

EDMONTON'S FOOD BANK UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2023

In its history, Edmonton's Food Bank has never seen the growth in demand and expectations that it experienced in 2022!

Volunteers, donors, and other supporters have been very kind and generous to the organization. We appreciate their contributions. Our key challenge, for a number of reasons, is that food requests from individual clients and our partner agencies are growing faster than the food donations are coming in. Because of you and the commitment of our community, Edmonton's Food Bank is ready and serving our neighbours in need in 2023.

We are humbled by the kindness and help from our donors, volunteers, and community supporters.

Thank you.



IN 2022 EDMONTON'S FOOD BANK...

- saw the largest monthly number of people served in our 42 year history: November with 35,623 people served in our hamper programs.
- implemented five drive throughs for clients to pick up their festive hampers. Brave volunteers and staff helped 1,743 people in 560 households while bearing the bitter cold.
- vehicles traveled 227,931 kilometers picking up and delivering food throughout Edmonton. This is equivalent to traveling the entirety of the TransCanada Highway 29 times.
- collected, packed, and stored over 5.9 million kilograms of food.
- served an average of 30,770 people per month through hamper programs.
- provided food to more than 300 different partners including Multicultural Health Brokers, Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, Hope Mission, The Mustard Seed, and many more.
- welcomed 84 Ukrainians at our Beyond Food Program, providing help with english lessons and other needs resulting in over 54 finding employment.
- assisted 854 clients and helped pay \$55,000 for 1923 safety tickets such as First Aid, Forklift, H2S Alive, and many more.

Client Story:

Emily suffered a great loss when her partner passed away in a car accident last August. Left in immense grief, faced with a disability which has rendered her unable to work and the loss of a second income, Emily is struggling to make ends meet so she has come to rely on the Food Bank for her food needs.

Emily hopes to soon start buying her own food with a new source of income, but is grateful for the thoughtful and caring services of Edmonton's Food Bank through her times of grief. Dealing with long-term effects from Covid, Emily has been feeling rather unwell lately. However, in one of her hampers she received ginger and lemon which she was so excited to use for tea as a remedy for her throat.

"Thank you so much for being so thoughtful, bless your hearts," says Emily. "I'm going to make some tea and it's going to do me a world of good" With your support we are able to help make things a bit easier for people like Emily. Thank you.



Because of you, we are able to continue to do what we do best - serving those in need, since 1981. If you have any questions please contact Tamisan Bencz-Knight, Manager of Strategic Relationships & Partnerships, at 780.425.2133 ext. 232.