



STRATFORD HOUSE OF BLESSING FACT SHEET 2024

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Charitable Number: 119200020RR0001

BACKGROUND

Began in 1983 as "Operation Blessing"

Incorporated as a charitable organization in 1987 and operating as Stratford House of Blessing.

We give everything away to those in need, free of charge.

GOVERNED BY:

Board of Directors (5 volunteers and 1 non-voting officer)

CO-OPERATING with agencies for Community Service: Probation, Ontario Works, High School Students

AGENCIES that refer clients to us – Children's Aid Society, Canadian Mental Health, Family Services, Public Health, Optimism Place, Emily Murphy Centre, Ontario Works, local churches, and other Social Service Organization within the community.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

- Food Bank – Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday – 10:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- Food Bank – Home Delivery – Tuesday A.M. & P.M., Wednesday A.M. & Thursday A.M.
- Office is open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Closed for lunch from 12:15 to 12:45 pm
- Food Bank can be accessed once a month

VOLUNTEER HOURS: 3,759 volunteer hours by 120 volunteers (including one-time special event volunteers)

NEW FAMILIES USING SERVICES FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2024: 287 (representing 548 individuals)

MONTHLY AVERAGES: Average of 53 people served per day. Average of 1,590 served per month. Average 24 new households per month. Average of 610 unhoused visits per month.

TOTAL PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH FOOD: 11,435 households were served in 2024

- Represents a total of 19,222 individuals
- 19% were children.

ESTIMATED # OF MEALS GIVEN OUT: 19,222 x 15 (3 meals x 5 days) = 288,330 meals

UNIQUE # OF UNHOUSED INDIVIDUALS: 7,322 individuals served

HOME DELIVERIES: 2,126

ONSITE VISITS: 9,307

WELCOME TO THE WORLD BASKETS FOR NEWBORNS: 21

CHILDREN RECEIVING CHRISTMAS TOYS: 904

OFF TO SCHOOL SMILING (FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL BACKPACKS/SUPPLIES): 421

POUNDS OF FOOD DONATED BY COMMUNITY AND MEMBER AFFILIATIONS: 221,738 lbs

SOURCES OF FUNDING:

Generous people of the community	58%	Churches	16%	Businesses & Clubs	12%
Foundations	5%	Grants	6%	Government	3%

MEMBERS OF:

Feed Ontario, Food Banks Canada, Canadian Centre for Christian Charities, and Stratford & District Chamber of Commerce.