at the depot.

Delivery Days – **December 17th and 18th**: Delivering toys to Edmonton homes is a tradition for many in the community. To be a Delivery Day Driver, you will need a reliable vehicle, and must show your valid driver's license and insurance to our Document Verification Volunteers. They do not pre-register drivers – just come to Santa's Depot. Start dispatching gifts at 9:30 am each day. Drivers may bring as many helpers as you like including children of all ages.



Strathcona County

Website: www.strathcona.ca

Family community events that utilize volunteers to make the events a community success.

Location: Broadmoor Park

Phone: 780.400.2028

Volunteer Coordinator: Melanie Larson

Volunteer Coordinator's Contact Number: 780.400.2028

Phone: 780.400.2028

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

- New Year's Eve Festival Various Positions are: wizard crafts, sleigh ride assistants, s'more making, petting zoo, bobsled remote control races, indoor snowboarding, information booth, shinny hockey leader, bonfire monitors and much more. Come on out and help! Your community spirit and enthusiasm make this celebration possible

- Celebration of Lights - Check out some exciting activities that need your help: sleigh ride helper, making holiday crafts, and petting zoo assistant. Spread holiday cheer while having fun, meeting friends and receiving snacks/beverages.



Strathcona County Library

Website: www.sclibrary.ab.ca

Helping to raise funds for the Library to purchase new materials for their collections.

Phone: 780.410.8612

Volunteer Coordinator: Louise Ludwig

Volunteer Coordinator Contact Number: 780.410.8612

Volunteer Coordinator Email: lludwig@sclibrary.ab.ca

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

Gift Wrap Centre

The Friends of Strathcona County Library will once again be operating their annual Gift Wrap service at Sherwood Park Mall. It will be located in the old Chatters store front (down by the Chapters store). All proceeds will be by donation only.

GIFT WRAP DATES:

Friday, Dec 9 from 3 pm to 9 pm

Saturday, Dec 10 from 12 noon to 9 pm

Sunday, Dec 11 from 12 noon to 5 pm

Friday, Dec 16 to Friday, December 23 - Mall opening hours

Saturday, Dec 24 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

If you would like to volunteer for this fundraiser, please contact Louise Ludwig at 780-410-8612 or email: lludwig@sclibrary.ca



Terra Centre

Website: www.terracentre.ca

Offering support programs for pregnant teens, teen moms and teenage parents and their babies

Location: 9930-106 Street, Edmonton

Phone: 780.428.3772

Volunteer Coordinator: Kaley Alexander

Volunteer Coordinator's Contact Number: 780.428.3772 ext 282

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

If you are looking for a meaningful way to participate in the seasonal gift giving, these items are most needed by young families.

For children:

- Socks for children up to age 4
- Diapers size: newborn, 5 & 6
- Powder infant formula
- Baby wipes
- Baby bottles and nipples
- Soothers
- Baby cereal and baby food
- Baby body wash, lotion and shampoo
- Receiving blankets
- Crib sheets
- Infant and children clothing – infant to size 5years
- Diaper shirts – newborn to 24 months
- Sleepers – newborn to 24 months
- Outer wear- newborn to size 5 years

For our young parents:

- Personal Hygiene products
 - toothbrushes
 - toothpaste
 - nursing breast pads
 - deodorant
 - toothpaste and toothbrushes
 - shampoo and conditioner, hair products, soap, body wash, lotion,
 - tampons, feminine hygiene pads,
 - gloves and mitts for both moms and dads
 - socks and underwear
 - hats, gloves and mitts (please remember our dads)
- \$25 gift cards for grocery shopping
- Bus tickets
- Movie passes



Youth Empowerment & Support Services

Website: www.yess.org

A 24-hour telephone and walk in service for families and youth in crisis. A homeless shelter for teens aged 15-18; that provides shelter, food, clothing and support to teens that need services. They have 3 residential programs and a Community Enhancement Program to help youth at risk.

Location: 9310-82nd Avenue Edmonton, Alberta T6E 5G8
Phone:780.468.7070

Volunteer Coordinator: Violet Malbeuf
Volunteer Coordinator Contact Number: 780.468.7186 Local 234
Volunteer Coordinator Contact Email: violeta.malbeuf@yess.org

DONATE TO OR VOLUNTEER FOR IDEAS

Winter Wishlist:

- Winter boots, sizes 7 – 13 (men’s and women’s)
- Sweatpants
- Socks
- Underwear
- Thermal underwear
- Bras
- Hoodies
- Men’s jeans (all sizes)
- Snow pants
- Hand warmers
- Thermos mugs
- Lip balm
- Nail clippers
- Razors
- Mini kleenex
- Alcohol-free hand sanitizer
- Men’s deodorant
- Dish cloths
- Dish soap
- Fresh/frozen meat
- Fresh/frozen vegetables
- Fresh/frozen/canned fruit
- Granola bars
- 100% juice boxes
- Fruit cups
- Healthy snacks
- Canned meat/fish
- Canned tomatoes
- Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Salad dressing
- Coffee
- Sugar
- Coffee whitener
- Cooking oil
- Butter
- Plastic disposable cutlery
- Plastic disposable plates and cups
- Tupperware containers (all sizes, (non-see-through))



Sources:

Volunteer Canada

Volunteer Kingston – Family Friendly Connecting with Volunteer Trends

Volunteer Action Centre of Kitchener-Waterloo and Area – The Tie That Binds

Jenny Friedman – The Busy Family’s Guide to Volunteering

Catherine Poelman – How to Make a Difference

Points of Light Foundation Website

For additional information call us at the Information and Volunteer Centre for Strathcona County at 780.464.4242 or email us at info@ivcstrathcona.org.

You can also check out our website at www.ivcstrathcona.org

Information and Volunteer Centre for Strathcona County

100 Ordze Avenue

Sherwood Park Alberta

T8B 1M6

